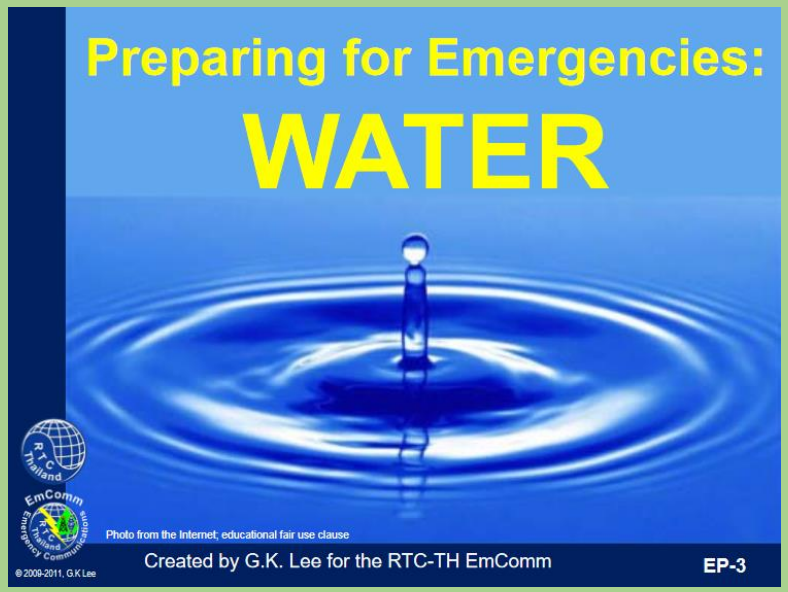
Basic EmPrep: Getting Water

WG1: Introduction

This set of 10 reference cards are made based on information from Emergency Preparation Lesson EP-3 Water



To see the full lesson, go to Applied Geography 2
Then scroll down the left column to section 3.3 RTC-TH Emergency Preparedness (EmPrep) for lesson EP-3.

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Basic EmPrep: Getting Water

In a disaster, people need safe drinking water. GECO (Grassroots Emergency Communications Operations) makes lessons for no-cost / low-cost methods of emergency preparedness and emergency communications.

These can be readily taught as elementary school lessons in applied science. Children can carry the lessons home to be active teachers of emergency preparedness in their families and communities.

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WG1a: Water is essential for life.

After a disaster, water becomes a very critical need for survival. These reference cards

are about getting water after a disaster. It will vary by the environment and circumstances. You need to process the water make it safer to drink.

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See the GECO EmPrep Water Reference Card Set 2 information about making safer drinking water.

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WG1b: Find Water Containers for gathering water. You will need 4 liters per person per day. Adapt these suggestions to your climate and local conditions. After gathering the water, you need to prepare it before use. drinking it.

See the GECO EmPrep Water Reference Card Set 2 information about making safer drinking water.

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WG1c: ***Do Not Drink sea or salt water in ANY amount.***

When your body processes sea water, it needs more water to expel the salts from your body.

You could use salt water in a solar still (see card WG6a) to remove the salt before using it for drinking.

See the GECO EmPrep Water Reference Card Set 2 information about making safer drinking water.

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WG1d: Find Coconuts

- Coconuts contain about 0.3-1.0 L of water.
- Get 3-14 coconuts per person per day.

Communities can plant coconut groves as a way to building community water supply for disaster resilience.

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WG1e: Catch Rainwater

Materials needed:

- Plastic sheeting, metal roofing, etc.; containers to hold water.
- Rope to secure the rain catching equipment if it is very windy,
- Covers for water containers to keep debris getting into the water.

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WG1f: Collect Dew

- The best time of day to collect dew is early morning.
- Spread clean clothes, towels, any fabric on clean grass, bushes, or low branches late at night to catch the dew.
- Gather the wet clothes and wring them out over a container to collect the water.

This method may also work for collecting fog.

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WG1g: Catch Fog

- Use clean cloth, screening, shade cloth to catch fog.
- Be sure to have a drip tray to guide water to the collection bucket.

Depending on your area, fog could form in the late afternoon, evening or early morning.

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WG1h: Make a Solar Still

- Materials: 1 m long clean tubing, clean container to collect water, shovel, plastic sheet (1m x 1m)
- Dig a pit 0.6 m wide, 0.8 m deep.

Dig the pit so it gets direct sunlight all day.

- Put the water collection container in the center of the pit; put the tubing in place (see diagram) .

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WG1h: Make a Solar Still

- Put pebble in the center causes the condensation to drip into the container.

You can small branches of leaves in the pit as an added source of moisture. Or you can put small containers of salt water around the inside of the pit. Be sure not to block the drip point for the condensation to get to the collection container.

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