



Pierce County Emergency Management

READY

Preparedness Tips Monthly Newsletter

WATER

storage
quantity
quality

Check Your Water Preparedness Knowledge!

These 10 true or false questions provide a method to review your water storage, quantity and quality preparedness. The HINTS link you to articles or other websites with emergency water information. The sources range from medical to state to federal. Have fun testing your knowledge! Quick answers on bottom of Monthly Tips.

1) Turning off water after a major earthquake is a safe practice: T or F

HINT: [Water Shut off tips](#)

- 2) I only have to boil water for 2 minutes to make sure it is safe to drink. T or F
HINT: [See Water CDC](#)
- 3) I can safely store water in a plastic milk jug. T or F
HINT: [See Prepare In a Year WA State](#)
- 4) I need a gallon of water a day for drinking, cooking and sanitation. T or F
HINT: [See Prepare in a Year](#)
- 5) An adult male typically needs at least 3 liters (3.2 qts.) of water per day. T or F
HINT: [See Mayo Clinic recommendations](#)
- 6) I need to use 1/4 cup of bleach to disinfect one gallon of water. T or F
HINT: [See Center for Disease Control guidelines](#)
- 7) Tap water is safe in tightly sealed containers for up to 6 months. T or F
HINT: [See Prepare In a Year](#)
- 8) Most portable water filters remove bacteria and viruses. T or F
HINT: [See Water CDC Filters](#) see article below as well
- 9) Commercially-bottled water is safe from all contaminants. T or F
HINT: [See Commercial bottled water CDC](#)
- 10) Water that smells like chlorine is safe to drink. T or F
HINT: [See Prepare in a Year](#)

*Need good information to put in your emergency kit?
Printable document: [EPA guidelines on disinfecting water](#).
FEMA brochure: [FOOD and WATER](#)*



Cryptosporidium

TECHNOLOGY: WATER FILTERS

Knowing what water filters can remove is valuable to have before purchasing. The information below, copied from the Center for Disease Control [Website](#), provides such guidance to review.

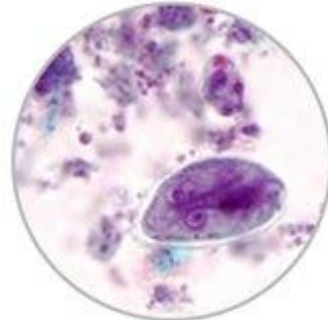
Filters designed to remove *Cryptosporidium* or *Giardia* (any of the four messages below on a package label indicate that the filter should be able to remove Crypto)

- Reverse osmosis (with or without NSF 53 or NSF 58 labeling)

- **Absolute** pore size of 1 micron or smaller (with or without NSF 53 or NSF 58 labeling)
- Tested and certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 53 or NSF/ANSI Standard 58 for cyst removal
- Tested and certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 53 or NSF/ANSI Standard 58 for cyst reduction

Filters labeled only with these words may NOT be designed to remove Cryptosporidium

- **Nominal** pore size of 1 micron or smaller
- One micron filter
- Effective against *Giardia* (usually river, stream, lake source) *Research well source hazards.*
- Effective against parasites
- Carbon filter
- Water purifier
- EPA approved (*Caution: EPA does not approve or test filters*)
- EPA registered (*Caution: EPA does not register filters based on their ability to remove Cryptosporidium*)
- Activated carbon
- Removes chlorine
- Ultraviolet light
- Pentiodide resins
- Water softener
- Chlorinated



Giardia



E. Coli

To kill or inactivate *E. coli* 0157:H7, bring your water to a rolling boil for one minute (at elevations above 6,500 feet, boil for three minutes) Water should then be allowed to cool, stored in a clean sanitized container with a tight cover, and cool (refrigerate if possible). Currently, there is no filter certified to remove *E. coli* bacteria from water.



[Source: American Public Health Association](#)

Use Daylight Savings Time Clock Change as a Reminder!

Set Your Clocks, Check Your Stocks

We spring forward an hour on March 12, 2017. Daylight Savings is a great reminder to check our emergency kits to replenish food and water, replace expired resources and add new supplies. Check on stored food and water supplies every six months. Be sure to write the date you store it on all containers.

For more information, go to: <https://www.ready.gov/maintaining-your-kit>



FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps

Flood insurance rates for some property owners could change with the adoption of the FEMA maps that go into effect March 7, 2017. For Businesses and citizens to obtain flood insurance, the Council was required to adopt the new rate maps, which they did in February. The maps were released by FEMA Sept 7, 2016.

The biggest change to the maps is the included mapping detail for coastal properties at risk for flooding. Additionally, many homes built on high ground will no longer be shown as at risk and will not be required to purchase high cost flood insurance. Some homes not in flood areas but with federal insured loans may now be required to have flood insurance.

