

# **Systematic Approach To Group Survival**

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## **1. Introduction:**

Hello Folks! I have been a Prepper for five years.

I have been the planner for a MAGS (Survival Group) in NW Florida that is now complete. We have 40+ members, but can support 60. It is on a secluded 30 acre farm and is all complete, both in planning and physical.

We took a systems approach from the beginning, building for a large group from the outset. We have organizational plans and operating manuals for all phases of our retreat.

We divided ourselves into these **six Focus Groups**:  
Health, Nourishment, Morale, Planning, Physical and Security.

Each focus group is then divided into Teams. A member can be on all the teams he wishes, scattered among the Focus Groups.

If anyone needs help in designing a group feel free to ask for all of our files. I would be glad to help you.

## **2. Purpose**

I will share our work product so that you can alter it for your own purpose. It is a lot easier to change a plan than to write one from scratch. I see my job here as to simplify your life as much as possible all while insuring you of success.

I will post step by step what we did, in a nutshell format like Cliff Notes. If you are in a hurry, request the files on a flash drive that we can swap out - there are a lot of files!

Feel free to converse additions, questions or changes in the sister Topic: [Systematic Approach To Groups - Conversations](#) on this forum or through private email. Mailto: [costa4670@gmail.com](mailto:costa4670@gmail.com)

## **3. Start Here:**

If you are a beginner or a pro, you will need this file right away. It is a 22 page document that gives the reader only what he does not know, concise and in a nutshell format.

I suggest you print it for an emergency.

I suggest you send it to all of your relatives that might later decide to prep. It will ease your conscious for leaving them behind.

**Prepping In A Nutshell:** <http://src-fla.us/index.php/preparations>

*If you don't think a group approach is right for you, be sure to read this short article [Nutshell - Prepping Fast & Cheap](#)*

#### 4. My News Blog

**Specializes in only the Collapse and Reset.**

**\* Free**

**Cuts out a lot of searching for those of you with jobs and little time.**

**Gives analysis so you can decide things for yourself.**

**<http://ResetUs.us>**

#### 5. This is where we are going to go.

**Download** the Organizational Chart here: **[Leadership Chart](#)**

**The teams under each Focus Group perform duties that must be done, **no matter if you are 10 strong or 100 strong**. Note: One member can be on several scattered teams.**

**Most of the teams have Policies, Procedures, Plans, Inventory needs, etc. in place. This is what I will share with you.**

**Also note that the chart shares OUR particular leadership method.**

**It is a revolving leadership that may change every month. We will be in a most stressful situation, therefore, if a leader falters, it is fixable. Instead of a mutiny and shooting the SOB, just wait two weeks and replace him, as all leaders are up for re-election the first meeting of any type each month.**

**What we have discovered is that there will be very little for the Council to meet about as all rules, plans etc. have already been put in place. The Council will just have to adjust things as they see fit.**

**While we are on the subject of meetings, MOST of our meetings have no more than six participants engaged and voting. However, all meetings are open to the general membership. By doing it this way, more work is accomplished, all members can express themselves and not get lost in a crowd, and consensus is easy to reach. I highly recommend this meeting method.**

#### 6. Having a Complete Plan in Just A Few Days.

**In my early twenties I was tricked into becoming a Scout Master. I read the hand book and knew that the 15 year old boy leaders were to complete an annual plan for their troop. The first planning day I left them for two hours with the big blank calender and soft drinks. When I returned it was half filled out and I was told of the "best farting contest ever!" The same thing happened the second year.**

**The third year I cheated! I filled out the plan 75% complete. However, being the stupid person I am, I**

made a lot of mistakes, such as swimming in December, Winter camping in June and grilling Brussel Sprouts on Saturday night. This time I returned to see a 100 percent great Annual Plan. What I learned is that for most people it is a whole lot easier to copy and alter than to create from scratch as it is now not so overwhelming.

That is what I suggest here. **Select ONE** person to **cause it to happen**, however he deems fit. It then is a plan that the group can mull over and change as the plan is being enacted. But you now have a group vision and starting plan! I am reminded of a plaque I once saw that said, "And God so loved the world that he sent his only begotten son, instead of a committee."

### **Who Should Plan It?**

Every group has a "John Wayne" type person in it. He/she is the one the others lovingly refer to as an "Asshole". That person has a square face and chin; a square torso from the rear, square butt, short stubby square hands and fingers. They walk like a storm trooper and are serious all the time. One of the characteristics about them is they make decisions in three seconds and 99 percent of the time they are right.

There are four basic personalities. If you assign the task to anyone from the other three it will either take forever or the planning will never occur.

I put on a one hour YouTube seminar teaching this skill of recognizing when to follow others and when to lead them. We require all of our members to watch this before joining. This is because we get our feelings hurt when others do not act like us and this creates group problems. With the training most of this problem will go away, even in a new group of total strangers. If we activate the retreat we won't have time for personality problems and mistakes. You will know how to best utilize all of your members, so take the time to watch it. Then go get your **Choleric** to complete the Plan.

