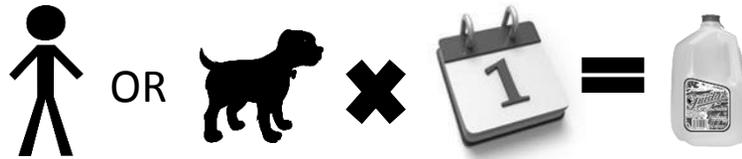


Prepare now to be able to provide emergency drinkable water for at least 30 days



One gallon of water per person or large pet per day for drinking, cooking and hygiene



Water Storage



Water storage is a safe way to be ready to provide drinking water in an emergency situation. 55-gallon water barrel kits are available through Costco.com (\$120) or recycled barrels are available for less through a local recycler (503-793-3368) for around \$20. Change out the water from your containers every 6-12 months.

Water Filtering

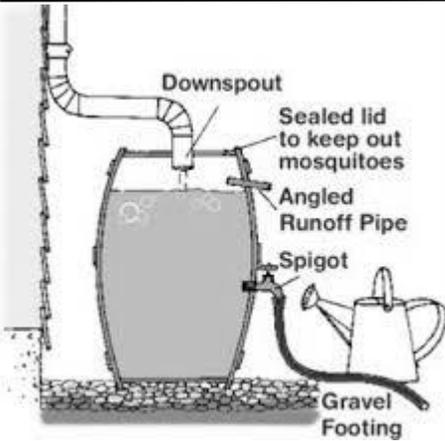


A good water filter can produce safe drinking water from rainwater or groundwater like Oswego Lake. The downside is you will have to haul water back to your shelter, but this is a good way to extend your water supply if you need water past your stored water amount. There are many different water filters available at places like REI, but we prefer the Lifestraw Mission (\$130)

Hot Water Heater



A typical home water heater can provide between 30 and 60 gallons of clean drinking water. First shut off the gas or electricity to the heater. Close the inlet valve to prevent contamination. Open the valve at the bottom of the tank and drain off any sediment. Fill containers from the lower valve or from any faucets at a lower elevation in the house. You may need to open a hot water faucet at a higher elevation to break the suction and allow all water to come out.



Rainwater Harvesting

Rainwater harvesting for yard irrigation is a great way to conserve water, but it can also be a source of emergency drinking water. A good water filter, like the Lifestraw Mission, will need to be used before drinking rainwater. It is not recommended to drink water gathered from a treated cedar roof. A temporary rainwater harvesting system can be setup with a tarp and a bucket.



Lake Oswego's New Waluga 2 Reservoir

The new Waluga 2 water reservoir is equipped with valves that can be operated by city personnel to distribute water to citizens and their personal containers at the reservoir. At this time this is the only reservoir with this type of valve. You should consider this water source as only a backup to your other sources like storage and filtering. The reservoir is located north of Waulga park off Carmen Drive.



Lake Oswego's Water Filter Truck

The city of Lake Oswego has a water filter truck capable of filtering 30,000 gallons of water per day. It is located at the maintenance building and requires gasoline and city personnel to operate. You should consider this water source as only a backup to your other sources like storage and filtering.



Pool and Lake Water

Pool water is treated with many chemicals that are not removed by water filters and have unsafe byproducts that are not meant for consumption. Unless you are scientifically sure about your chemical levels and filter out any algae growth, pool water should not be used for drinking water. Do not drink raw river, or lake water either. You will get sick.