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Disaster Situations and the Requirement of Emergency Water Filtration Techniques

Floods are now being predicted again for the spring of 2010 in some regions of the USA as a result of record snowfalls throughout the cold months of winter. Compounding the inevitable property damages caused by flooding is going to be a scarcity of fresh drinking water as streams, rivers, and lakes become polluted. You can't predict where a flood or other disaster may hit, so it's important that everyone know what to do before drinking the murky, foul-tasting water that's left behind. It's necessary that you know the steps to [emergency water filtration techniques](#) to help you keep your family safe.

The most effective method to handle contaminated water is by boiling it. Boiling removes almost all of the pathogens along with other contaminants in water which makes it safe. If your water continues to be cloudy after it's been boiled, you can filter it through a clean cloth to take out larger particles and store it within a clean, covered container.

Unfortunately, disaster conditions that require water filtration to begin with often go hand-in-hand with a loss of utilities which means that you won't be able to boil water. You can try disinfecting the water with the addition of 8 drops of common unscented chlorine bleach to a gallon of water and allowing the water to settle. It's still better if once you have allowed the water to settle you filter it through clean cloths until it looks very clear.

In addition to the ways of disinfecting water described above, there are a variety of basic filtering devices you can purchase to keep readily available for just this type of situation. The simplest of these include filtered drinking straws and sports bottles which allow you to drink almost immediately. Additionally, there are larger machines that will decontaminate several gallons of water daily so that you may have enough for cooking and sanitation along with drinking. Numerous family-sized machines can be purchased for less than \$100.

The body needs water. This is exactly why you see pictures of people in other countries drinking dirty water although they realize it may make them sick. Their bodies just demand it. Knowing the steps you can use to disinfect water should a disaster situation hit your area could mean the difference between life and death for a family. Keeping [water filtering materials](#) at your residence always, whether or not they're just bleach and clean rags, is probably the smartest things that you can do.

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