



LMI

Survival. Homesteading. Freedom.
Premier Issue

Inside This Issue

Find Water In The Desert

Survival on the Homestead

Sustenance Hunting

And Much More

Table Of Contents

Cover-----Page 1

Table Of Contents-----Page 2

LMI Notes-----Page 3

Survival on the Homestead-----Page 5

Some homesteaders shy away from survivalism. Here's why you shouldn't. by Corcceigh Green

Media Mix-----Page 12

Reviews of popular books, movies and television. by Douglas Paul Bell

Sustenance Hunting-----Page 14

Supplement your protein supply by learning to successfully hunt game animals. by Corcceigh Green

Twilight-----Page 20

with Pug Mahone

Things To Do-----Page 22

Planning your survival stocks around the big picture? Here's some other things you should think about. by Douglas Paul Bell

Northeast Notes-----Page 24

Tom From New England's survival column. Tom speaks on Ammo, scanners and communications gear.

A Complete Desert Water Survival System-Page 26

Finding, treating and storing water in the desert. by Corcceigh Green

Tips For Finding Water In The Desert-----Page 33

Desert signs to look for indicating water. by Corcceigh Green

Pamper Your Camp Gear-----Page 36

Maintain and store your camping gear in the off-season. by Bob and Wilma Knox



Long term food and water storage will provide your family with basic table fare in spite of crop failures and infrastructure break-downs.

Page 5



Page 14

© 2006 LMI newsletter

LMI is published 6 times per year, once every other month.

Editor Douglas Paul Bell

Lay-Out Editor Corcceigh Green

Contributing Editors:

Douglas Paul Bell, Corcceigh Green

Tom from New England

LMI Notes

Notes, Observations and Introductions from the Editors



Greetings and salutations from the editors of *LMI*. Let us tell you a little about ourselves. Once upon a time, a handful of writers got together and decided to take advantage of the internet to publish a survival and freedom oriented magazine. We looked into a lot of methods to do this and thought we found a good way to go. *The Independent American* was born. *The Independent American* was delivered to readers' e mail boxes once every other month. This allowed us to deliver a full blown 72-80 page magazine to readers for only 15 federal reserve notes per year. Our idea failed when we realized after 3 years that there just wasn't enough support for an internet based magazine.

We realized that the only way to garner the support necessary to keep a publication running is going to be to publish in print format. To do this, we would have to completely retrofit *The Independent American* or even scuttle the project and move on in a different direction. We have decided to try a combination of both. *The Independent American* as a publication has been dropped, but not quite scuttled. In it's place we have instituted not a full blown magazine, but a survival, homesteading, freedom newsletter.

The newsletter format allows us to keep our prices down as much as possible and still bring you relevant information. This print format will be able to accompany you everywhere. No extension cords or even electricity is necessary. You may carry this newsletter away from your computer, read it in the john, or sit back in your lazy chair and flip through the pages.

For the computer savvy, *The Independent American* has retrofitted it's web site at: <http://theindependentamerican.freeyellow.com>. No www to go in front of the address. The site has been expanded to include an online survival gear and Americana store, a free online homesteading journal, a soon to come news section and will be hosting space for *The Shooting Show* re-run programs. If you haven't seen Johnny Rowland's older Shooting Show programs, you are in for an education. There are some very excellent shooting tips up here. You will definitely want to check out *The Independent American* web site. You will find a lot of

information on survival, homesteading and freedom there.

Back to *LMI*. What we are about is simply stated as survival, homesteading and freedom. We face a lot of dangers in this world today. The world will never be absolutely safe, that's why your mamma told you to look both ways before crossing the street. There are dangers in most things we never even think about when we are doing them. When something goes wrong it takes skills and intelligence to survive. We can tell you what skills and knowledge you will need to become skilled in survival. Homesteading is more about self-sufficiency and self-reliance than acres. Our forefathers could walk into the wilderness with a rifle, axe and knife and carve out a working homestead. Unfortunately, those days are past. Today, individualists must concentrate their efforts on modern homesteading techniques. We can give you information on this and build your skills here as well. Freedom is a diminishing asset in today's America. At *LMI* and *The Independent American* we believe that freedom is what made our country the great nation it was in days past. To flourish, our children, young men and women today need freedom as a valuable asset. There is no doubt that our freedoms are under attack, however. We hope to show you how to preserve what freedoms you can against a very gloomy future.

This summer, America has been introduced to shortages, out of control energy prices, out of control taxes and critical devaluation of federal reserve notes. America is about to be introduced to *LMI* to help counter these threats. We believe you need a copy of *LMI* in your hands every other month to stay safe while the herd moves on toward the slaughter. Yes, you can survive and we will tell you how.

**The Independent American
The Web Site For Freedom And Survival**

The Independent American is a web site dedicated to bringing you information and gear for survival, homesteading and retaining your freedoms. We are continually adding gear and products for sale on our shopping section. There are books, reports and CD ROMs bringing you information on how to survive any situation and live free in an increasingly controlled society.

We will be adding gear and blacksmith worked supplies very soon.

The Independent American Web Site hosts:

Green Mountain/Upriver Journal The free online journal of homesteading in the mountains of the great Northwest.

North Woods Traders
online store featuring survival gear, books, informational CD ROMs, Americana and Old Time
Radio Shows

The News Box
Under-reported news stories

The Shooting Show re-runs
Replays of Johnny Rowland's *The Shooting Show* television programs

<http://theindependentamerican.freeyellow.com>

Survival Preparations on the Homestead

by Corcceigh Green

There are a great many reasons to embrace the homesteading life-style. These reasons are as varied as the individuals living in rural America. Most of us enjoy the greater freedom. Less confined living is a factor for many. Self-sufficiency gives homesteaders a greater sense of confidence. Those that grow much of their own food, craft much of their own possessions and barter for items they do not produce for themselves are able to face life knowing they have the ability to survive whatever comes their way.

Therein lies a popular reason for embracing the homesteading life-style. Survivalism. Survivalism, whether admitted or not, has been a concern for a majority of those seeking self-sufficiency. An exodus from urban to rural living is usually at least partly motivated by forces like a rise in crime, a breakdown in infrastructure, spiraling tax hikes and incremental socialism among others. In other words, many homesteaders seek self-sufficiency to provide for their family's survival.

Many shun away from terms like survivalism due to the predominate media stereo-image of the survivalist. The image such terms brings to mind are those of slovenly groups of Billy-Bobs armed to the teeth and roving the woods for the purpose of stealing at gun-point any possession that may help them survive from innocent victims. Such is far from the truth. While there are a small minority of groups that make only preparations to take from others by force of arms, most survivalists take a vastly different approach in their preparations.

Most of us make certain we keep a spare tire properly inflated in our cars. We are just making sure that we have a means of getting home should a tire on the car go flat. Welcome to survivalism. The object is to be prepared for any circumstance and make it home alive. A quick tire change on the side of a lonely road would prevent a midnight hike back to the homestead or into town to find help. That spare tire is a piece of equipment laid back against the possibility of a future mishap. There is no difference between keeping a pantry filled with long term storage food, several thousand rounds of ammunition, a flock of chickens and extra garden tools than keeping that spare tire in your car. All are for the same purpose. They are to ensure that your family can be cared for should the future bring some troubled times.

The greater portion of our motives for seeking a self-sufficient life-style are our own. Each individual has his or her own reasons for living the way we do. Some of those motives, however, could be classed as survivalism. Survivalism and self-sufficiency are both means to the same ends. You can rarely employ one without the other whether it is admitted or not.

Since the majority of readers have elected to live a homesteading life-style or are planning to do so in the near future, it is likely that you have already decided that self-sufficiency is for you. You are, or will be, providing for your own needs, but in the light of looking at your homestead through the philosophy of survivalism, what other preparations should you be making?

When provisioning the homestead for survival, begin with the immediate needs first. You are now provisioning your homestead to provide for the survival of your family. You will need to think of worse case possibilities. One of the most immediate needs for survival is shelter and heat. In an ideal condition your home will provide shelter and heat for your family. This can change in an instance. Homesteaders can loose their homes in minutes due to fire, flood, wind or

earthquake. Should you lose your shelter due to one of these disasters it will be necessary to find new shelter until the old shelter is rebuilt. Most survivalists accomplish this by keeping a “bug-out” or survival kit close at hand. The kit is kept at easy access where it can be grabbed on the way out of the home. A small pup tent, rain ponchos and shelter building materials are usually included in the kits. One kit per family member will ensure that there is enough shelter to go around.



Your home is your shelter against this type of weather. You must realize that you can lose that shelter and should make preparations to provide emergency shelters.

Root-cellars, basements, storm-shelters and out buildings should be employed on the homestead. Such structures built away from the home can be utilized as a temporary shelter. To make your family's stay more comfortable store equipment like some cots and sleeping bags in your planned temporary shelter. Think of them as a spare tire.

Another option for shelters is to accept the hospitality of friends or family. To exercise this option, however, the disaster that dislodged you from your home must be small so as not to destroy the homes of your friends and family. A widespread disaster like those of hurricanes Katrina and Rita will leave entire cities homeless. During such times it is prudent to have the ability to erect an expedient shelter.



When stored with cots and sleeping bags, a shed like this one can shelter an entire family for a few nights.

Water is a concern often overlooked. The human body needs water more than it does food. The only need more immediate to the human body is oxygen. Homesteaders generally rely on wells as their sole source of water. This can be a mistake. If you can lose your home, you can certainly lose your sole source of water. If you are hooked up to the grid and use electricity to

operate your well's pump you may find yourself out of water for as long as the latest blackout exists. Water lines can be broken due to earthquake or freezing and thawing of underground pipes. This includes the line from your well to your home. A gasoline powered pump relies on fuel and an infrastructure to bring that fuel to you at a feasible price. This, too, can change at any time as Americans have recently experienced.



A vehicle set up with a camper shell can provide a mode of evacuation and shelter.