**Watch 1 Hour Seminar:** <https://costa4669.wixsite.com/pensacolapreppers/copy-of-warm-clean>

### **7. Organizing Documents.**

**Don't skip this step even though there are only seven of you. You may merge with a neighbor and now there are twenty of you, all mad because of the confusion and poor planning you did and all stressed and holding guns!**

**These documents will be the plan all agreed to upon entry and can be used to reboot your system calmly when needed. Besides, they are free.**

**See ByLaws:** [Paradise Farm Bylaws](#)

**Change them to fit your group. Let me know if you need help.**

**See Proposal Method:** [Proposals](#)

**This will force critical thinking and quickly lead to consensus.**

## 8. Focus Groups

By using Focus Groups you can get many people to begin work on their team inventory even though you are still looking for your primary and secondary retreat locations.

Once members learn what teams they have joined they will know what special tools and equipment to bring to be successful. This way all members do not have to bring a chainsaw as lone Preppers would do.

They can meet separately to prepare.

### File Attachments:

File Name: [Leadership.pdf](#)

File Name: [LeadershipwithPolicies.pdf](#)

## 9. HEALTH Focus Group

We originally called this group MEDICAL until we realized they will not be scheduling surgery twice a week, but instead should focus on keeping us all healthy.

We probably went overboard in that we can establish a small clinic, inventoried lots of antibiotics, and ended up eventually with 1 pharmacist, 2 retired Navy RNs, 2 EMTs and several First Responders. But we did not start out that way, we just had First Responders.

Health is broken out into the following **work teams**:

Safety

Hygiene ... See Docs: Hygiene Seminar; No Toilet Paper

Infirmery

Health ... See: Signs Of Starvation

Sewage ... See: Sewage Plan

Garbage ... See: Garbage Plan

Laundry ... See: Laundry Plan; Soap Making

Toilet Monitor ... Monitor for dehydration and constipation.

Midwife ... See: Midwife Plan

Training ... For all things health wise.

### File Attachments:

File Name: [GarbagePlan.pdf](#)

File Name: [LaundryPlan.pdf](#)

File Name: [SewagePlan.pdf](#)

File Name: [Non-FunctioningBowels.pdf](#)

File Name: [StarvationSymptoms.pdf](#)

File Name: [Purifywaterwithpoolshock.pdf](#)

File Name: [Proposal-NuclearOrBiologicalIncident.pdf](#)

File Name: [AntiBioticUse](#)

## **10. Morale Focus Group**

Our biggest fear is a shoot-out from within. All of our construction is done. That leaves us sitting around playing Tiddlewinks and bored out of our minds.

My personal fear is two PMSing women and one smart ass man resulting in a shootout!

We got free literature books from the School Board so we can have reading discussion clubs. We have a thousand hours of stand up comic acts recorded so we can have a dry Happy Hour each day. We will have most members become part of a Boy Scout Troop for fun and survival training.

This group needs two leaders: a choleric and a Sanguine (outgoing, ditzy blond off the wall type).

Training ... See: Meeting Process; Brainstorming

Calming ..., Drumming, Meditation

Ownership Inventory ...Entry Inventory Policy

Have Fun ... Karaoke; Recorded Stand Up Comics & movies

Membership ... Furlough; Population Control

Disputes ... Truth Commission; Dispute Settlement Plan

Work Assignments ...

Living Assignments ... Billeting Files

Meeting Facilitators ... Facilitation Training Files; Proposal Method

Eviction ... Eviction Process, Furlough Process, Overflow Membership

They will also be responsible for barbers, meditation groups, Massages, games and competitions.

**Read: [Insanity Of Not Calming Them.](#)**

### **File Attachments:**

File Name: [DisputeSettlementPlan.pdf](#)

File Name: [Eviction.pdf](#)

## **11. Nourishment Focus Group**

They will monitor our daily food / calorie consumption so we can see what our real rate of consumption is and how long it will last at the levels decided upon as time goes by.

The first week of activation we will gorge out on meat to use up frozen food prior to loss of power. At the same time we will jerk as much meat as possible. The gorging is to calm us as we enter our new surrounding world. We will then go to a lower rate of consumption as decided by the Council periodically.

We will eat a one pot community meal for two days in a row then smaller groups can draw food from the supply for more intimate meals on the third day.

**Teams:**

Meals  
Water . . . Powder Chlorine  
Farming . . . Farm Manuals  
Hunting  
Food Preservation . . . Canning & Dehydration Methods  
Inventory Control . . . Inventory; Inventory Program  
Seed/Fertilizer Bank

**File Attachments:**

File Name: [Purifywatrwithpoolshock.pdf](#)

File Name: [GardeningAllVegetables.pdf](#)

**12. Physical Focus Group**

This group is responsible for all things that have to be constructed, maintained, kick started, procured etc.

