



# Are You **READY WISCONSIN?**

✓ Get a Kit

✓ Make a Plan

✓ Be Informed

## 3-Day Water Supply Checklist

### Bottled Water

You can purchase commercially bottled water. Make sure you check the expiration date.

### If You're Preparing Your Own Containers Of Water

#### **Purchased food-grade containers**

Purchase food-grade water storage containers from surplus or camping supplies stores.

- Before filling with water, thoroughly clean the containers with dishwashing soap and water, and rinse completely so there is no residual soap.
- Follow directions below for filling the containers with water.

#### **Your own containers**

Choose two-liter plastic soft drink bottles – not plastic jugs or cardboard containers that have had milk or fruit juice in them.

- Milk protein and fruit sugars cannot be adequately removed from these containers and provide an environment for bacterial growth when water is stored in them.
- Cardboard containers also leak easily and are not designed for long-term storage of liquids.
- Do not use glass containers, because they can break and are heavy.
- Thoroughly clean the bottles with dishwashing soap and water, and rinse completely so there is no residual soap.

Sanitize the bottles by adding a solution of 1 teaspoon of non-scented liquid household chlorine bleach to a quart of water.

- Swish the sanitizing solution in the bottle so that it touches all surfaces.
- Thoroughly rinse out the sanitizing solution with clean water.



#### **Filling Water Containers**

- Fill the bottle to the top with regular tap water.
- If the tap water has been commercially treated from a water utility with chlorine, you do not need to add anything else to the water to keep it clean.
- If the water you are using comes from a well or water source that is not treated with chlorine, add two drops of non-scented liquid household chlorine bleach to the water.
- Tightly close the container using the original cap.
- Be careful not to contaminate the cap by touching the inside of it with your finger.
- Place a date on the outside of the container so that you know when you filled it.
- Store in a cool, dark place.
- Replace the water every six months if not using commercially bottled water.

Wisconsin Emergency Management

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