Looking over any prospective homesteading property with an attitude toward survival will help to ensure a continuous water supply. You want to look for more than one source of water. A well and a spring, stream or nearby river will supply you with water and allow for a backup source in case your ability to pump water is brought to a halt. A cistern built into a spring or stream is a simple form of collecting water. No power is necessary and unless your water source dries up, the cistern will always be full.

Locate your home and shelters wisely in relation to your secondary water source. They must be near enough to haul or hand pump sufficient quantities of water, but remain well out of flood plains. You may not be able to drive to a water source during an emergency. My own home is

located two hundred and twenty four yards from the St. Maries River, but the terrain rises uphill, so that flooding is impossible. Most steep terrain will make hauling water difficult. Fortunately for me, there has been a driveway cut down the terrain from my property which connects to a road which cuts down to the river. These two cuts in the terrain allow me to wheel a thirty gallon barrel of water in a wagon up hill two to three times per day in an emergency. In the winter, I can haul water from a seasonal stream cutting through a ravine 25 yards from my home.

A water storage and filtering system should be a part of every homestead. A few gallons of water stored in some jugs provides some drinking water should your main source be cut off. Like your car's spare tire, this amount will provide what you need until you can tap another water source. Your emergency could be more protracted, however, and you may need to drive on that "spare tire" for long while. A fifty-five gallon drum or two filled with water and an oxygenizer like Aerobic 7 will provide more of a cushion. Water stored in this manner will last for up to five years. You can't



Though the St. Maries River at the bottom of this river valley is located steeply downhill, two cuts in the terrain allow the author to wheel quantities of water uphill without power.

store enough water. Unless you foresee being locked inside your home for months at a time, a fifty-five gallon drum or two will be sufficient until you secure your second water source.

That stream, spring or river that is your secondary water source carries water that is quite probably contaminated. Certainly such water carries particulates like silt. It is best to allow water collected from such ground sources to settle out. Just allow the water to sit overnight in it's containers. The silt will settle to the bottom of the containers by morning. Allowing such water to settle will help with filtering.

Water that contains a lot of silt will clog filter elements quickly. You will need to filter your water to prevent parasites and disease. Since you are laying these supplies back in case of emergency, it is prudent to acquire a water filter unit that does not require power to operate. Units that work well in this capacity are units made by Aqua-Rain, Berkey and Katadyne. Be certain that you purchase only a gravity operated unit. The filters are easily replaceable, easy to clean and their method of filtering removes contaminants far better than most filters. A secondary water source, some water storage and a means of filtering will keep you supplied with water during an emergency.



A gravity operated water filter will filter water without power or pressure.

Homesteaders generally grow their own food. Many homesteaders take after the pioneers of old, who on forty acres, a flock of chickens, a milk cow and a garden patch among other possessions, carved out a life for themselves on homesteads similar to those that homesteaders build today. Of course, that is an oversimplification, but it is, in essence, accurate. Our grandparents would preserve fresh fruits and vegetables from the garden and orchard to make certain they had a year's stock of food. Fresh chicken, fish, game and eggs provided meat. Most small homesteaders go this route as well.

The above is a superior means of feeding the family and producing your own food. This ensures a continuous supply of food, but things can still go wrong. Droughts, flood, wild fires, disease or pestilence can all wipe out a crop or strike down farm animals for an entire year's harvest. For this reason, survivalists recommend that at least one year's supply of storage food be stocked back. Most survivalists will recommend more than this. Who knows how long an emergency or series of events could last? You may have enough food for the family for a year, but what if your brother's family pulls into the driveway? You are not going to throw him off your property. You will probably need to feed several extra mouths. When storing food always consider who you may have to feed, not just who you are feeding now. When you have enough get a little more, then get some more for barter.

Fortunately for homesteaders, food grows on trees and costs only as much as canning jars, lids and dryers. At the moment wheat, oat and barley berries can be bought in bulk and CO2 packed in Mylar bags and plastic buckets very cheaply. Game meat and home raised animals can be butchered and canned very inexpensively. The trick is in storing enough for your family and others who may show up on your doorstep for however long you deem necessary. This is done by taking note of how much your family eats per meal and what types of foods are eaten. Multiply

this by three hundred and sixty five, add a one for every fourth year, factor in an increase in food consumption by growing children (comparative to your own food consumption) and you have the amount of food and types of foods to store.

If you have the budget, purchase extra food in bulk to store back. This will allow you to build a storage program quickly. Add your own home grown or foraged foods to this and you will increase your food storage programs quite rapidly. You can build a storage program over time by merely storing back your own home grown food if you do not forget to rotate. It is best to buy some bulk items that store for long terms like whole grain berries and beans to guarantee a good long term storage foundation for your food supply, however.



Long term food and water storage will provide your family with basic table fare in spite of crop failures and infrastructure break-downs.

Because you have an orchard and gardens on your homestead doesn't mean you'll be able to work them. What do you use now to plow your gardens? A roto-tiller or tractor? These take fuel. As discussed, fuel and power is easily severed from the homesteader. America's infrastructure shows signs that conditions will not improve in the future. To assure that you can continue to work your gardens in the future lay in a supply of hand tools like hoes, shovels and potato forks. For work on the homestead lay in some axes, saws and hammers. Keep extra nails, nuts and bolts from other projects. A tool's handle breaks more often than the tool itself. Lay back extra handles for hammers, shovels, post hole diggers and the like.

Despite all of our best preventive strategies bad things can still happen. Even the most self-sufficient among us will need help sometimes. Even our pioneer ancestors weren't shy about raising the alarm against a barn fire or riding into town to fetch the doctor when sickness or injury was incurred among the family. Not all modern homesteaders will wish to hook up to utilities like a phone line. Some form of communications should be maintained, however. Emergency numbers for the fire department and ambulance should be kept by the phone. If you have no phone, communications with the neighbors must be carried on through radio like CB, ham or the convenient little UHF or VHF units. You must, at the very least, be able to run to a neighbor's house within a few minutes of an emergency like a fire cropping up. The faster you are able to alert emergency services to the problem, the more likely it is that you may save your home or ailing family member.

There are a great many preparations one could and should make regarding survival on the homestead. When looked upon practically, survival is far from the stereotypical Hollywood image. You know the things you want your homestead to provide when you begin building. By asking yourself what can go wrong and what has gone wrong in your geographical location in the past, you will have a good idea of what to prepare for. Knowing what to prepare for will tell you how to prepare and what supplies to lay in. It is all common sense. When something does go wrong your preparations will have given you a great advantage in guaranteeing your family's survival and survival isn't a game. It's a matter of life and death.

ADVERTISEMENT



CRYSTAL QUEST® Large Capacity Ultimate Pitcher provides clean, great-tasting water conveniently, waiting and chilled in your refrigerator. CRYSTAL QUEST® Pitcher Water Filter is the only leading brand with 4 stages of filtration.

Gravity operated. Not dependent on power or electricity. Removes hundreds of contaminants from water. Large 10-cup pitcher is perfect for entertaining or just for having lots of delicious, chilled water available. Slim, space-efficient shape fits neatly into refrigerator. Contemporary, stylish design. Convenient flip-top lid for easy refilling, and handle designed for comfortable pouring.

Conveniently provides 2,000 gallons (6-12 months)* of quality water.

* Varies with amount of water consumption

Item #WFPITCH
Price: \$34.94
Shipping: \$6.00

CRYSTAL QUEST® Reverse Osmosis with the Booster Pump is the perfect 5-stage Reverse Osmosis System for the Do-It-Yourselfer on a budget that still wants the great-tasting pure water that RO provides. CRYSTAL QUEST® Reverse Osmosis comes with everything needed to install this system with complete easy to follow instructions. 5 stages filtration In stage 1. Water travels through a sediment filter cartridge that removes 99.99% of microbiological cysts, cryptosporidium and Giardia. In stage 2. Water passes through granulated activated carbon (GAC) cartridge. GAC is universally recognized and widely used as an effective adsorbent for a wide variety of organic contaminants, such as chlorine (99.9%), chemicals linked to cancer (THM's, benzene), pesticides, herbicides, insecticides, volatile organic compounds (VOC's), PCB's, MTBE's and hundreds of other chemical contaminants that may be present in water that cause bad taste and odors in your drinking water. In stage 3. Water travel through 50 GPD TFC Reverse Osmosis membrane which removes lead, sodium, cyanide, ammonium, mercury, bromide, cadmium, trivalent chromium, radium, magnesium, fluoride, nitrates, nitrites and more. In stage 4. water passes through a solid carbon cartridge for removing volatile organic carbon compounds (VOC's), insecticides, pesticides and industrial solvents. In stage 5, Finally Water passes through another granulated activated carbon (GAC) cartridge.

* 3.2 gallons / 12 liter storage tank

* long reach faucet

* booster pump

* plugs into a standard outlet 110V 60 hertz

Item #WFROL

Price: \$410.00

Shipping: \$19.00

Send orders to:
North Woods Traders
P.O. Box 21
Fernwood, Idaho 83830

Media Mix

with Douglas Paul Bell

In this column we will be presenting reviews of current and past media, such as books, television and movies. We hope to bring you reviews of important titles that will be of interest to survivalists, homesteaders and freedom lovers.

Doug Bell will review and report on books, movies and television programs and let you know which ones are worth your while before you spend your hard earned money trying to find the information that is useful to you.

Television

Guns And Gears

Johnny Rowland is back on the small screen bringing you news from the firearms and automotive industries.

Back in the C band satellite days Johnny Rowland hosted an hour long program called *The Shooting Show*. *The Shooting Show* was an excellent program featuring tips on gun safety, news from the firearms industry, gun legislation and freedom news. Independent from any network, *The Shooting Show* could cover any subject and tell the truth about it. This was very well done. Unfortunately, the program underwent a lack of funding and shut down.