Construction .... We can use battery power tools for silent construction.

Inventory  
Maintenance  
Scavenging  
Engineering  
Spare Parts  
Power .. Battery recharging, Solar Power, Power Plan

They will also be responsible for sewing and mending.

**File Attachments:**

File Name: [PowerFromSolarLights.pdf](#)

File Name: [PowerFuelandStealth.pdf](#)

File Name: [PowerGenerationPlan.pdf](#)

File Name: [Policy-Firewood.pdf](#)

### **13. Planning Focus Group**

This group must assume that we will activate, it will be horrible chaos, and it will last at least six months. Therefore, Planning will work its ass off up front and then backslide upon activation.

Outside Intel . . . Radio Manual; Barter, Intel Plan  
Community Growth  
Systems Improvement  
Outside Communication . . . Radio Manual; Barter, Intel Plan  
Supply Controls  
Research Think Tank  
Proposal Writing . . . Proposal Method  
Technical Writing  
Negotiator . . . Negotiator Policy  
Foresee Problems

#### **File Attachments:**

File Name: [IntelligencePlan.pdf](#)  
File Name: [IntelligenceManual.pdf](#)  
File Name: [2MeterRadioNode.pdf](#)  
File Name: [CommPlan.pdf](#)  
File Name: [IPAddressesInBlackout.pdf](#)  
File Name: [IsogramMatrix.pdf](#)

### **14. Security Focus Group**

When under attack, Security will take total charge of the group. Upon the "All Clear", we revert back to our regular leadership and Focus Groups. Otherwise, Security will be all the entire group ever focuses on and the morale may cause Mutiny.

Upon activation they will color code all ammo boxes, magazines and weapons so that anyone can pick up a weapon and reload it quickly.

Militia . . . Security Plan  
Defense Plan . . . Security Plan  
Emergency Mgt.  
Cache Supplies  
Alternate Bug-out . . . Alternate Fall-Back Location  
Internal Comm.  
Gun Class  
Ensure camp stealth . . . Farm Secrecy  
Prisoners . . . Prisoners

## What We Did Different:

Hide a Drive - You can't lose a battle if you don't fight one. Our paved driveway touches the end of a roadway guardrail for a creek. We have cut metal to extend the guardrail to block and hide our driveway. Hay will cover the rest of the roadway with fake xmas trees installed immediately behind the rail. One plywood panel is painted to match the woodland scene (curve in driveway).

Hanging Mannequin - We have a wigged mannequin in a bikini that we can hang by a noose from a tree across the street that is sure to get a stare.

Gate Goal - 99.9 percent of intruders will approach us at the front gate unless we teach them to not go to the gate. Therefore, our goal is to capture and disarm them and insure they do not return.

Shooting Walls - Stacked Railroad Ties with plywood in front of them 6 - 12 inches from the ties. The gap was filled with sand (pea gravel better). Easier than filling sand bags. The plywood can be painted to Camouflage it.

The gate approach also has a dozen **rubber snakes** on it to keep the guests from noticing our gate shooting walls. Show me a tough guy that won't be concerned that they are all fake!

Rear Shotgun Alarm - Once armed intruders reach the gate an underground cord (in PVC piping) is pulled firing a shotgun alarm 50 feet behind the guests. This will force them to turn in reaction, whereupon the guard hollers, "Drop 'em or die." Continuing to pull the cord will turn on two high beam KC lights blinding them if they turn around. It will also drop a camouflaged tarp draped across the gate to conceal the driveway. We will then have one intruder handcuff the others. Then we can converse.

Gatewacker - We got an old 5 station Football Tackling machine (you can fabricate very easily). Each upriser pipe is 3 feet from the next, for a total distance of 15 feet, the width of our driveway gate. The wacker will be moved to our side of the gate. We installed a \$30 [12 Gauge Shotgun Alarm](#) to each upriser, pointing forward. A 3/4 inch galvanized pipe, 2 inches longer than the shell, is slid over each shell. Keep spare sleeves so you can reload quickly and search the ground later. If shooting starts the guard pulls a cord firing all five #8 bird shot shells at the intruders, who are squeezed in by fake sections of barb wire fencing creating a bottle neck at the gate.

Prisoner Options - One option is to break their shooting hand, keep their weapons, separate them blindfolded a mile apart throughout the countryside, snipe-hunt style.

Gate Personnel Two guards will be at the gate. Two more will be near by, on each side of the driveway, sleeping in tents. One pull of a cord and they will respond. Others can catch up later due to the distance.

Spare Guns - Because most of us are gun novices, each wall will have a spare long gun in case of a jam. Also, the gate shooting walls are only 30 feet from the gate so aiming won't be hard. We are considering using 22s with the new [subsonic ammo](#), giving us a 15 second jump on the intruders. Any thoughts on this?

