WASTE

Natural and man-made disasters such as floods, hurricanes, or earthquake that damage the sewer system can cause additional personal and community disasters. You may be unable to flush the toilets or run water for weeks or even months. Failure to properly dispose of human waste can lead to epidemics.

How to Prepare

- Know how to turn off the water service valve to your home so no contaminated water can come into your home.
- Have a backup plan for emergency drinking, cooking, and washing water if your supply is cut off (1 gallon per person per day).

Sanitation Concerns

Pests
- Danger arises when flies are allowed to land and feed on human feces.
- Germs and spores of feces can be carried by the flies to human food and open water sources. Rodents such as mice and rats can also be carriers of spores and pass spores to human and pets.

Disease
- Improper waste disposal can lead to several health issues including diseases such as cholera, salmonella, and fecal-oral transmission disease, as well as give off an awful odor.

Twin Bucket Toilet

What do you need?
- Plastic buckets
- Lids for buckets
- Toilet seat
- Carbon material (sawdust, shredded paper, etc.)

How do you use the toilet?
- Mark the twin buckets “pee” and “poo”.
- Set them up in a private space.
- Try to keep types of waste in their own separate buckets.
- After using the pee bucket remove the seat and cover with a lid that closes well.
- After using the poo bucket, sprinkle about a half cup of the carbon material so that it completely covers the surface of the poo. This will eliminate odors and ensure flies don’t make themselves at home.
- Put the toilet seat back down ensuring it’s not airtight. Give your poo some air and it will dry out and reduce in volume.

For more information please visit Ready.gov Phlush.org