The demand for such a television show could not go unheeded for long, however. With the advent of the small, digital satellite dish and competition between satellite programming providers, a good idea like *The Shooting Show* was bound to be renewed. As it happens, The Men's Channel on the small satellite dish is airing Johnny Rowland's new half hour program. This one is called *Guns And Gears*.

Guns And Gears covers mainly news from the firearms and automotive industries. New innovations and gear is covered well with many interviews with firearms industry leaders. Action taking place at firearms shows are covered and gun safety and shooting tips are demonstrated very well.

The automotive industry is covered like nowhere else. This is due to Johnny Rowland's knack for seeking out and finding small, private entrepreneurs and innovators putting together their own products which have large impacts on car enthusiasts and self-sufficient minded homesteaders. Most impressive were interviews with Montana's governor on turning coal into diesel fuel. A simple process and cost effective when oil become more than \$30 per barrel. Bio-diesel made from canola oil is covered and demonstrated as much more energy efficient than producing diesel from oil and cheaper.

Guns And Gears is a television program with a lot of relevance for today's survivalist/homesteader. I would like to see the show expanded to an hour format. The information goes by just too fast at half an hour. Of course, being connected to a main stream media channel means there are some things left unsaid. What is left unsaid, Johnny Rowland makes easy to read between the lines. Recommendations from here is to watch the program. It's worth the half hour and more.

VHS/DVD

State-Of-The-Art Survival Caching

“State-Of-The-Art Survival Caching - how to cache weapons, ammo, and almost anything else” video by Paladin Press (POD 1307, Boulder, CO 80306, 1995) is a VHS color video of approximately 50 minutes in length. In case you were wondering or weren't sure, the word “cache” simply means a hiding place, especially one for hiding or preserving supplies or provisions, while “caching” simply means to place in a cache, so this tape covers how to hide things.

While much of the tape is simply common-sense and standard how-to found in any book that covers caching (this video, and most books on the subject of caching, covers how to bury your goods, but caching can also mean hiding under water, in walls, or just about anywhere else that what ever you have to hide can be hidden) there were a few surprises that I at least, hadn't thought of or considered.

While the video didn't cover some things I consider standard operating procedure, if you are new to the subject of caching and don't have any idea where to start or what you are doing when it comes to hiding and preserving the things you might need in the future, then I would highly recommend you view this video. If you have a pretty good idea what you are about, or have one of the books on the market on the subject of caching (there are several out there, including a US military manual) then I would recommend that you at least give this video a look to see if it will give you any ideas that you might have overlooked.

Books

JET STREAM

(Muehlberg Press, Murray Hill Station, P.O. Box 807, NY, NY 10156-0807)

EXCELLENT!!! Highly recommend you buy this one!! Self published, so he needs the money to put out the rest of the series, FATES LAUGHING, and ARMAGEDDON. Very true to life and accurate! You WILL learn something here! Get your local library to buy a copy too! Tell him I sent you!



Thirty Years Of Hounding It by Gene Lewis is a collection of true hunting stories taking place in the Panhandle forests of Northern Idaho. Hunts take place behind hounds in pursuit of bear, cougar, bobcat and raccoon. Read, first hand, 30 years of the experiences of hounds and hunters in some of the most remote territory of continental North America. 96 pages with photos and illustrations. Soft cover. Price \$9.95 plus \$2.55 shipping and handling. Item #bk30hnd To order send check or money order and item # to North Woods Traders, P.O. Box 21, Fernwood, Idaho 83830

Sustenance Hunting

by Corcceigh Green

While hunting is a great sport for many it puts necessary meat on the table for many more. When used to provide food, hunting is no longer a sport, but sustenance. When hunting for sustenance, success of the hunt is much more important. A good deal of work needs to go into your hunts. This goes much further than merely finding a nice spot in the woods where you'd like to shoot your game. You must know your game and it's habits. For this, you'll also need to know the environment in which you will hunt your animal.



Stalking game actually takes place long before the opening of the season. Ideally, you'll be outdoors in your environment learning of the habits of your game animals year 'round. Frequent your targeted hunting areas on weekends or holidays throughout the year. Spend your time there camping, fishing or foraging. If you have chosen a lifestyle which includes sustenance hunting chances are you also fish and forage wild plants and berries for food as well. Take advantage of this. Look for signs of game animals while you are in their habitat during the different seasons you are there.

Signs of game animals:

Tracks. Tracks are the first thing most will look for. After all, a great deal of stalking game involves 'tracking'. Tracks tell a lot about the game in the area. The tracks you find on the ground tells you what kind of animal has frequented the area. Deer tracks will differ from elk tracks which differ from moose tracks. These differ greatly from bear or cougar tracks. Big game leave much different tracks than small game. You must know the track each game animal leaves. This is how you will determine which animals frequent which areas.

Deer



Elk



Moose



Cat (Cougar or Bobcat depending on size)



Bird (pheasant, grouse, quail, dove, pidgeon)

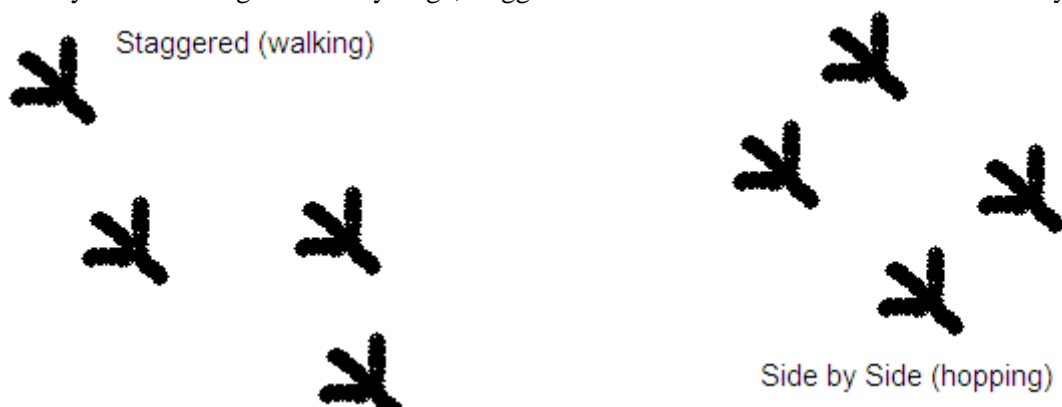


Since you will be hunting animals during specific hunting seasons, knowing which animals are in hunting areas will increase your chance of a successful hunt. Tracks will tell you much more than

this. They will tell you how the animals are behaving and their population. Deer and elk herd up during mating season, which is close to their prospective hunting seasons. If you are finding a few sparse tracks, population is low and there is little reason for the animals to be in the territory. You might notice this in the summer months. This is a sign that during mating season, this area is not used much by the animal. Where well worn game trails with many different sized tracks and many side trails are present, you have an area with a larger population of animals. Such areas could support a herd during mating season.

Bird tracks will tell a lot, too. Most game birds are large and leave larger than normal tracks. You will be able to easily distinguish them from song birds. Bird tracks which appear side by side are made by arboreal birds which are not used to walking on the ground. Such tracks are made by hopping rather than walking. Sometimes doves will make such tracks, but more often will walk. If you see a combination of medium sized bird tracks underneath trees or close to a grain source that are side by side and staggered, you have found a dove forage.

Medium sized side by side tracks that form a single column trail over a good distance are quail. Pheasant and grouse do not like to fly and will do so only when necessary. Staggered tracks found near hedge rows and fields indicate pheasant while tracks in woodland, plains or sage country could mean grouse. Very large, staggered bird tracks that form a trail means turkey.



When you consider your quarry's behavior you will understand why this is. Turkeys and quail like to range, having larger territories. This causes the un-flighty birds to form game trails on the ground. Grouse and pheasant do range some, but their range is a bit more limited. They like access to their food source and will stay close. Doves drink in the morning and evening, so fill their stomachs with water, which makes them heavier. They are flighty, however, and range more than pheasant or grouse, but not on the ground. They will fly from tree to tree making rest stops. Grain or seed bearing plants near these trees will become favorite forage sights.

Rubs. When venturing into the woods you may come across some saplings with the bark rubbed off on one side and some broken branches on the same side. Sometimes you may find some antler velvet near by. This is a rub. Deer and elk shed their antlers once a year and grow them back. While growing, the new antlers are covered in a modified skin known as velvet. When the antlers are at full growth for the year the blood supply to the velvet is cut off. The velvet dies and becomes itchy. The deer or elk rub this velvet off on anything close at hand.

Bull elks and buck deer become territorial during mating season and will mark their territories with scent glands near their eyes. They spread this scent by rubbing it around the saplings with their head and antlers. The animals will also rub a sapling with their antlers during mating season

when feeling aggressive or warning off rivals.

Food is another consideration for your game animal. When stalking animals that herd up during mating seasons, look for plants and food sources that those animals depend upon.

Elk are grazers that need some grasslands for feeding. To find good elk hunting territory, look for sign and trails around meadows with nearby streams or springs. Logged areas that have grown fallow for a couple of years are prime feeding areas. Look for any number of grass species within these meadows. All grasses will be welcome food sources for elk. Also look for clovers and buckbeans. Fields growing feral alfalfa, oats, wheat or hay in rural areas close to forests are also prime hunting areas late fall through winters.

Deer are browsers. They will eat alfalfa and grasses, but not in quantity. They need to eat other foods like the buds, leaves and bark of trees, broad leafed green herbs, nuts and fruit. Again logged areas with meadows, water and game trails are good indicators.



Also look for favorite scrubs and trees, like scrub oak, alder, apple, pinyon pine and vine maple in the west and oak, grape and maple in the east. Fields growing corn or other grains are favorite habitats of big bucks in most of the country. Mixed patches of berries and other food sources like blackberries, raspberries, huckleberries, rose hips and roots like cow parsnip, bear grass and arrow root means bear country. Prey animals in the area like deer will also provide needed food for bear.