If Overwhelmed - Safe escape routes for both walls are set. Fall back ambush short walls are up and stocked with ammo, water, etc. Their goal is just to keep the intruders pinned down while the snipers do their job.

Sniper Platform - This is behind a 10 foot hedgerow and is a sheet of horizontal plywood raised ten feet off the ground. It is tilted slightly so intruders in the ambush field have a very thin shot at the two snippers, laying behind sandbags. A painted light green tarp conceals them when using the ladder in the rear. Did I mention that a giant fake Christmas tree is raised in the front of it so intruders will not suspect the snipers are in the top of a Xmas tree?

Secondary Ambush Point The secondary ambush point will be a three foot high horseshoe shaped railroad tie wall, with a mound of dirt piled in front of all three sides, giving intruders protection from our defenders. This will be in the middle of an open farm field and we will force the intruders to take refuge there. Each dirt mound will have reflectors marking the structure widths. The catch is the RR ties are quarter inch plywood painted to appear as RR ties. The dirt mounds are actually plywood and screen wire holding an inch of dirt. Upon command all defenders, from four sides, will execute the intruders or a glass jar of gasoline, with a homemade igniter charged by a 12 Volt battery, can save our bullets. The reflectors will save from having to make an expensive investment in night scopes.

If killing is required, we will assume the intruder is from a group. His body will be moved to a vacant yard so it will appear to his buddies that the shooters fled.

Radios - All Security will have either a GMRS or a Baofeng UV5R walkie talkie. The GMRS will use one channel and the Baofeng will use that same channel as well as a Simplex frequency for more privacy. The guards only need to hear from each other, not be concerned with monitoring 30 channels. We have an Intelligence group doing all of that.

Bum's Rush - We live on a main highway that cannot be closed. Our gate is 100 yards back from the highway in the woods. This will not give us any warning of intruders traversing the highway. We have a plan to have a lookout spotter lay across the highway and radio about visitors. There is also a system to usher them out of the neighborhood. See two files below.

High Highway Lookout - We are two miles from the intersection of two major highways. We will have a concealed radio spotter between us and the intersection in a raised billboard very near us to watch for group movement.

Emergency Fuel - Required equipment is on hand to manually pump fuel at night from the service station a few blocks down the road.

Retreat to Farm "B" - If we are probed by a large group, they will put a pin in their map, and later come after us. Our fall-back plan is to exit in trucks carrying our possessions just at daybreak. After they have finally entered the camp and moved on, we may return. See file below.

File Attachment:

File Name: [Policy-BumsRushLookout.pdf](#)

File Name: [Proposal-BumsRushRadioReport.pdf](#)

File Name: [Policy-RetreatToFarmB.pdf](#)

File Name: [AmbushProcedure.pdf](#)

File Name: [Prisoners.pdf](#)

File Name: [ReloadQuicklyProposal.pdf](#)

File Name: [Secrecy.pdf](#)

File Name: [Order-ParkingLots.pdf](#)

File Name: [Policy-OutsideCommunication.pdf](#)

File Name: [Proposal-DefensiveRatLines.pdf](#)

File Name: [Proposal-ShootingRange.pdf](#)

See: [Push Button Defense](#).

## **15. First Week Assignments.**

Each Focus group has a folder outlining what must be done each day the first week we are activated. It will be given to a Choleric personality (natural leader) to lead until the true Focus Group Leader arrives. Each folder outlines what must be done, who to get to help (another group) and what is in inventory to accomplish the Tasks.

### **Health**

#### **First Week**

##### **Purpose Of This Folder**

Because we have now activated, assume that everything is turning to long-term shit and are activating the full plan, unless you are told otherwise.

This First Week folder is intended for your Focus Group Leader or his temporary stand in until his arrival.

Nothing in this folder is an Order; it is just suggestions and hints to help you organize yourself to accomplish what is expected of you the First Week only.

You are to report only to the Camp Director and/or the Six Member Council when it meets.

#### **Your Assignment the First Day is to:**

Seminars On Hygiene

Establish Sewage System

**Your Assignment the Second Day is to:**

Establish Bathing Facilities

Establish Laundry

Establish Garbage System

**Your Assignment the Third Day is to:**

Monitor for Diarrhea and Constipation

Establish Clinic and Quarantine areas.

**Equipment:** Most of your equipment is in the Barn Loft.  
There are some items in the red brick house.

Secure the orange Group First Aid kit located  
in the big camper under the awning, sitting  
on the floor and to the right of the front door.

**Team Members:**

You will have to solicit members. Realize that some teams do not require medical experience, such as the Sewage and Laundry teams.

There will be a Team Sign-Up Board in the barn to track who's on each team.  
Team members may change from day to day because of their needs or your needs.

**Learn The Leaders:** Learn who the team leaders are for each Focus Group as you will need to interact with them in accomplishing your assignments.

Remember that your members also work for other teams as well so do not expect total control of them. Plan ahead as much as possible and move up your time-lines in anticipation of members withdrawing to work on other teams.