The following link www.piercecountywa.org/getfloodmap provides a document that describes how to download the maps.

Disaster Preparedness Academy

Classes are offered during the year to enhance preparedness and recovery from disasters for residents and members of Pierce County Neighborhood Emergency Teams. Click [HERE](#) to find out more about these classes.

IS 100/700/200 Combination Class: Take these ICS courses in one day in a classroom setting. These classes are part of the requirements to obtain a Washington State Emergency Worker card. Minimum of 10 participants needed.

Instructor: DEM Trainers
Date & Time: March 7, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Location: Pierce County EOC, 2501 S. 35th St., Tacoma

To register: <http://piercecouny.surveymshare.com/s/AYACGXA>

Disaster First Aid/Triage: Learn skills and get hands-on experience about how to perform immediate triage and use first aid following a disaster. A First Aid Certificate is awarded, no CPR unless indicated at registration. It is recommended to take CPR before this class. All classes are on Saturday.

Members of PC NET, Citizen Corps, PEP-C, and CERT Teams may register.

Instructors: DEM Emergency Medical Services Coordinator
Date & Time: April 22, Pierce County EOC 2501 So. 35th St, Tacoma
All classes at 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

To register: <http://piercecouny.surveymshare.com/s/AYAKGIB>

Psychological First Aid: People's reactions to crisis vary. Learn which reactions are harmful and how some are actually beneficial. Take away some important tools you can use to connect with affected people and provide immediate emotional support following an emergency. The April class is co-sponsored by South Pierce Fire and Rescue CERT

Instructors: Washington Community Chaplain Corps
Date & Time: March 8, Wednesday 6:00 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.
April 8, Saturday 9:00 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.
Location: , Gig Harbor Council Chambers 3510 Grandview St, Gig Harbor
The Chapel, 37117 103rd Ave. Ct. E., Eatonville

To register: <http://piercecouny.surveymshare.com/s/AYAMWDA>

Structural Retrofit for Wood Structured Homes: Homeowners can take steps to reduce the earthquake hazard to their homes. Learn about home retrofitting as a mitigation process for protecting your house. Be ready for the Big One and learn about, home evaluation, permit process, proper bolt and plate installation and engineering solutions.

Instructors: Rick Hopkins Pierce County Planning and Land Services
Date & Time: April 5, Wednesday 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Location: Puyallup Library, 324 S Meridian Puyallup

To register: <http://piercecouny.surveymshare.com/s/AYASWMB>

Radio Communications: Understand the basics of using radio communications in a disaster and get hands-on practice with others in the group. This is a great way to get comfortable using the “walkie-talkie” style of communication in a disaster. Information on how to get a HAM license is included. Helpful class for PC NET neighbors or any group who wants to use FRS (Family Radio Service) radios in a disaster for communication.

Instructors: Emergency Management Volunteers
Date & Time: April 10, Monday, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Location: 401 Washington Ave SE, Orting
OVFR Fire and Police Station Building

To register: <http://piercecounty.surveymshare.com/s/AYAMW6B>

Citizen Corps Council of Pierce County - Meeting

Are you interested in volunteering?

More information at [CCC-PC](#).

Meetings are held first Thursday every even-numbered month. Next meeting is: April 6, 2:30- 4:30 p.m. Location Pierce County EOC 2501 South 35th St, Tacoma

Registration is now open for
Citizen Corps Leadership Summit and Training Day
March 25, Saturday at Pierce College - Fort Steilacoom Campus, Lakewood
[Registration Information](#)



Connie Clarke to Receive Honorable Mention at Pierce County Volunteer Breakfast, March 18

Connie has been a volunteer with the Outreach Division since fall of 2016, jumping on board when asked to downsize the backlog of record keeping for our Citizen Corps training hours and providing administrative assistance with the Pierce County Neighborhood Emergency Team (PCNET).

Connie joined the Outreach section, focusing on two different projects. The first was to scan, archive, sort and file over 300 Pierce County Neighborhood Emergency Team records. Secondly was to organize all Citizen Corps data, making the information easily accessible, and current.

Connie helps our team to continue its success of keeping Pierce County prepared for disasters, and stay organized, while adding a positive impact with her joyful attitude. Connie is a great asset to Pierce County Neighborhood Emergency Teams, Citizen Corps and Department of Emergency Management. Thank you, Connie, for all you do! We appreciate you!

Quiz answers

Go to links for details, quick answers below-

1) T 2) F 3) F 4) T 5) T 6) F . 7) T 8) F 9) F 10) T



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Contact Us
Email or call
(253) 798-6595





Request
a preparedness
presentation


Pierce County Emergency Management
www.piercecountywa.org/PREPARE

Outreach Staff
Sarah Foster, Supervisor
Peggy LovellFord
Roxanne Castleman-Reffalt



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