Grass growing between stands of sagebrush indicate a food source for jack rabbit and sage grouse. A stand of timber in the nearby would indicate some shelter and a possible water source. Lush green, herbaceous areas indicate possible water and a definite food source. Thistle seeds from the Russian thistle will be a favorite of sage grouse. Look for signs of sanding in sandy areas between brush or grasses and scratching among gravel areas. Rabbit signs will include dens, burrow heaps, tracks and nibbled green, leafy vegetation. Look for deer sign among the stands of trees.



A source of water is necessary for all animals. Water sources in combination with a large number of game trails, especially in arid conditions, is a sure sign of good hunting conditions. In arid regions you should look for water sources before other signs of game. Read *A Complete Desert Water Survival System* in this issue. This will help you to know what animals are looking for as

well as people when looking for water. Signs of water in an arid environment are also signs of game.

Lusher, green vegetation in the west not only means food for game, it is an indication of water. Taller trees growing in crooked rows, poplars, cottonwoods and sycamores are all indicators of surface water. They are also indication of food and shelter for game. Grouse like to hang around cottonwood groves. Anywhere there is running water and sycamores in the desert, you will find javelinas.

You don't have to live in an arid environment to take advantage of water. Water may be more plentiful in most areas of America, but game animals still need to drink from ground sources. Animals will make the greatest use of water sources that are consistently present through all seasons of the year. By knowing your area's watering holes and scouting for sources of food and game trails throughout the year, you will have a superior chance of bringing home the meat come hunting season. When streams begin drying up in the summer, scout close to the springs in your area to observe game animal behavior. Game is likely to use spring water sources rather than venture into human populated river areas.



Some large game need large water sources like lakes and marshes. Moose must have these sources. Their main food source comes from the aquatic plants that grow in these sources. These sources are also populated by water fowl like ducks and geese. When ducks and geese are properly prepared, they are fine eating, and, of course, great shooting.

Rules

There is a fine line between survival hunting and sustenance hunting. Both types of hunting provide meat for the table. Survival hunting kicks in where there are no longer any rules, however. Should you become lost in the woods and need sustenance or should society break down and an infrastructure is no longer bringing a food supply to your grocery store, then everything is fair game all seasons, no bag limit. With sustenance hunting, society is still intact. Rules and bag limits apply.

Not all rules are bad. When they are in place to conserve game and insure a continuing population, rules are beneficial to survivalists and hunters. Game laws that conform with common sense should be followed. After all, you do not want to run out of your supply of meat. You also do not want to run afoul of bureaucracies that have far more power than our Constitution allows. By signing a hunting license, you give bureaucrats from the fish and game department permission to come into your home and look through your belongings without a warrant. If you do not purchase a hunting license, you will be prosecuted for hunting without a license. As long as the bureaucracies don't overstep the bounds of common sense too far, follow their rules. You don't need to bite off more trouble than you can chew on.

Hunting Preparations

Having stalked your game and found it's habitat and roaming ground, you will want to prepare for your hunt.

Your game will invariably have a good sense of smell. Any smell identifying you as human will cause the game to avoid the area where you are waiting. Do not wash your clothes in just any detergent. Detergents are available tailored to hunters that do not have the odors of human civilization. The same holds true for soap. One of the best remedies for cutting the smell of humanity from your hunting clothes is to wash your clothes in Ivory Soap and leave them on the line for a week before heading into the field.

Don't forget that you too are a source of odors. (I know, your friends are too polite to say anything.) So, yes, wash well in Ivory Soap, avoid your dogs and cats the day before opening season, air dry yourself (out of sight of the neighbors) and roll in the hay before leaving. Pay attention to wind direction. Since you are already familiar with your hunting grounds, you will know how to approach your lay from up-wind.

Stop fidgeting around on the ground while waiting for your buck to walk by! Dress correctly for the occasion. Early fall days will be warm, cooling toward night and the mornings. Insulate your body from the ground by bringing along a small canvas tarp. Dress in layers. On warm early fall days, wear a warm, loose fitting flannel shirt whose sleeves can be easily rolled up when the sun warms up your lay. Wear a very loose fitting coat for the early morning chill that can be easily removed without much movement. Since you have brought along a canvas tarp to insulate yourself from the ground, whether or not you wear long johns will depend on the weather. Your pants should be rugged and resistant to scratches and pokes by thorns and brush. A good pair of hiking boots and wool socks will round out the hunting outfit.

Summary

Today, Americans could be faced with shortages and interruptions in their food supplies. Even those raising livestock to provide some of their meat needs may want a change in menu. Sustenance hunting can provide a greater measure of self-sufficiency at lower costs. If you already have a hobby, recreation or work that brings you into the outdoors, expand your experience and skills by practicing your scouting skills and sustenance hunt. You will become much more self-sufficient for the experience.

ADVERTISEMENT



Cold Steel Master Hunter Knife

Features a 4.50 in. Carbon V steel blade and a 4.75 in. Kraton handle.
Comes complete with a Concealex sheath. Brand Name: Cold Steel

Price: \$95.42
Shipping: \$2.00
Item #csmstrhunt

Send orders to:

North Woods Traders
P.O. Box 21
Fernwood, Idaho 83830

Advertisement

AIRSOFT TRAINING RIFLES AND PISTOLS

Airsoft is the leading manufacturer of spring fired soft pellet firearms simulations. These soft pellet simulators are idea for training or paintball gaming. Airsoft simulated firearms fire 6 MM soft pellets or 6 MM paint pellets. Perfect for simulated fire fights.



F-503 Airsoft Pellet Gun w/ Laser

Full size replica of a 9mm Pistol. Comes with Red Dot Laser. Spring loaded and very powerful. Uses 6mm plastic BB's (included) and 6mm Paintballs (not included). Great for target practice, with the same look and feel of a real gun. Complete with spring activated 10 round magazine and starter pack of BB's. Comes with orange tip as required by law. Item weight: 10 oz

Price: \$15.99 S&H \$4.00 item # ASF503

- Shoots Approximately 200 FPS
- Approximately 6.5" in Length
- Comes Gift Boxed
- Comes w/ Red Dot Laser



M16A5 Airsoft Rifle w/ Collapsible Stock

Made by Well, this MR722 M16 airsoft rifle is full scale (1:1). Shoots both 6mm Pellets (included) and 6mm Paintballs (not included). Shoots approximately 240 FPS. Spring loaded (cock and shoot). Adjustable stock (from 30" - 34").

Includes starter pack of pellets. Price: \$31.99 S&H \$4.00 item # mr-722



1000 6mm Seamless AirSoft Pellets

1000 6mm Pellets designed to be used in all our AirSoft guns, these are top quality, seamless 6mm bb's that work in all our airsoft guns. Comes in a speedloader with screw off cap and nozzle for easy loading into your airsoft gun. Bottle can be refilled when empty. Pellet color may vary from picture.

Unit Weight: 8 oz
Price: \$7.95 S&H \$4.00
item # pellet6mm

Send order with check or money order to: North Woods Traders, P.O. Box 21, Fernwood, Idaho 83830

Twilight

Pug Mahone

Before the darkness of night becomes a pitch black, there are degrees of darkness that bring blacker shades as the face of the land loses its source of light. When the sun sinks below the rim of the earth, a cold twilight comes over the land. A transitional phase as the light that once shone upon the land fades and darkness hides the stumbling points and tangles on the terrain. A time to end work and prepare for the night ahead.

This is the phase we find our country in today. A twilight as liberty and freedom fade, eclipsed by a tyrannical government that has grown beyond its constitutional bounds has fallen across the land. In days past phases like this were averted by We The People who fell back on our Natural Right to alter or abolish such a government and re-institute honest government and restore constitutional authority.

Thomas Jefferson compared liberty to a tree, saying, "The tree of liberty needs to be watered from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants. It is its natural manure." What Thomas Jefferson meant was that when the weeds of tyranny begin to choke out the good fruit of the tree of liberty a little 'gardening' is in order. It's time to tear out the tyrant weeds leaving their blood on the ground to water liberty. Some of those weeds have thorns and the patriot gardeners will get pricked and scratched and some of our blood will water the ground as well. In the end, it will be remembered why we fought and the principles we fought over.

Such weeding takes gunpowder. The gunpowder blazing through the darkness of tyranny will give light through the night until the light of liberty returns to bring the day again. This was the ultimate check and balance placed against tyranny by the forefathers of this country. Twilight has once again fallen upon America. We The People have allowed criminals holding government office to steer our country down a road of collectivism. A system of privileges and entitlements exchanged for Rights and liberty. A cushy way of life that is volunteered into, but no avenue exists not to volunteer or remain free of the system. In this system, your Rights are not recognized and you are forced to abide by rules that are foreign to our way of life and form of government as defined by the Constitution.

Government has far overstepped the bounds that America's forefathers tolerated at the time this country was born in gunfire. America is at the point where the people must tell the government in no uncertain terms that it has crossed enough lines and must now return to the bounds of the Constitution. If government refuses to listen to such redress, then it must be forced back into its constitutional restraints by We The People.

We The People have been lax in keeping government honest. We The People have not even been outspoken in pointing out government abuses of authority. We The People have been fearful. We The People have been apathetic. We The People are not of the same breed that produced a land of liberty and freedom. We The People have allowed government to kill freedom in our land and there is nothing we will do about it. In short, there will be no watering of the tree of liberty with the blood of tyrants to revive freedom. The people are not going to rise up. There will be no restoration of the Constitution. You are on your own if you wish to live freely and exercise your Natural Rights.

The twilight is about to sink into darkness. We are about to lose the very few freedoms we have left to us and if you oppose the loss of your freedoms, the majority of the people will hate

you and report you to government. America is in a sad shape. Without any backing from your friends and neighbors, let alone We The People, how can individuals and their families resist the collectivist system growing in power in the new United States?

I hope to help readers explore this and find tactics to remain free and retain some kind of quality living standard as the nation sinks into third world status. Those of us who face the problem and act will likely be acting alone. Alone against an evil new world order. That's an awful lot for a single man or family or even small group to take on, but you will have to if you want to preserve your family's freedom or even lives.

