

Emergency Sanitation

When outside services are lost

If you lose all household services; electricity, water, and garbage pickup, the following will help you maintain a healthy and sanitary environment.

I. Managing toilet waste

- Use your toilet by adding water to your empty toilet reservoir. Use outside ground water or rainwater. Limit flushes.
- Use your toilet without flush water by placing a 3 mil black, 42-gal contractor bag in the toilet bowl (*top 3rd of bag can be removed*). Add a little diluted 1:5 bleach water to disinfect and destroy odor. Keep bag closed between times of use.
- Construct a portable toilet using a 5-gallon bucket and an old or removed toilet seat. Use 3 mil black, 42-gal contractor bags, with a little bleach/water.
- Purchase a portable toilet.
- Build an outside latrine. Dig a hole or trench away from living area and any water source. Improve a seat and privacy walls.

II. Disposing of garbage

- Save recyclables
- Compost
- Burn
- Bury
- Transport to garbage facility.

III. Keeping your body clean

- Sponge bath using minimal amounts of water or use body wipes.
- Bathe in bathtub using 4" of rain water or clean ground water. More than one person can use the same water.

IV. Washing clothes

- Use scrub-board with *Fels-Naptha* soap or bucket washer (*Mobile Washer*) with regular detergent.
- Wash under-clothing and socks daily.
- Wear outer clothing for longer periods of time before washing.

V. Conserving water:

- Using paper plates and bowls (*waxed type can be reused one or twice*).
- Use diluted bleach (*1:10*) or hydrogen peroxide to clean kitchen and bathrooms, eating and cooking implements.
- Use disinfectant wipes and hand sanitizer.