

HOME STORAGE AND FINANCIAL RESERVES

First Presidency Letter, Jan. 20, 2002

“Priesthood and Relief Society leaders should teach the importance of home storage and securing a financial reserve. These principles may be taught in ward councils or on a fifth Sunday in priesthood and Relief Society meetings.

Church members can begin their home storage by storing the basic foods that would be required to keep them alive if they did not have anything else to eat. Depending on where members live, those basics might include water, wheat or other grains, legumes, salt, honey or sugar, powdered milk, and cooking oil. When members have stored enough of these essentials to meet the needs of their family for one year, they may decide to add other items that they are accustomed to using day to day.

Some members do not have the money or space for such storage, and some are prohibited by law from storing a year’s supply of food. These members should store as much as their circumstances allow. Families who do not have the resources to acquire a year’s supply can begin their storage by obtaining supplies to last for a few months. Members should be prudent and not panic or go to extremes in this effort. Through careful planning, most Church members can, over time, establish both a financial reserve and a year’s supply of essentials.”

SUGGESTED AMOUNTS OF BASIC FOODS FOR HOME STORAGE

Per adult for one year. This list may vary according to location.

Grains	lbs.	400
Legumes	lbs.	60
Powdered milk	lbs.	16
Cooking oil	qts.	10
Sugar or honey	lbs.	60
Salt	lbs.	8
Water (2 weeks)	gal.	14

Food storage calculators, storage tips, recipes & more:

<http://www.providentliving.org/>

HOME STORAGE CENTER: Dry-pack can & purchase food at the Home Storage Center: 17350 Mt. Herrmann, Fountain Valley. Schedule an appointment: Sister Pam Brown (949) 552-566. Appointments can be made for 6-20 people by calling Sister Brown. If you have less than 6 people, she can add you to a group already scheduled. Hours for appointments are: Tues. or Wed. 9-11 am; Tues., Wed., Thurs.- 6:00-8:00 PM; Sat.- 9:00-11:00 AM & 2:00-4:00 PM Our ward will be sponsoring scheduled ward visits.

MESSAGE FROM THE FIRST PRESIDENCY

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Our Heavenly Father created this beautiful earth, with all its abundance, for our benefit and use. His purpose is to provide for our needs as we walk in faith and obedience. He has lovingly commanded us to “prepare every needful thing” (see D&C 109:8) so that, should adversity come, we may care for ourselves and our neighbors and support bishops as they care for others.

We encourage Church members worldwide to prepare for adversity in life by having a basic supply of food and water and some money in savings.

We ask that you be wise as you store food and water and build your savings. Do not go to extremes; it is not prudent, for example, to go into debt to establish your food storage all at once. With careful planning, you can, over time, establish a home storage supply and a financial reserve.

We realize that some of you may not have financial resources or space for such storage. Some of you may be prohibited by law from storing large amounts of food. We encourage you to store as much as circumstances allow.

May the Lord bless you in your home storage efforts.

The First Presidency



For more information, visit www.providentliving.org

THE BASICS OF FAMILY HOME STORAGE

THREE-MONTH SUPPLY



Build a small supply of food that is part of your normal, daily diet. One way to do this is to purchase a few extra items each week to build a one-week supply of food. Then you can gradually increase your supply until it is sufficient for three months. These items should be rotated regularly to avoid spoilage.

DRINKING WATER



Store drinking water for circumstances in which the water supply may be polluted or disrupted.

If water comes directly from a good, pretreated source then no additional purification is needed; otherwise, pretreat water before use. Store water in sturdy, leak-proof, breakage-resistant containers. Consider using plastic bottles commonly used for juices and soda.

Keep water containers away from heat sources and direct sunlight.

FINANCIAL RESERVE



Establish a financial reserve by saving a little money each week and gradually increasing it to a reasonable amount (see *All Is Safely Gathered In: Family Finances* guide).

ONE-YEAR SUPPLY



For longer-term needs, and where permitted, gradually complete your one-year supply with food that will last a long time and that you can use to stay alive, such as wheat, white rice, and beans.

These items can last 30 years or more when properly packaged and stored in a cool, dry place. A portion of these items may be rotated in your three-month supply.