**Questions:** First ask the Camp Director. If coaching is needed, ask the Chief,  
**Jim Costa, who did the planning.**

**Definition:** A "Hut" can be the members of a dwelling, members of several camp sites close together or a family, in which they consider themselves as a small unit.

**Begin:** Focus on the First Day section only. Everything you will need will be given to you in that section of the folder. After completing that day's task, then proceed to the next section.

\_\_\_\_\_END OF HEALTH\_\_\_\_\_

### **MORALE**

Your Assignment the First Day is to:

Calm Residents by Drumming, Counseling, etc.

Assign Temporary Living Quarters

Record Ownership of Donated Community Assets.

### **NOURISHMENT**

Your Assignment the First Day is to:

Open Kitchen.

Serve Hefty Meals the First Week to Calm Residents.

Inventory Incoming Food Stocks.

Your Assignment the Second Day is to:

Consider Jerking Excess Frozen Meat.

Inquire about Food Allergies.

### **SECURITY**

Your Assignment the First Day is to:

Establish Militia & Begin Training.

Equip Gate Guardhouse.

Lock Gate, Assign Guards, Post Orders,

Assignment the Second Day is to:

Open Gun School

Color-code weapons and ammo.

Assignment the Third Day is to:

Establish control of Exit Passes.

### **PLANNING**

Your Assignment the First Day is to:

Gather Last Supplies.

Deliver List of members to Security.

Your Assignment the Second Day is to:

Monitor Outside Radio News Sources.

### **File Attachment:**

File Name: [ActivationProcedures.pdf](#)

File Size: 58 KB

## **16. Finding and Admitting Members**

Finding new members is like fencing stolen diamonds. To get cash, you have to risk showing them to others. The more you do so the more likely you will get caught. But you have to take the chance. However, with members, you can greatly reduce the risk.

### **Try This:**

- \* Never reveal your actual location or Google View (in person or on website), just give the general area.
- \* Say it is a friends location.
- \* Put up your own website, or use ours and say "we are modeling it like this - [Paradise Farm](#)."
- \* If you use your own website, set it as Private so it cannot be Googled and is By Your Invitation Only.
- \* If interested parties make it through the website, then send them your detailed Membership Requirements and Stupid Questions to start an interview.
- \* Don't be bashful, ask for their FaceBook page so you can vet them.
  
- \* **Then, after all the above**, meet them in a hamburger stand for interview.
- \* First make sure their head is right. Are they prepared to sustain life for themselves?  
Are they resolved that they cannot save all their family and friends, and they may die when left behind?  
Do they understand that their joining is not entitlement for family not in their home?
- \* Second, make sure they understand all of your rules and requirements, and that they will not be admitted if they come up short of their requirements. There are no free rides here.
- \* Thirdly, ensure that the family, as a whole, is an asset to the group and not a liability.  
Have them list their Survival Skills which may help in your assessment of them.

## **How To Find Members:**

- \* Print a Tee Shirt that says, "Prepper."
- \* Join all local Prepper groups.
- \* Pay a few bucks to start a MEETUP group.
- \* Have a piece of paper handy with your contact info and the long name for the website.
- \* Be patient. New members will bring in new members.
- \* If a group wishes to join you, consider not showing them the location, but instead arrange a rally point during activation week, until you get to know them better.

## **File Attachment:**

Link: [Our Entry Requirements](#)

File Name: [EntryQuestions.pdf](#)

File Name: [SurvivalSkills.pdf](#)

File Name: [Policy-PopulationControl.pdf](#)

## **17. Food Stocks**

Our food entry requirements are measured by cubic foot. This way we are assured that everyone contributes equally.

We have two thresholds: a 3 Month supply and a 6 Month supply. Note that the terms are only a guess. In actuality a 3 Month allotment can last for 4 months. The 6 Month supply is just double of the 3 Months.

A Three Month supply for an adult is: 6 cubic feet of packed food in addition to 100 lbs. of rice. The food is normally purchased from Sams or Costco, and uses a lot of #10 cans at half price.

**Cost: \$200-\$250**

A child's requirement is half of an adult's requirement.

**Rice Storage:** Here in the South East, we find it is simpler to store the rice bags (\$15 per 50 lbs.) as is. They are perfect until after about three years, when some may begin to get bugs. We just continue to purchase and store as is as we go along. To us, it is too expensive to repack in mylar bags. Besides, the bugs can be skimmed off.

**Emergency Dried Foods:** If you purchased the emergency type food the volume stays the same if some of it is freeze dried, so the same cubic foot method applies.

Note that Emergency type food needs to be supplemented with animal fat as it contains none. Purchase cans of **Armour brand lard** from the grocery store. This will also enhance the flavours.

Be leery of MRE and other freeze dried dinners. They are not designed to be eaten more than three in a row as they will constipate the shit outta you.

