

EMERGENCY PLANNING

... Sanitation in the Midst of a Disaster

So you survived the initial disaster, thank goodness – but, depending on the extent of damage to the City's water & sewer systems, it could take days, weeks or even longer before you regain the convenience of your sink and toilets. This lack of sanitation facilities following a major disaster can quickly create serious secondary problems! With some preplanning, you can assemble appropriate supplies to get your family through a disaster without risking contamination.

1. PURCHASE A PORTABLE CHEMICAL TOILET WITH SUPPLIES;

OR. . .

2. CREATE YOUR OWN PORTABLE TOILET BY ACQUIRING THE FOLLOWING:

- ◆ A medium-sized plastic bucket with a tight-fitting lid (to store the supplies and to serve as the emergency toilet);
- ◆ Container of unscented household liquid bleach (5.25% sodium hypochlorite), to be mixed in a 1:10 solution with water;
- ◆ Heavy-duty plastic/vinyl garbage bags with twist ties (sized to line the bucket);
- ◆ Toilet paper;
- ◆ Liquid antibacterial soap and/or towelettes;
- ◆ *OPTIONAL* – Sand, sawdust or “kitty liter”
- ◆ Line the bucket with a garbage bag. If you choose, you may put sand, sawdust or kitty liter in the bottom of the garbage bag to absorb liquids. After each use, pour a disinfecting solution of 1 part bleach to 10 parts water into the garbage bag. Use twist ties to close the bag between uses, and close the lid tightly.
- ◆ At the end of each day, the bagged waste should be securely tied and removed to a protected location, such as a designated garbage can in the garage, basement or outbuilding until safe disposal is available.
- ◆ If your toilet bowl is empty, you can line your toilet with a garbage bag, and use it in the same manner as discussed above. This option has the additional comfort of being able to use a regular toilet seat.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF AN EMERGENCY TOILET:

- ◆ Locate the toilet away from food preparation or eating areas;
- ◆ Provide a place next to the emergency toilet to wash hands;
- ◆ Keep the emergency toilet closed when not in use to keep insects and/or animals out, and to prevent the spread of disease; and
- ◆ Supervise small children when they are using the emergency toilet.

**NOTE: This waste CANNOT be disposed of with your regular garbage.
Contact Public Works at 503.982.9429 for directions on how to properly dispose of this waste!**

Knowledge and preparation are your best defense and are your responsibility! For more information on EMERGENCY PLANNING, call 503.982.9429, or visit our website at www.cityofhubbard.org.