Your first priority is to recognize the problem. Most Americans today are a product of the public school system and popular culture. Americans wave US flags made in communist China by slave labor and worship hollow symbols without knowing the structure of what makes our country work. What made our country the great land of strength and freedom it is today is not the socialist structure that saps the freedom and wealth of Americans today. You may and must read about America's true working structure in the Constitution, The Bill Of Rights, The Declaration Of Independence and The Federalist Papers. You must know these if you are to know your country. How can you call yourself a patriot if you do not know what form your government is supposed to take and the limits placed on it?

Educate yourself. We will discuss these should this column be picked up by LMI Newsletter. Just as important, we will be discussing tactics that will allow you to actively resist and remain free as big brother becomes more of a bother. I am hearing of some very exciting developments that will have important effects in the future. We will begin discussing them in the next issue.

ADVERTISEMENT



North Woods Traders Survival CD ROM

The Complete Independent American

Send orders to: North Woods Traders, P.O. Box 21, Fernwood, Idaho 83830

This CD ROM contains dozens of books, military manuals, Civil Defense Pamphlets, booklets, articles and reports on all aspects of survival. Learn to survive any situation from being lost in the woods to global thermal nuclear warfare. PDF Format
Price \$24.95 plus \$2.00 shipping and handling. Item #survcd1

The Independent American, The Magazine for a Free Life was published from May/June 2003 to January/February 2006. This CD ROM contains every Independent American published. This magazine focused on Constitutional Freedoms and survivalism providing many solutions to today's problems. PDF Format
Price \$24.95 plus \$2.00 Shipping and handling. Item #tia3yrs

Things to do

by Douglas Paul Bell

Survivalists are always planning around a big picture. When stocking your basement/bunker full of food and supplies it is easy to lose track of the small things that you take for granted every day. I have written up a small list of things to do for after you think you have taken care of everything you need to.

Have you checked your smoke detector lately? You DO have a smoke detector don't you? With new batteries? How about the fire extinguisher in the kitchen, bedroom and hall? Checked it lately to see if they need recharging?

Need a fire? Got lighters, water proof matches? Sure a flint and steel will work, ever tried it? Tried it cold, wet and tired? When I say got lighters, I mean in most pockets of your coat, back pack, pants. Dumping that whole pack to find that the lighter you put in 10 years ago is out of fluid is no fun! Now what are you doing to do?! Rub two sticks together?!

Got any toilet paper? Sure it will break down after five years, but if you are unable to get to the store for toilet paper for five years you will also have other worries too. Paper towels, etc, also break down after five years.

Got soap? Sure you can make it from wood ashes and animal fat, but it is a whole lot easier to buy while it is cheap.

Got salt? Pepper? Spices? Eat a couple of meals without them to see what life will be like. Try eating your freeze dried food, beans and rice you stored for a week or two. Like it? Enough for you to eat it everyday forever? Ever ground your own flour from wheat and baked bread with it? You DO have a grain grinder don't you?

Smoke? You shouldn't, but if you do, do you have a couple extra packs? Having a nicotine fit while the rest of your life is going to hell will just add stress. Same with your morning coffee too.

Got your city, county, state maps where you can get at them in a hurry?! The county engineer's office should have a complete map of every road, path, building, wide spot, and the cost is just a buck or two.

Are you in shape? Can you run a four minute mile? I did, but only because the pack of huge, vicious hounds were doing a 4.1 minute mile. Also helps to have an ambulance with oxygen tanks handy too.

Got bleach to purify your water? Did you know it will break down after awhile? Get crystals to store.

Reload? What are you going to do when the liberal/communists ban ammo? Got bullet moulds, primers, powder, dies, case lube? Most reloading manuals have a grains to pounds conversion chart, just look up what your favorite load works out to by the pound and buy enough powder for as many loads as you think you will need. Then buy a few more pounds of powder and a few more bricks of primers. Swing by the tire store and get another 5 gallon bucket of wheel weights too.

Stocked up on food for Fluffy and Fido? There are enough wild dog packs out there now, just ask any possum sheriff, without adding yours to the mix. Also adding Fido to your diet will probably upset the kids.

Got non-hybrid seeds stored so you can garden next spring? How about if you have a crop failure, got extras?

On friendly terms with the people who live around you? Even know their names? Done any volunteer work? Why should people help you if you've never helped anyone else?

Got a can opener? Get several! Put one in every bug out kit, back pack, and outdoor coat. Too bulky you say? Get the P-35 military folding can opener that folds flat, they work great.

Got an extra tooth brush and floss? Tooth paste/powder? Band-aids? Know CPR?

Got a five gallon gas can filled to run the chainsaw, generator, top off the car? The gas tank in your car IS full, isn't it?

Thinking about all this is probably giving you heart burn, got Tums/Roloids/whatever?

Now you are prepared to fight off the starving hoards, sit tight for the next six months and live off your stores, but the kids are bored and screaming. Now what? Break out the board games, deck of cards, or books, and have some family fun.

Just thought I'd list some things to do at the last minute that you may have over looked. Have fun.

ADVERTISEMENT

NORTH WOODS TRADERS Survival and Preparedness Gear



Battery Powered Lantern

Molded metal handle. Bright, long-lasting krypton bulb. 4 D-cell operated. Easy-load battery compartment.
Replacement Bulb #5351-100.
Brand Name: Coleman
Item #bttrylant
Price: \$38.50
Shipping: \$4.00

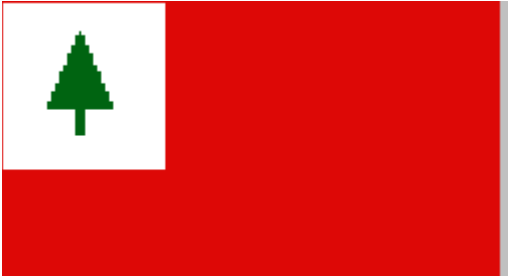
Single Burner Camp Stove

Single 10,000 BTU Burner. 8 In. burner bowl and pot supports. One cylinder 16.4 oz. propane will last up to 2.2 hours on high or 9 hours on low.
Brand Name: Coleman
Item #sbstv
Price: \$61.50
Shipping: \$4.00

Self Defense Stun Gun

30,000 volt stun gun. Includes 130 db panic alarm and belt sheath. Requires 9 v battery.
Brand Name: Streetwise
Item #sw300
Price: \$55.95
Shipping: \$6.00

To order send check or money order and item # to North Woods Traders, P.O. Box 21, Fernwood, Idaho 83830



Tom from New England's

Northeast Notes

Greetings and salutations! Welcome to my column of self-reliance and preparedness notes from the land that brought you "Live free or die", the Boston Tea Party, Rogers' Rangers, Mark Twain (Yes, he was a Yankee.), Samuel Adams (patriot and beer), the great equalizer Colt, and the first state to adopt the attitude that anyone should be able to carry a pistol, concealed or otherwise, without a permit. Unfortunately we also have the state that was stupid enough to make Hillary Clinton a senator, but that's because Manhattan squeezes a population exceeding that of New Hampshire onto a 22 square mile island, making the name Snake Plissken a household word amongst LMIs.

Ammo Alert

I went shooting recently with a quantity of milsurp Egyptian 7.62mm NATO ammo. About 20% of the rounds fired when tried in three different firearms. In asking around, I discovered there were similar problems with milsurp Egyptian 8mm Mauser ammo. An online acquaintance of mine said that if a country's water isn't safe to drink, he doesn't use their ammo. If you come across any Egyptian milsurp ammo, it's probably best avoided unless you are getting it for less than dirt cheap, and are planning on salvaging the components. Unfortunately, the brass is Berdan primed.

Police Scanners

Many LMIs have become enamored with the Radio Shack "Signal Stalker" police scanners, also known under the Uniden brand as "Close Call". What the Signal Stalker feature does is detect nearby, (within 1000 feet or so) radio communications activity and automatically tune the scanner to the transmission. This can be used as an "RF sensor", alerting you to nearby radio communications activity that you'd probably want to monitor. Many individuals have taken advantage of the clearance sale on the Radio Shack PRO-83. While the PRO-83 has been discontinued, it's still available under the Uniden brand as the BC-92XLT. This is an excellent, inexpensive, entry-level handheld unit for the survivalist.

I received a few emails from people who have purchased police scanners for disaster communications monitoring purposes asking about which agencies are best monitored for disaster preparedness purposes. Here are some basic notes.

Police Departments - Generally speaking routine traffic most of the time: handling complaints, traffic stops, license/registration checks. Best bets for disaster comms are mutual-aid, "intercity", and tactical channels.

Fire Departments - Generally a good bet for monitoring as frequencies are quiet until something happens. FDs usually are the first responders to disaster and hazmat incidents. Many areas maintain a regional/county dispatch center that handles all departments in a locale on a common frequency. Mutual-aid/intercity frequencies are useful for indications of incidents requiring multiple department response. Response and mitigation operations are often moved off to tactical/"fireground" frequencies.

Forestry and Environmental Conservation/Protection Departments (EnCon/DEP) - Another good disaster monitoring target. Often provides specialized response/cleanup for hazmat incidents, and is lead agency for forest and brush fire response.

Utility Companies - Usually routine traffic relating to the maintenance of the company's utility infrastructure. A particularly good monitoring target during disasters as efforts will be refocused to repairing disaster-related damaged and restoring proper operation of infrastructure.

Emergency Management Agencies - Responsible for coordinating multiple-agency disaster response and mitigation. Frequencies generally inactive unless there is a disaster drill or actual disaster situation. Common frequency for region/county.

Public Works Departments (Highway Departments) - Usually routine traffic relating to infrastructure maintenance. A particularly good monitoring target during disasters as efforts will be refocused to repairing disaster-related damage and restoring proper operation of infrastructure.