**File Attachment:**

File Name: [ProposalFoodByCubicFoot.pdf](#)

File Name: [JimsRiceArticle.pdf](#)

File Name: [FoodSuggestions.pdf](#)

File Name: [CaraCalories.pdf](#)

File Name: [1YearFoodSupplyCalories.pdf](#)

**18. Traveling To Retreat**

**Read:** [Bugging Out From Hurricanes.](#)

**Understand:** To curtail travel during martial law, they will not block intersections due to lack of manpower. They will just cut off gasoline supply to a bare minimum.

If you wait until the chaos begins to drive a camper, motor home or beer truck, you will soon be dead. So preposition these vehicles at your bug-out location.

Be non-dependant on members that are more than a normal one hour drive from you.

An EMP will only disable 10% of the automobiles.

If you try to get out the second day, one guards with a gun while the other loads the truck.

It is best if you can preposition most supplies at the retreat.

If you store gasoline or diesel, use twice the amount of required fuel stabilizer. This will keep it fresh for three years instead of one.

**If driving on the Interstate:**

1. Get on Interstate and never get off it.
2. If sleep is required, sleep on shoulder of interstate within sight of off ramp in front of you.
3. Dress the part. Both wear light colored hardhats as much as possible. If needing to snooze she needs

to wear a ball cap. She needs to wear dark colored man's round neck tee shirt and man's jeans. When out of truck, wear long tail shirt to hide hips. Boots. Ponytail, no makeup. Note: Only local drivers wear hard hats in truck; you want them to be seen from a distance.

If in a car, tie some PVC pipe over the car to appear local driving with no supplies.

4. Loud handguns handy.

5. Sandwiches, canned Beenie Weenies, Fruit Cocktail, etc.

6. Poncho, urinal bottle, toilet paper, handy wipes.

7. Blankets, first aid kit.

8. If a red gas can is needed, paint it black to disguise it.

9. Be leery of driving on non-interstate roads after dark. You will always look like a target then.

10. Hide long guns in back of truck under debris.

11. If stopped, explain you are going to do emergency gate welding for the sheriff in next town.

12. Trip will require three times normal time and three times the fuel requirement.

13. A 30 gallon barrel can be used with a syphon hose to keep you going.

## **19. Overflow Members & Uninvited Guests**

When TSHTF expect an extra 10% of your membership to show up unexpected - Cousin Mary.

Then later as the world changes, you may have more persons asking to join.

But the real problem is that if they are short of food supplies they will decrease your groups survival time.

If your leadership admits them, the leadership is in affect stealing from the members that prepared properly. This is certainly grounds for a mutiny from within.

So now we have the leadership being forced to walk a very thin line, playing God as to who lives, and facing mutiny if he admits them and at the same time, faces being voted out because he is seen as

inhuman in the treatment of suffering outsiders. So what's a mother to do?

I was shocked to learn that ships are designed to leak. That is why they all have bilge systems built in them. So to should we.

We have it planned so that unexpected and under prepared persons can be housed in a vacant home near us, with us supporting them in all ways except food. They will have to take whatever risk is needed to feed themselves. Yes, this is dangerous to the group, but remember we are providing their security, water, intelligence and health. So they are concerned about our well being too.

We also have a method of a few members sharing some of their food stocks with an uninvited person, with the donors time in the community being shortened accordingly. Therefore, they are sharing their own food, not others.

When a regular member's food begins to run out, we will furlough that member to the neighboring house as well.

**File Attachments:**

File Name: [Policy-FurloughofMembers.pdf](#)

File Name: [Policy-OverflowRedoubtMembers.pdf](#)

**20. 4 Foot Cube Food Storage System for \$80.**

I spent yesterday afternoon implementing a crazy idea of mine but never before practiced. I took a 4 cubic foot food grade storage cube and cached 36 bags (Total 1,800 pounds) of rice in it. The cube cost \$80; the rice \$500.

[See picture](#)

Our problem is that we have so much food that we are running out of storage space. We need to move three tons of rice out of the barn to make room for other supplies. So we constructed a South wall on our pole barn to keep out the rain and sunlight. We then located the cube under there.

Two thirds of the metal bars were removed from one side, using a side grinder. Then two thirds of the plastic face was removed.

1 X 6 boards were placed on the floor just in case of condensation. The 50 lb. bags were then stacked, 5 to a course, inside.

Once filled, 1 X 4s were installed around the hole as "door jams", then the cut-out was screwed back into place. Today I duct taped the seams. The cube is now airtight.

If you shelter at home, this can be done in the garage for your food stocks, then painted black to conceal the contents. The cube can also be buried with the cut out at the top. The cube weighs at most 100 pounds so it can be placed on a skid and drug into the woods a long distance.

We had planned to put four bags into 50 gallon plastic barrels, but that would have cost us \$400 verses the \$80 using the cube.

