



EMERGENCY TOILETS

There are two reasons you may need an emergency toilet:

1. **The municipal water system has been damaged and there is no water coming into your house.** If you have a large supply of water (swimming pool), you can continue to use your toilet and flush it with buckets full of that water dumped into the toilet bowl. However, you should consider whether or not this water could be put to better use.
2. **There has been damage to the sewer system.** In this case, you will need to use emergency toilets.

To turn your toilet into an emergency toilet you will need

- Heavy duty 8 gallon garbage bags to fit your toilet bowl– at least 28
- A scoop and bucket
- Latex gloves
- Twist ties or another reliable way to close up the bags after use
- Absorbent material: saw dust, kitty litter, ash from a fireplace
- Two 2 liter bottles, one for a bleach/water solution, and one for the absorbent material you choose to use.
- Air freshener
- Hand sanitizer or bleach diluted 1 part bleach to 10 parts water to clean hands
- Large outdoor garbage can with tight lid
- You will also need toilet paper.

Steps to setting up the toilet

1. Put on latex gloves to protect your hands. Using a disposable cup for a scoop, empty the water from a toilet into the bucket. Pour the water into a trash bag, tie off and place in garbage.
2. Line the toilet bowl with two heavy-duty 8 gallon garbage bags.
3. Place kitty litter, sawdust or wood ashes in the bottom of the bag.
4. Remove and dispose of latex gloves.

Using the toilet

1. After use, cover solid waste with a layer of the absorbent material. To reduce odor after each use, sprinkle waste with a mixture of one part household chlorine bleach mixed with ten parts water.
2. **CLEAN HANDS THOROUGHLY.** Use soap and water if possible, if not, use hand sanitizer or a 1 part bleach to 10 parts bleach/water mixture.
3. Each day the bags should be tightly closed (using a twist tie or equivalent) and removed to an area where animals cannot get to them. A large outdoor garbage can with a lid is ideal.

Cities will eventually make arrangements for this type of waste to be picked up. In cities and towns, do not bury it in the yard. Listen for announcements to determine when you may use your sewer again.

EMERGENCY TOILETS MAY ALSO BE PURCHASED AT EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WEBSITES such as www.beprepared.com and www.yoursafetyplace.com.
