

In the event of a serious disaster, one of our top priorities should be human waste management to minimize the spread of disease.

If water lines are broken, you need to assume that the sewer lines are also broken. Stop using toilets and sinks until you hear from authorities that water and sewer lines are working.

Prepare in two areas:

- 1. Toilet facilities
- 2. Handwashing stations

Toilet Sanitation

Option 1

How to use an inside toilet without water.

- 1. Turn off the water to the toilet at the wall behind it.
- 2. Clean out all water.
- 3. Place a large trash bag, about a 13-gallon size or larger, into the bowl.
- 4. Then place a small bag for individual use inside that. One size that works very well is the 23"X25" bag, also known as a wastebasket liner. Check the size carefully. It should fit tightly around the bowl. For odd-sized bags, use Duct tape.
- 5. After one or several uses, take the smaller bag, tie it up, and place outside in a <u>covered</u> trash can.

Option 2:

Bucket toilet

- 1. Use a 4- or 5-gallon plastic bucket.
- 2. Buy a toilet seat to fit on top. You can also find them sold together as a unit for the best fit.
- 3. Line the bucket with a plastic bag.
- 4. Place a smaller bag inside that, as explained previously.
- 5. Tie off and dispose of used bags in a place where rodents and flies cannot get to them.
- 6. Replace the smaller bag.
- 7. Place the bucket toilet in the bathroom, or set up a tent outdoors for this use. It will reduce smells inside the house.

Keep a "bucket toilet" next to your 72-hour kit in case of evacuation. Make sure there is toilet paper, plastic bags, and hand sanitizer inside.

Option 3:

Dig a latrine

True outdoorsmen likely know about digging a latrine. However, in a city, it can pose serious problems due to the spread of disease unless it is properly covered and dirt is layered inside *after every use*. Even with that, the possibility of rodents digging into it are huge. This should be your last-ditch (ha ha) effort.

Option 4:

Chemical toilets

If you have an RV, you may own a chemical toilet. This is a very comfortable option, but check out how long it can be used, how much chemical can be stored, and where, and even if it can be properly emptied in case of a long-term water emergency.

Hand Washing Stations



Keep hand sanitizer in many places to save on water usage, especially wherever you will be preparing food.

Or, place soap by a bucket of water. Dip out a cup to rinse your hands. Do NOT plunge dirty or soapy hands into the water.

This information has been prepared as a public service for our friends and neighbors by members of the Sandy Utah Crescent 10th Ward.

Sanitation In an Emergency



Tips and ideas for preparing and coping without water or sewer.