Our goal was to prevent moisture and rats, as well as increase space. Before yesterday the bags were stored on a pallet.

This week I will procure another cube for the next pallet of rice.

The cubes are stackable. Plus we can build an outdoor shelf over the cubes to go higher if desired.

Today I found out from the vendor that they receive product in them weighing 2,100 lbs in a 275 Gallon cube. They stack one 2,000 lb load on another cube, for a maximum of two high.

## 21. Long Term Tents

### **Persons without Housing:**

1. Morale Focus Group is responsible for bed assignments.
2. Where you are assigned today may change tomorrow; nothing is permanent.
3. Bed changes may be the result of bad weather, better accommodations created, your request to be moved, etc.

### **Tent Options**

1. If you come with a tent keep in mind that during bad weather we will bunk you in a **better place**.
2. Your **Gear can be stored** in a Runner Maid container in the barn. Or you can purchase an \$80, four foot cube outdoor container that we can place hinged doors on.

### 3. Two Types of Tents:

**Vinyl** - The cute little bubble tents.

**Their Weakness is:** The sunlight will destroy them in three months; they trap dew and humidity inside them; are hot and give no shade during the day; leak during a hard rain; the fabric will not let them breathe.

**Their Good Points:** Inexpensive, easy to move, have a lot of screen windows and floor (bug proof); lightweight for backpacking. Easy to patch.

**Possible Alterations:** Tie a blue tarp over it for more shade and rain proofing. Can be placed raised wooden floor.

**Canvas** – the big wall tents.

**Their Weakness is:** Expensive and heavy.

**Their Good Points:**

The material breaths to control the heat and rain. In hot weather the fibers spread open and allow the hot air out. When it turns cold or rains, the fibers seal up trapping the heat and making it waterproof. Easy to patch.

Can be left up for a year without any damage to it.

**Possible Alterations:** Make your own to reduce cost; Expensive Canvas for roof, tarps for sidewalls and floor. Can be raised on floor and wood wall framing.

### 4. Tent Recommendations:

**Vinyl** – Bring one for every three month you plan to be here and a lot of duck tape for patching.

**Canvas** – Make your own. 10' X 10" X 7 1/2' high = About \$150.

Simple to construct; waterproofing not required. Will sleep two cots.  
Another \$100 and it becomes deluxe home.

### 5 Canvas Options:

Canvas Roof: \$100

Side blue Tarps 40

Bug Screening 20

Floor: ? None - \$0; Tarp - \$20; Wood - \$40.

Sidewalls ? Bone - \$0; Wood Frame - \$40.

5 Total Cost: El Cheapo: **\$150**; to Deluxe: **\$250**.

6. Pictures [Picture 1](#)    [Picture 2](#)

### **7. Minimum Cash Outlay Method.**

Order the canvas and bug screening (optional) for **\$120**.

Give the farm cash to be held for options. At activation we will purchase the remaining material (lumber & tarps) and make your tent..

If activation never occurs, you get your cash & canvas back.

### **22. Low Food Supplies, Uninvited Guests & Eviction**

To begin with, **no one can take away or give away another member's food supply.**

A minimum amount of food is required from each resident. The more food you bring the longer you can stay. Food is measured by the cubic foot.

A Furlough Policy is in place so we can peacefully move members that will soon run out of food. They will be moved to a vacant neighboring house outside our compound. We will support them in all ways except food.

See: Furlough Policy

Uninvited guests, especially those without adequate food supplies, will probably not be admitted.

They may be placed in the Furlough house, if those already there accept them. Or we might take them on a snipe hunt and abandon them, or we might . . .

See: Overflow Redoubt Members Policy

Food gifting by a member is allowed. That member may wish to give some of his supplies to another, but this will lesson the giving members time at the Farm accordingly.

Eviction may occur if a member becomes a threat to the group or a member. If evicted, all remaining food and supplies are refunded and the evicted member will have 24 hours to prepare himself to leave. His family is welcome to remain at the farm.

See: Eviction Policy

Population control will be decided by the Council after we have activated.

See: Population Control Policy

The bottom line is that **no one can take away a members food supply** as that would only cause mutiny.

### **File Attachments:**

File Name: [Policy-FurloughofMembers.pdf](#)

File Name: [Eviction 2017-03-07.pdf](#)

File Name: [Policy-OverflowRedoubtMembers.pdf](#)

File Name: [Policy-PopulationControl.pdf](#)

[Policy-Fur...bers.pdf](#) (39KB)

## **23. Security**

### **Executive Overview**

#### **Security Overall Plan:**

- A. Stay hidden so that conflict is not possible.
- B. So demoralize the attackers that they will surrender without a fight.
- C. Ambush the attackers. If necessary fall back and ambush again.
- D. Capture all weapons and ammo.
- E. Insure that the attackers never return, either by removing them from the area, incapacitating them from returning or more.
- F. Our defenders will remain under cover at all times leaving the attackers exposed.
- G. If shooting begins, end the battle immediately using advanced equipment and

planned strategy to do so.

