

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RESIDENCES TO PREPARE FOR A WATER OUTAGE

***Stock up on bottled water.*** It is recommended at least one gallon per person (or pet) per day is stocked for drinking water in case of water outage. If you plan to cook, bathe, wash dishes or clothing, you will need more water available. Remember you will also want to have water on hand to flush the toilet.

### Recommendations for Storing an Emergency Home Water Supply

1. Thoroughly wash your water container. If the container has been used, make sure it formerly contained only something that was safe for human consumption.
2. Disinfect the container by filling it with a solution of tap water and a few drops of bleach. Let it stand for 20 minutes.
3. Empty the container and rinse well with tap water.
4. Fill the container with tap water and store in a cool, dark place.
5. While this water can be safe indefinitely, it is good to change it 1-2 times per year.

***Toilet Flushing.*** When it comes time to flush, fill the tank with water and use the handle on the toilet to flush. This uses less water than dumping water into the bowl.

***Sanitary Supplies.*** Have a hand sanitizer available. If you typically use cloth diapers or washable cleaning rags, it is recommended you keep a supply of disposable diapers, sterilizing wipes, and paper towels on hand.

***Hot Water.*** *Keep a large stockpot on hand.* With a large stockpot, you can boil enough water for to wash dishes or to wash hair.

***Take sponge baths using a washcloth and soap.*** Make sure you have a stack of fresh, clean washcloths somewhere in your home at all times. No-rinse bathing wipes are also recommended. For hair washing, it is suggested to plug the sink, pour warm water in and use a cup to wash hair. For small children, keep a small tub on hand for bathing.

***Meals and Dishes.*** *Have pre-prepared meals ready in the freezer.* Use paper plates and disposable eating utensils when running water is not available.