Amateur Radio RACES/ARES - Personal hobbyist traffic most of the time, except during disaster situations. RACES/ARES are usually trained as SKYWARN observers and/or Radiological Monitors. Provide back-up communications for public safety agencies during disasters. Often a good source of first-hand condition reports in a disaster area.

Transportation (Bus and Taxi Companies) - Very good for "front line" reports of local traffic conditions, especially during inclement weather. Monitoring taxi communications can also be very humorous sometimes, and an excellent source of local RUMINT (Rumor Intelligence).

The Modern Survivor

After years of working on it, my survival manual project is beginning to shape up. The more complete parts of my work in progress are available for viewing at <http://www.digivill.net/~ticom/manual/>.

That's all for this month, as always I appreciate your feedback, and can be reached via email at tfne.tom@gmail.com. Until next issue...

A Complete Desert Water Survival System

by Corcceigh Green



There are a lot of dry miles and precious little water in the desert. You must know what signs to look for to find a water source.

Water is the second most important consideration for the survivor after shelter and fire. A survivor can lose two to three pints of water per day by merely sitting on a log. If you consider the work you must put into clearing a camp site, building a shelter and gathering firewood you will probably be replacing five to six quarts of water per day. If you are inactive, you will need seven and a half gallons of water to sustain yourself for a one week period. You can more than double this amount as you search for food and water sources in the summer. You won't make it three days in the desert southwest without a source of water.

There are some areas of the western United States where finding a source of water might be a first priority after checking yourself over for injuries. Camp sites and shelters in arid regions should be selected for their proximity to water sources. Finding those water sources are not always easy, but knowing what indicators to look for will greatly increase your chances of finding water from a distance.

The terrain itself is one indicator where water may be present. Wide, flat areas on the desert floor that are a bit sandier than the surrounding terrain may support lush, greener vegetation. This area will have salt cedar trees growing upon it in clumps. This is called a riparian. When the vegetation growing on the riparian is green and laying down in the same direction, water had just been running in the riparian. It is possible to dig between a few inches and a few feet to find water under these conditions. Always dig where reeds, or especially, wild desert squash is seen growing. These plants have shallow roots and need a source of water to live.

The riparian occurs on the flat land of the desert floor. Such areas are usually close to population centers. Climbing onto a surrounding rise or high point of ground will help you to locate possible help. Riparians are usually dry in the summer except during the monsoon season. If you have not

located help close to a dry riparian, follow the riparian uphill where it begins to narrow. The terrain will turn sandier and the land will begin to rise on either side. This will be a stream bed. You may find a trickle of water or some mud here. Chances are, the stream bed will be dry in the summer months. Follow the stream bed to a bend shaded by a Palo Verde or Mesquite. Look for mud in these bends. If you find mud, there is water just below the surface. Dig down several inches at a time and wait to see if water begins to fill in. You may have to dig down a few feet for this. If water isn't filling into the hole, there just isn't enough water present to squeeze from the sand. You'll have to move up the stream bed.

While moving up the stream bed, climb onto a rise to the side of the stream bed and look over the surrounding terrain. This will give you the opportunity to look for help and signs of water from a distance. The first signs you might see are trees. Water sources such as surface streams can be spotted from a distance by observing the types of trees growing along crooked rows in lowland gulches or between rises. Some trees are very specific indicators of water and only grow close to such sources. One such tree is the sycamore. The cottonwood is another. These trees grow to a great height which is quite startling in the desert when compared to other plants of the area. This causes them to stand out even at a distance and they are always an indicator of water.



As you continue up a stream bed, you will notice you are traveling uphill. This will give you a better chance to look over the terrain behind you. Look back frequently in an attempt to spot buildings, homes, roads or water sources.

Climb a rise to check over your terrain often to look for signs of water or help.

If you spot help, get your bearings and change your direction of travel toward the source of help.

You will also notice that the terrain in the stream bed is changing. The stream bed is becoming more narrow. The land is rising more steeply off the banks to form rocky hills. The stream bed itself will become more and more rocky. Your chances of finding water is improving. Signs of water to look for in the stream bed are insects like moths, butterflies and midges. Purple colored butterflies are an indicator of surface water within a few yards. Follow these butterflies and you will find a water source very close by. Birds like doves need a reliable water source as they need to drink at least twice a day. Look for medium sized bird tracks on the ground and dusting areas. A number of tracks leading from a dusting patch in a single direction will probably lead to

surface water.

Check for mud and insects around the edges of rocks. Being careful of venomous snakes, roll away some likely rocks where water may have collected. Rocks in the shade of a bend are more likely to hide a very small sip of water. A nice shaded bend may also be likely to hold more water beneath it's surface. If the first few rocks you pull out of the hole yield some moist sand or mud your chances are getting better.



Cacti and palo verde trees are not an indication of water. Cacti store seasonal water in their flesh and make use of it during dry months. Palo verdes possess extensive tap roots and take drought extremely well.

Continue to pull out more rocks until water begins to fill into the hole.

If this area also proves too dry to yield water you will need to continue

upstream. Where the stream bed becomes tangled with vegetation is a possible source of water. If the vegetation is composed of reeds or vines like squash and are green, water is just below the surface. Plants like jojoba, mesquite and palo verde means the water table is many feet below the surface and you probably won't reach it. If the reeds or vines are dried and dead, the water is seasonal and gone



Looking for signs of water in a dry wash. Though, still somewhat sandy, the stream bed exhibits exposed bedrock, vegetation and grass. Following the stream bed up could yield results.

for the moment. Cacti are succulents and store water from monsoon rains, so are not an indicator of water. You will need to travel up the stream bed.

As the stream bed narrows the terrain will become steeper. If the terrain becomes steeper and rockier on either side of the stream bed while the slope of the stream bed is more gentle and bed rock or calichi becomes prominent within the stream bed, your chances of finding water are vastly improving. If the stream bed remains sandy or rocky and becomes sharply steep it is time to search for another stream bed. Your stream bed may exhibit holes within the calichi. This is a sign that running water has removed rocks from the calichi. You may find surface water within these holes. Your chances of finding running water in this stream or by following it a little further up is very good.



The top of a dry falls. The yellow, dry vegetation and sand filling the bottom stream bed is a sure sign that water here is seasonal and will not be found in the summer.

As you follow the stream bed you will notice that it is narrowing even further and perhaps making some sharp bends. Before making one of these bends or perhaps at a point where another small creek bed converges with your creek bed, you will notice a small trickle of water soaking into the ground. Like as not, this sighting will be preceded by purple butterflies and midges. Following this trickle up the creek bed will yield a spring and perhaps a running brook. You have just found enough water to keep you alive. You will need to set up a camp sight close by, but definitely not in the stream bed whether the bed is dry or not.

Finding water is not quite this easy, unfortunately. In the desert there are hundreds of dry miles and very few sources of running water. Rivers that I had been used to seeing in the past like the Gila, Cave Creek and Salt rivers have stopped running altogether. Water is very precious and becoming more so. You should always bring some along with you when traveling in arid regions. This will give you a small cushion of time to find a water source. There are several methods to

carry water. Hydration systems are bladders that are carried on the back like backpacks. They come with straws that slip over the shoulder allowing the survivor to drink while carrying the hydration unit. These units carry more water than basic canteens, but do not do as much as a canteen and canteen cup system can do to make water potable.



From this rise a possible water source is located in the stream bed below. The darker, green vegetation on the banks and the salt cedars and especially the desert poplars and cottonwoods indicate a definite water source.

A web belt, a canteen, canteen cover and canteen cup together are a complete water carrying and decontamination system. If you have chosen to carry a hydration unit it is still in your best interest to carry a canteen and canteen cup. You can not carry as much water as you will need with you in the desert environment. You will need to find a water source to survive. When you have, you must make the water potable before consuming or risk contamination of any number of disease organisms. In the absence of a water filter you may boil water in a canteen cup to decontaminate before drinking. Once your water source is found, set up your camp close by. You will need to build a small fire. Collect water from your source in your canteen cup and place the cup over your fire. You can do this by straddling the cup across two rocks on either side of the fire and allow the water to boil gently for up to twenty minutes. This will kill disease organisms. When you have decontaminated the water in your cup pour the contents into your canteen and place into the water source to cool. Do not place the canteen so deeply into the water that the water level reaches the mouth of the canteen. That may contaminate your potable water.



These three small pieces of equipment can be used as a complete survival water system. A canteen, a canteen cup and a canteen carrying cover.

You won't get cold. Bear in mind, this may change in a high desert region or arid mountains like the Sawtooth range.

When you have found your water source, made your camp and begun making water potable, always fill your water carrying equipment. If you are carrying a hydration unit fill it as well as your canteen. You never know how permanent your water source is or when you may have to move.

Water filters are great methods for making water potable. They are certainly a complement to any complete water system. They are independent of making a fire and most do not need power other than muscle to work. Refrain from the bargain basement filters and carry brands that have good reputations. Those models from Pur, Katadyne, Aqua-Rain and Berkey are the best quality and eliminate most contaminants. These filters are especially pricey, however. Most people will shy away from these excellent filters unnecessarily due to their cost. Fortunately, you can obtain such excellent filters without unloading the nearly three hundred dollars per unit for a Berkey or Aqua-Rain.

You may buy the filter elements for an Aqua-Rain or Berkey from survival outlet stores. Such filters operate when placed in a metal water reservoir. The reservoir is placed on a water tank, then non-potable water is poured into the reservoir. Gravity forces the water through the filter which is collected in the tank. You can build a smaller unit with a single filter element which will cost less than fifty dollars and a coffee can.

