

You can buy any of these items at your local grocery, pharmacy or hardware store. You can use brand names or generic products to make a complete kit.



- Toilet paper
- Wipes & Hand Sanitizers  
(choose biodegradable/disposable)
- Heavy duty plastic garbage bags and ties
- Five gallon plastic bucket with tight lid
- Toilet seat (optional)
- Deodorizing chemicals - household Chlorine bleach, camp chemicals, or quick lime
- Small shovel to dig outdoor latrine, if necessary
- Paper "HUMAN WASTE" labels to attach to bag
- Heavy Duty gloves
- Mask

**Store your sanitation kit near your other Emergency Supplies. Do not intermingle the kit and supplies.**

Find out more about items you need to keep your family safe at:  
<http://www.redcross.org/prepare/buildakit.html>

To learn more, visit  
<http://www.sewersmart.org> or call 510-464-7963



## Backup Buster Says Don't Let Your Toilet Turn On You

When a disaster strikes, your water or sewer service may become disrupted. Disposing of your own human waste could become a critical problem. It's something nobody wants to think about. Be prepared! When you can't flush your toilet, you need a Sanitation Kit.



# What you need to do when a disaster happens:

## How will you handle your own waste?

In the event of a disaster, water and sewer lines may be broken and handling your personal human waste becomes very important for your family's health and safety. Like all emergency plans, you will be happy you spent the time to prepare when disaster strikes.

### How to Handle Human Waste

1



- Do NOT flush the toilet.
- Turn off water at the house so contaminated water does not enter your water system.
- You can still use your indoor toilet, but do not flush it in the normal way.
- Remove the water from the toilet bowl (scoop into bucket).
- Line bowl with double bagged garbage bags to collect waste.
- Add a deodorizing chemical (such as bleach, lime, or camp chemicals) per solid deposit or at least 2 times a day. (Follow any directions on the packaging.)

### 2 If the Toilet Can't Be Used (if it is not safe to enter your bathroom)



- Use a sturdy 5 gal bucket with a tight fitting lid and an optional toilet seat.
- Line it with a double-bagged garbage bags to collect waste.
- Add a deodorizing chemical (such as bleach, lime, or camp chemicals) per solid deposit or at least 2 times a day. (Follow any directions on the packaging.)

NOTE: Your sewer lines MAY be usable, even if your water lines are broken. In this case, you may be instructed to use a bucket to take water from an outdoor pool or pond, if available, and use it to manually flush your toilet.

### 3 If You Do Not Have a Plastic Bucket

- Dig a convenient "camp latrine" out in your yard away from the living area.
- Line it with a double-bagged garbage bags to collect waste.
- Add a deodorizing chemical (such as bleach, lime, or camp chemicals) per solid deposit or at least 2 times a day (Follow any directions on the packaging.)



### 4 Storage of Human Waste

- Periodically remove the garbage bag and add 1/4 cup of unscented household bleach and seal the bag containing the waste.
- Store it in the same area as your household waste, away from your living space, but separate from your garbage. Do not put it in your garbage can.
- Take care not to puncture the bags.
- Label the bag "HUMAN WASTE" and store out of direct sunlight.
- Do not ever burn human waste.



### 5 Directions for Proper Disposal of Waste and When to Begin Using Your Toilet

- Listen for public service announcements about conditions in YOUR neighborhood—KNBR 680/1050, KQED/NPR 88.5 or KGO 810, KCBS 740 and KLIV 1590.