



# Your Utility Company Newsletter

## Utilities Commission

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## Water Needs in Disaster Situations

- **Following a disaster, clean drinking water may not be available. Your regular water source could be cut off or compromised through contamination. Prepare yourself by building a supply of water that will meet your family’s needs during an emergency.**
- **Store at least one gallon of water per person per day for three days, for drinking and sanitation. A normally active person needs about three quarters of a gallon of fluid daily, from water and other beverages. However, individual needs vary, depending on age, health, physical condition, activity, diet and climate.**
- **Children, nursing mothers and sick people may need more water & a medical emergency might require more water.**

## Water Tips

- **Never ration drinking water unless ordered to do so by authorities.** Drink the amount you need today and try to find more for tomorrow. Minimize the amount of water your body needs by reducing activity and staying cool.
- **Drink water that you know is not contaminated first.** If necessary, suspicious water, such as cloudy water from regular faucets or water from streams or ponds, can be used after it has been treated. If water treatment is not possible, put off drinking suspicious water as long as possible, but do not become dehydrated.
- **Do not drink carbonated or caffeinated beverages instead of drinking water.** Caffeinated drinks and alcohol dehydrate the body, which increases the need for drinking water.

## The Mysterious Water Leak...

Investigation underway. To be continued...

## Strengthen Your Financial Preparedness for Emergencies Big and Small

According to FEMA studies, income is often the most important factor in individual and family preparedness. Many people lack enough income and savings to set aside money for emergencies. Since 2004, Operation HOPE and FEMA have been regularly collaborating to build financial preparedness through the Emergency Financial First Aid Kit (EFFAK). The Emergency Financial First Aid Kit is available for free from FEMA. Call (1-800-480-2520) and ask for publication number 1075. It is also available as a free download online at: [www.ready.gov/financialpreparedness](http://www.ready.gov/financialpreparedness) and at [www.operationhope.org](http://www.operationhope.org).

## Another Good Source of Information

Dave Robinson's weekly column in the Bandon Western World: "Disaster Preparedness for the Rest of Us"; and his book with the same title.



Link

Department of Homeland Security:  
[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

This site provides FEMA details about emergency preparedness. The site is the source for much of the information we will present in the coming months as an overview and for people who do not have computer access.

We will be addressing water issues, electricity issues, basic safety issues, disaster plans, safety tips for pets, children, commuters, elderly, disabled, and others. We will also continue to inform you about your utilities.