Simply measure the diameter of the nipple of your filter element which should be half an inch. (Don't forget to measure the threads as well.) Drill the same diameter hole into the center of your coffee can. Place the nipple of the filter element into the hole and use the enclosed wing nut to attach the element. Be careful not to over-tighten. To use this filter simply fill the coffee can with the filter element attached with water. Place the coffee can on top of your canteen cup so that the nipple of the filter is situated over the interior of the canteen cup. Purified water will begin dripping into the cup. When the cup begins to fill, pour the purified water into your canteen or

There is little chance you will need a large fire in the desert during the summer other than for signaling for help. The only other reasons for your fire will be for decontaminating water and cooking. It is a myth that temperatures plummet into the twenties overnight in a desert summer, though this does happen in the winter. On the desert floor daytime temperatures rise to 110 and often over in the daytime and drop to the nineties overnight.

hydration unit.



To fit the element's nipple into the coffee can measure the nipple's diameter and drill a hole of this size through the bottom center of the coffee can. Attach the filter with the wing nut included with the element.



An Aqua-Rain filter element lends itself quite well to creating an inexpensive filter that can be carried in a survival kit.



A survival filter like this one can save your life in the field.

The filter elements of these units must be properly prepared before they are able to yield purified water. Instructions for these units state to run two gallons of water through the unit and discard the water. This is so the carbon within the unit has the opportunity to saturate and remain within the filter element without pouring out with the water. The first couple of gallons of filtered water will have some carbon filtration elements in it. Since you will need all of the water you can get in the field, preparing the filter element should be done at home. Use the filter frequently, so that it does not dry out and you need to re-saturate it before heading into the field.

A knowledge of where and how to find water, a canteen, canteen cup, canteen cover and web belt along with an inexpensive filter is a complete water system that will help the survivor stay alive in the field. Water is essential to survival and survival is not a game. It is a matter of life and death.

Tips For Finding Water In The Desert

by Corceigh Green



Types of soil in a dry stream bed tells a lot about whether or not surface or below surface water could be close by. Sand is present everywhere in the desert. It blows into stream beds from the surrounding terrain. When the sand within a stream bed has a swept or rippled look, running water has been present in the stream which may be seasonal to monsoons and winter runoffs. By following the stream bed uphill toward the stream's source you can determine how likely it is that water is present. Should the stream become rocky with the rocks being rounded and smooth with less sand present, it is an indicator that water has swept the lighter sand from the stream more recently than sand could be blown back into the bed. Water could still be present upstream.

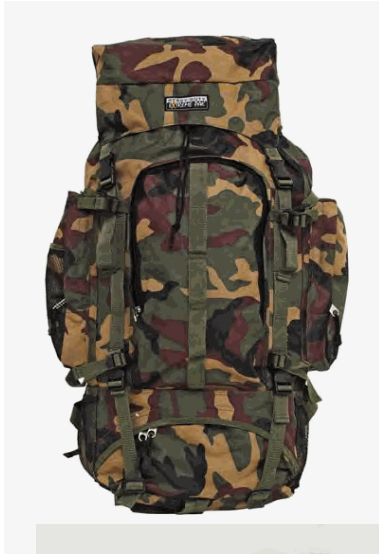
If the stream bed turns sharply uphill where it's termination can be seen at the summit and the bed is sandy and dusty, it is an indication that no water has been present for some time and the small creek bed you have followed is only a dry gulch that runs off monsoon and winter rains.

If the stream bed becomes void of sand, and sometimes even rocks, exposing bed rock or calichi, this is an indicator that water frequently runs through the stream bed sweeping the sand and rocks down stream. There is a good chance that surface water or a spring is present close by upstream.

Animal life like midges, butterflies and doves need water on a daily basis. Finding signs of doves on the ground within a stream bed is a fair indicator of water. A purple colored butterfly that lives in the desert must have water on a constant basis. You almost never see just one, but you may see many. When you see them, you have a one hundred percent chance of finding water. Follow the butterflies within the stream bed. Their numbers will increase as you near their water hole. Where you find dozens or even hundreds of them on the ground you will find water.

Always carry a flannel or cotton rag with you. Filter your water through this to remove sediment before you boil the water or run it through your filter to make potable. This will extend the life of your filter or keep contaminants out of your canteen cup. Canteen cups made from stainless steel are valuable for cooking, boiling water to make potable and even for digging for water if necessary.

Plants are great indicators of the presence of water. Certain trees can be spotted from a great distance and are excellent to one hundred percent indicators of water. Sycamores, cottonwoods and poplars growing along crooked rows between rises or in narrow valleys indicate that water is present.



EXTREME PAK™ HEAVYDUTY 34" X 13" CAMOUFLAGE MOUNTAINEERS BACKPACK

Extreme Pak™ HeavyDuty 34" x 13" Camouflage Mountaineers Backpack. Lifetime warranty. 4 lbs each. Price \$40.00. Shipping \$6.00. Item #xpakcamo

MAXAM™ BRAND CAMOUFLAGE X-LARGE BACKPACK

Maxam™ Brand Camouflaged Extra Large Backpack with Elusion by Michael Collins. This is an extra large capacity camouflage hiking / camping backpack with a top loading barrel style main compartment with cinch strap padded shoulder straps padded waist strap utility loops on top and back for securing extra gear such as bed rolls water bottles etc. Measures 34 3/4" x 21 1/4". 5 lbs each. Price \$30.00. Shipping \$6.00. Item #LMBP



EMBASSY™ LEATHER HYDRATION BAG

Embassy™ Genuine Leather Hydration Bag. Has a one liter bladder and features 600D trim. Perfect for hiking biking running and for avid sideline spectators of outdoor sports. 2 lbs each. Price \$20.00. Shipping \$6.00. Item #LUWATER



See next page for order information.

North Woods Traders
P.O. Box 21
Fernwood, Idaho 83830

<http://theindependentamerican.freeyellow.com/storenwt/aboutnwt.html>



* Ideal for today's fast and healthy lifestyles, the Health Professional Juice Extractor from Waring® is engineered to make the juicing process easy.

* The efficient metal design has fewer parts to clean and assemble making this an attractive machine to own and operate.

* Efficient operation means more juice is extracted from less produce, leaving only dry pulp in the ejector.

* An extra wide feed tube minimizes preparation time and the convenient On/Off toggle switch is simple to operate.

* The smooth, brushed stainless steel housing is contemporary and easy to clean.

* A durable, heavy die-cast base provides superb balance and stability during use.

* The 32 ounce stainless steel juice collector pours perfectly measured cups of freshly extracted juice every time.

* Features:

- o Durable die-cast base
- o Brushed stainless steel housing
- o Extra wide feed tube
- o 32 oz. stainless steel juice collector
- o 5 year limited motor warranty

Price \$80.00. Shipping \$6.00. Item #WARJUICER

Clip and send with payment to: North Woods Traders, P.O. Box 21, Fernwood, Idaho 83830

Name _____

Address _____

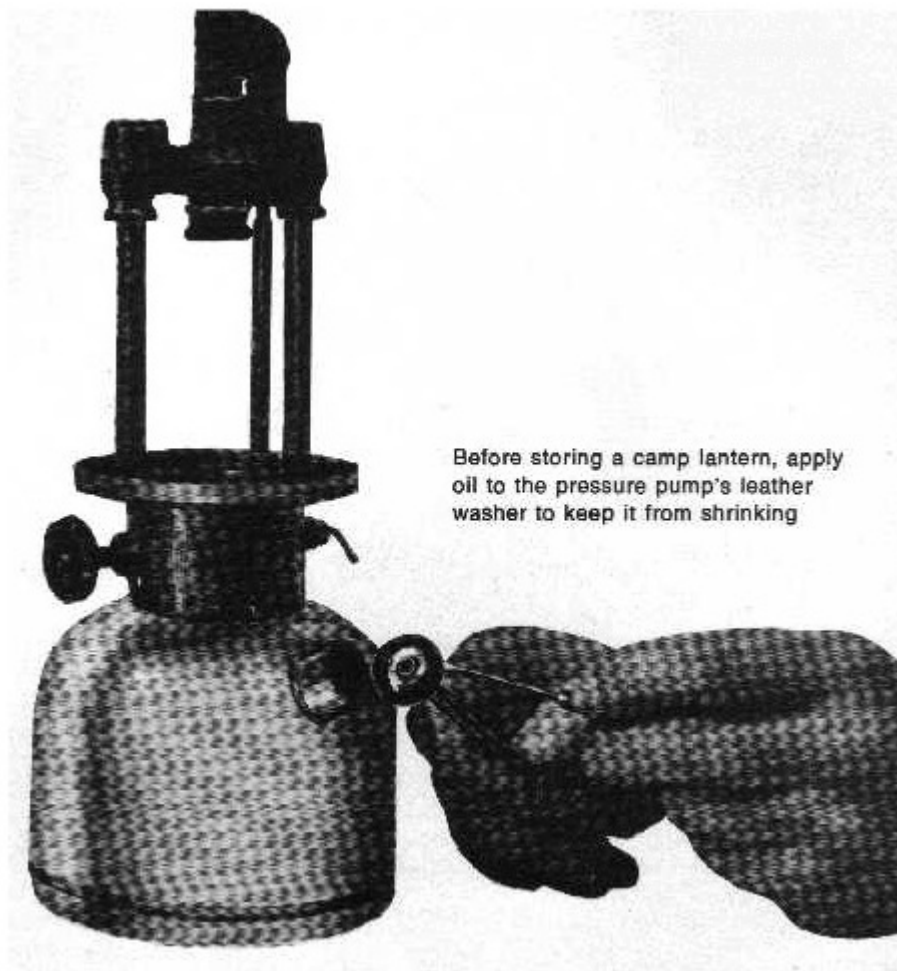
Item #	Description	Price	Shipping	Total

Grand Total _____

Pamper Your Camp Gear

by Bob and Wilma Knox

Excerpted from Popular Mechanics 1968



Your Next Trip Will Be More Fun If You Store Your Gear Right

Like other campers, you might have a fortune in tents, sleeping bags, picnic jugs and lanterns. But your gear can be useless if it doesn't get proper care. Tents will be tough to set up if sectional poles are bent and don't fit together. Sleeping bags won't be comfortable if down has sifted out of tears. Hot meals won't happen if your stove won't light.

