

Readiness Watch for the week of 18 April 2011

A production by [Dennis L Hitzeman](#) and his [Readiness weblog](#).

First things first

The purpose of *Readiness Watch* is to provide current, relevant, and actionable readiness information to people determined to be ready for whatever comes next, and especially for those people who are just starting their journey down the road to readiness. Readiness Watch will include observations, commentary, advice, links to resources, and related news.

I always welcome input from my readers, especially tips on information or ways to make this publication better. Feel free to [contact me](#) with information, advice, or tips.

This week's news theme: Looking out for 2012

Of course, some people think the world is going to end in 2012, but on a more realistic note, 2012 is still going to be a year to watch: a powerful and divisive budget battle, an historical presidential election, and the fourth year of deficits so massive they dwarf entire budgets of just two decades ago.

Add to those domestic issues the irresolution of issues throughout the Middle East, sagging economies domestically and around the world, and commodity prices—especially for food and oil—and you have a heady brew of explosiveness that probably has not haunted the world since the days before World War I.

News articles you should read

[Suicidal government](#)

[US government credit rating downgraded with “negative” evaluation](#)

Gear

[Pleasant Hill Grain's Security Food Paks](#)

[Emergency Essential's Year Supply of Basics](#)

[Costco's One Year Food Supply](#)

[S.O.L. Hybrid 3 Medical Kit](#)

[Pedal-powered food processor](#)

How-to

[How to build up a one year supply of food on \\$10 per week](#)

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