

Readiness Watch for the week of 25 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: Nature's fury

Tornadoes, fires, and flooding around the United States remind us all that nature's fury is sometimes uncontained. Disasters can strike in a moment, without warning and without recourse for those who are unprepared.

For those who choose no other kind of readiness, [immediate readiness](#) is essential for everyone, regardless of where you live. Even the government [thinks so](#).

So, if you have not done so already, [develop a plan](#). [Get a kit](#). [Pay attention to what is going on](#). It might just save your life.

News articles you should read

[Gold hits \\$1500 record](#)

[Texas wildfires](#)

[St. Louis Tornado](#)

[Quantitative easing isn't working](#)

Gear

[Kleen Kanteen](#) (via [Uncrate](#))

[Marble Shooting Crossbow](#)

Be ready now

Be ready now is a weekly post about things you can do right now to get ready for whatever might come next courtesy of [Dennis L Hitzeman's Readiness Weblog](#). You can find other posts in this series in the "[Be ready now](#)" category.

This week's theme: Hygiene

- **Immediate:** Buy a stock of [body cleaning products](#) that do not require water. You should have at least one package on hand for each person involved in your plan. In addition, consider stockpiling extra water, soap, and towels.
- **Intermediate:** Emergencies of any duration require a different approach to hygiene, especially if water resources are scarce. Remember that hygiene does not require potable water, but you should never use fouled water for hygiene. Consider stockpiling extra water, soap, and towels for hygiene purposes. You can build homemade [water filtration systems](#) from readily available components to recycle water for hygiene purposes. Consider stockpiling fuel and containers to purify water.
- **Long-term:** Long term hygiene concerns involve constructing systems that allow for the collection, filtering, and recycling of non-potable water. In many places, the best method is to construct an outdoor shower facility with a rain collection system, a collection basin, a hand pump, and a drum water filter. Water can be kept from freezing during the winter months by the addition of a stove and heat transfer elements.

Consider donating to the cause

Do you use Readiness Watch and find the information herein useful to your own readiness initiatives? If so, consider donating to ensure its continued availability. [Contact me](#) for more information.

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