To prevent such problems, here are a few suggestions-based on manufacturers recommendations-that will keep your gear in top shape and help retain it's value.

The major recommendation from manufacturers: Store gear in cool dry place. But even more important, they say, is what you do with gear before you store it away. Before-storage maintenance pays big dividends.

Start with your tent. This is one of the most expensive items a camper buys and as such it merits a spot at the top of the list. Turn it wrong-side out and give it a thorough brushing with a fairly stiff brush after you come in from that last trip. Sand in the floor seams, or thorns and twigs caught in the threads of the fabric will wear and weaken the sturdiest of materials.

Examine the tent for dirt spots that won't come out with brushing. These should be removed with mild soap and warm water, or if particularly stubborn, with cleaning fluid. Next, make any necessary repairs, using adhesive mending tape for small tears and sew on patches for larger holes.

If your tent has been used for several seasons, or if you've spotted it with soap and water or cleaning fluid, it should be recoated with water repellent. If this is done *before* storage, the tent should be thoroughly aired and dried before folding to prevent any possibility of spontaneous combustion.

When folding your tent for storage, fold it in a different place each time—a good procedure for whenever you take it down. This gives the surface equal wear and helps prevent strain along creases.

Don't forget the metal poles. These are usually treated to prevent corrosion, but they can be kept in better working order if cleaned and rubbed lightly with petroleum jelly or oil. This is particularly important before a long period of storage. Finally be sure to store your tent and poles separately; metal flanges and points can puncture fabric if rolled inside.

Tents will take a certain amount of abuse, but sleeping bags, particularly down filled ones, really *need* pampering. Manufacturers say the first rule in preserving a down bag's life is to keep it so clean it will seldom need dry cleaning or washing. When down becomes soiled it actually loses its loft (fluffiness) and consequently its warmth. But repeated cleaning or washing harms down fibers. The answer is a cotton liner which protects the bag and can be removed for washing.

Eventually, though, your sleeping bag will get dirty. If you decide to have it dry-cleaned, make sure you take it to an establishment that handles such items as down comforters and pillows.

Down bags can also be washed, but this is a job requiring time, care and patience. Don't use detergents as they have an oil removing action that injures down. Instead, use a mild, pure soap and warm water. Stubborn spots on the casing can be treated with 1 part household ammonia and 4 parts of water. Because of its size and bulk, one of the best places to wash a sleeping bag is in the family bath tub. After thorough rinsing, a clean towel will help remove some of the moisture.

Drying is at best a slow process. It can be done in a commercial dryer at low heat, but the recommended method is putting the bag outdoors in a breeze. Throughout the drying, the down must be fluffed often.

Besides care in cleaning, down bags need care in repairs. Before storage they must be checked carefully for any rips or holes. These should be sewed or patched promptly. Moths won't attack the material normally used for covering, but they do like down and will find holes no matter how small. For the same reason wool liners should never be left inside sleeping bags while they are stored.

Down also deteriorates from oxidation. Vacuum packed bags have been stored for several years by the army and retained most of their original loft, while bags left out in the air and light for a similar period will deteriorate. The best bet for yours is to put it loosely in a plastic bag, or even a box with a lid, and store it away from heat and light. If you don't have much space, keep your sleeping bags in large plastic clothes sacks hung over clothes hangers in a dry closet.

Synthetic filled bags require about the same care as down bags in cleaning, repairs and storage. They can be dry cleaned by a reputable cleaner. Some can be washed in your home machine (check label for instructions), but take care to use a low temperature and speed, and a low temperature later in the dryer.

The sleeping bag's companion, the air mattress, also takes some care in maintenance and storage. Did you ever squeeze the air out of a mattress and wonder about the white powder that comes out the vent? This is talcum powder put in your mattress to keep the sides from sticking together. If you plan to store your mattress flat or rolled, check to make sure it has been talcum treated. The best storage method is to keep the method slightly inflated, but this requires plenty of room.

By comparison with other camping equipment, insulated jugs and chests require little maintenance and preparation for storage, just clean with water and a light soda solution, and dry thoroughly. Then open the spigot, unscrew the cap or prop the lid open to allow air circulation. This insures a clean container when camping time rolls around again.

One of the most startling things manufacturers say about camping equipment storage is that white gasoline used for stoves and lanterns can "spoil." For this reason, and because full tanks are storage hazards, pressure type stoves and lanterns should have their tanks emptied. Otherwise, fuel tubes and generators can be clogged with residues. Remove tank caps and open the valves wide to allow air circulation. Just to be on the safe side, dispose of any extra supply of gas and start completely fresh in the spring.

Even the wire grate of your stove can be given a longer life by brushing with petroleum jelly or coating with aluminum paint before putting the stove away. The jelly or paint will burn off on the next use. Fall is the time, too-as we remembered in our supper-less camp-to check all working parts and replace defective ones.

Care of a gasoline lantern is essentially the same as for the stove. Make sure the tank is empty, valve and caps open. Check operating parts, and replace if needed. Pump leathers of both lantern and stove should be protected from shrinking by applying a good grade of neat's-foot oil.

Once the before-storage maintenance is completed, you come to the last step: finding a cool, dark, dry place for storage. Usually this isn't much of a problem for homeowners, but apartment dwellers often have to be more ingenious. You might solve your problem by using your pick-up camper unit as a storage closet for camping gear in the off-season.

Basement lockers frequently provide space in apartment houses, or you may be able to use part of a large clothes closet.

But no matter what type of space you are able to set aside, remember the most important step in storing your equipment comes *before* storage. Clean, well maintained camp gear is twice as much fun to use and you'll find it lasts twice as long.

LMI NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 21
Fernwood, Idaho 83830

<http://theindependentamerican.freeyellow.com>

EVACUATION CHECKLIST

(Includes items for building or improving [nuclear] shelters)

Loading Procedure: Make separate piles for each category (except categories 1 and 5). Then load the car with some items from each category, taking as much as can be safely carried and being careful to leave room for all passengers.

A. THE MOST NEEDED ITEMS

Category 1. **Survival Information:** Shelter building and other nuclear survival instructions, maps, all available small battery-powered radios and extra batteries, a fallout meter such as a homemade KFM and writing materials.

Category 2. **Tools:** Shovel, pick, saw (a bow- saw is best), ax or hatchet, file, knife, pliers, and *any other tools specified in the building instructions for the shelter planned*. Also take work gloves.

Category 3. **Shelter-Building Materials:** Rain- proofing materials (plastic, shower curtains, cloth, etc.) as specified in the instructions for the type of shelter planned. Also, unless the weather is very cold, a homemade shelter-ventilating pump such as a KAP, or the materials to build one.

Category 4. **Water:** Small, filled containers plus all available large polyethylene trash bags, smaller plastic bags and pillow cases, water-purifying material such as Clorox, and a teaspoon for measuring.

Category 5. **Peacetime valuables:** Money, credit cards, negotiable securities, valuable jewelry, checkbooks, and the most important documents kept at home. (Evacuation may be followed not by nuclear war, but by continuing unstable nuclear peace.)

Category 6. **Light:** Flashlights, candles, materials to improvise cooking-oil lamps (2 clear glass jars of about 1-pint size, cooking oil, cotton string for wicks, kitchen matches, and a moisture-proof jar for storing matches).

Category 7. **Clothing:** Cold-weather boots, overshoes, and warm outdoor clothing (even in summer, since after an attack these would be unobtainable), raincoats and ponchos. Wear work clothes and work shoes.

Category 8. **Sleeping Gear:** A compact sleeping bag or two blankets per person.

Category 9. **Food:** Food for babies (including milk powder, cooking oil, and sugar) has the highest priority. Compact foods that require no cooking are preferred. Include at least one pound of salt, available vitamins, a can and bottle opener, a knife, and 2 cooking pots with lids (4-qt size preferred). For each person: one cup, bowl, and large spoon. Also, a bucket stove, or minimum materials for making a bucket stove: a metal bucket, 10 all- wire coat hangers, a nail, and a cold chisel or screwdriver.

Category 10. **Sanitation Items:** Plastic film or plastic bags in which to collect and contain excrement; a bucket or plastic container for urine; toilet paper, tampons, diapers, and soap.

Category 11. **Medical Items:** Aspirin, a first-aid kit, all available antibiotics and disinfectants, special prescription medicines (if essential to a member of the family), potassium iodide (for protection against radioactive iodine, spare eyeglasses, and contact lenses).

Category 12. **Miscellaneous:** Two square yards of mosquito netting or insect screen with which to screen the shelter openings if insects are a problem, insect repellents, a favorite book or two.

B. SOME USEFUL ITEMS (To take if car space is available):

1. Additional tools.
2. A tent, a small camp stove, and some additional kitchen utensils.

LMI Newsletter

LMI is a newsletter published once every two months (bi-monthly). Our focus is on survival, freedom and homesteading. You will read expert articles on survival in the outdoors, surviving terrorism, economic survival, NBC warfare survival and surviving an out of control government. You will also read articles on self-sufficiency, running a homestead, homestead based businesses and homestead resources. Articles on freedom will include coverage of statutory rules and regulations, constitutional law, the limits of government and the exercise of individual rights.

Articles inside include: Sustenance Hunting by Corcceigh Green, Things To Do by Douglas Paul Bell, Survival On The Homestead by Corcceigh Green, Twilight by Pug Mahone, Media Mix by Douglas Paul Bell, A Complete Desert Water Survival System by Corcceigh Green, LMI Notes from the Editors and Northeast Notes column from Tom of New England.

LMI Newsletter will be a print media newsletter delivered to your mail box or drop box every other month. Price for subscription is \$48.00 per year. Sample copy is \$8.00.

Send check or money order with address or drop box to:

LMI Newsletter

P.O. Box 21

Fernwood, Idaho 83830

Subscribe to LMI Newsletter online at <http://theindependentamerican.freeyellow.com>

