Did you know?

You can find clean water in:
• A water heater
• A toilet tank

1 gallon per person per day

Go to this website for more information on emergency drinking water.

Credits
We thank the Oregon Office of Emergency Management for sharing their ‘Two Weeks Ready’ Flyer.

For more information:
azgs.arizona.edu
https://azgs.arizona.edu/center-natural-hazards/earthquakes

How do I purify water?

You can add to your bottled water supply with water from other sources such as water heaters, rain barrels, etc. You may need to filter the water before purifying it. You can use un-scented household bleach, water purification tablets, or distillation as well as other methods (filter, boil, ultraviolet, etc.) to clean water. It is recommended that in addition to commercially purchased water, Arizona households have at least one method of treating water to make it drinkable.

Clear flowing water, such as from a spring, is best. Still water, like in ponds, could have harmful bacteria. Melted snow or ice are also sources of found water. If the water is cloudy, let it settle, allowing the solid matter to fall to the bottom of the container. Filter, then boil the water for at least one minute. If you live at high altitudes (over 5,000 feet) boil at least three minutes.
Introduction to “Two Weeks”

Preparing for disasters can be done over a period of time. The traditional 3 days of supplies is a good start and great in the event of short-term power outages or temporary evacuation. But a large earthquake could leave much of the area’s transportation routes disrupted or destroyed. Delivery of assistance and supplies may be difficult to impossible initially. Arizonans will have to count on each other in the community, in the workplace and at home in order to be safe until responders can reach them. Families, neighborhoods and communities should strive to be self-sufficient for two weeks.

How to store water

The Food and Drug Administration says that commercially bottled water has an unlimited safe shelf life when stored in an unopened, sealed container. However, long term storage of water near items that have strong odors or fumes (kitty litter, gas), may result in the water having an off taste. Bottlers may voluntarily put expiration dates on their labels. However, this does not mean that water goes “bad” or becomes unhealthy. If properly stored, there is no need to rotate commercially bottled water. However, the water container itself may degrade over many years and should be checked periodically.

How can you use your own containers?

You can store water in food-grade bottles if you take some precautions. Thoroughly clean and rinse your bottle. Water should be rotated to maintain safety. Sanitize the bottles by adding a solution of one teaspoon of un-scented liquid household chlorine bleach to one quart of water. Swirl the sanitizing solution in the bottle so that it touches all surfaces. After sanitizing the bottle, thoroughly rinse out the sanitizing solution with clean water.

Fill the bottle to the top with regular tap water. If the water you are using comes from a well or water source that is not treated with chlorine, add two drops of un-scented liquid household chlorine bleach to the water. Place a date on the outside of the bottle so you can know when you filled it. Store in a cool, dark place. Water that has not been commercially bottled should be replaced every six months.

Be 2 Weeks Ready and Stay Hydrated