H. Utilize all adults as defenders, divided into: Ambush Teams, Rear Guard, Reserves and Barn Defenders.

I. Focus on intelligence and early warning of danger. Most defenders will have radios.

J. Have all security equipment needed inventoried at the farm now.

K. Require that all adults wear handguns. Most defenders will have a long gun, 1,000 rounds of ammo and cheap uniforms.

L. Maintain optional plans for bug-out.

## **24. Radios**

The FCC states that in an emergency you are not required to have a license. A collapse is an emergency.

Also note that the FCC does not monitor for unlicensed users, the members of local radio clubs do. But in emergency, they will not even attempt to do so.

In plain English, the Baofeng is an anomalie as radios go. They are the only hand held HAM radio that will communicate with the cheap GMRS radios as well as the 6 meter HAM frequencies, as well as the Marine radios.

Our Group Retreat uses them in conjunction with the cheap GMRS radios from Walmart. Most Security members will monitor just one GMRS station, using the cheaper GMRS radios, while the leaders talk privately on HAM frequencies using the Baofengs and still able to use the GMRS station. This way if the enemy is using a GMRS (more probable than any other radio) they cannot hear the Intel discussed, just meaningless orders perhaps in code).

The GMRS radio has a range of about a half mile whereas the HAM can go 40 miles if using a repeater or up to 6 miles if from a hand-held to a hand-held or raised antenna. Compare this to a WWII walkie talkie with a range of one mile.

Our intelligence desk has a Baofeng with a magnetic car antenna (\$6 [Amazon](#) ) that increases it's GMRS range farther beyond the standard half mile range, perhaps to about 4 miles.

Also keep in mind that sometimes the GMRS may not pierce walls or floors whereas the UV5R will (without a raised antenna). So some outside guards may need the Baofeng. You have some decisions to make. You can still cure this problem by placing the above \$6 antenna on the rooftop for the UV5R in

the house to use so now it will communicate with all the GMRS radios outside with certainty.

The Baofeng UV5R costs \$25. The GMRS costs \$11.

We have an intelligence desk that will monitor all GMRS stations and pass on information. We want our guards to pay attention to only one station so they can focus on their immediate surroundings.

Thus the need for a few of the Baofengs in combination with GMRS radios for all others.

## **26. Finding Members with Internet.**

If you insist on looking for strangers then try this.

This is a prepper website we recently put up for our city. It offers information of local prepper groups as well as complete instructions for family prepping as well as group prepping.

Nowhere does it give prepper locations. Contact is by email only. If an interested party contacts you they already know what your requirements are. You can then vet them and meet them in a hamburger stand. The website is the perfect passive recruiting tool.

**Now the good news.** Feel free to clone or copy or link to the [PensacolaPreppers.us](http://PensacolaPreppers.us) website. I own it. I wrote all of it. So help yourself. The total cost per year is about **\$10** for the domain name. The site is free. If you do this contact me and I will tell you how to make sure the search engines pick it up within a week or so for your city.

**Delux Plan:** Print **\$20** worth of business cards selling the site name and get Military Surplus stores to pass them out in exchange for listing them on the site.

P.S. The site is a WIX.com site. I think I can even export it to you.

See Also: [Recruiting Members at a Gun Show.](#)

## **27. Incorporating Freeze Dried Foods with Regular food.**

Our council is currently voting on a proposal on how we treat freeze dried food in a non-freeze dried community.

I share this for two reasons. First is simply to document the problem and how we decided to treat it in a large group setting. The second is to show how we deal with difficult issues that may arise again during chaos. To me, this is the most important reason.

**The Problem:** With a 50 person group, 90% of us supplied Sam's/Kostco food. We now have a few super Preppers with the expensive emergency freeze dried food. At mealtime, how do we mix the two in one pot? Do we end up with two classes of members, the top eaters and Bottom eaters? How can we prevent morale issues over this?

**The Process:** I recognize this looks ridiculous to a ten member group, but we are much bigger and continue to grow. Difficult issues are presented in a formal Proposal. It is then debated, altered and hopefully reached in a consensus vote by our 6 member council. The problem is laid out so that anyone picking it up can appreciate all the parameters of the problem, both the Pros and Cons of approving the Proposal, as well as the estimated cost to the group for its implementation.

Why so much detail and work, you might ask. If we go into collapse we will all be stressed and not able to think clearly. If that issue comes up again, we will be refreshed on the problem and why the original decision was made. This will help us escape a lynch mob mentality to change a policy with the change that may end up being for the worse.

See the Attached Proposal/Policy below. Attachment Proposal - Freeze Dried Foods.docx not found.

## **28. Sam's Club / Costco Type Food For Members.**

All of this is long term storage.

Best price if #10 cans as we will cook as a group.

Most of our group meals will be soup, spaghetti and things over rice.

**Goal:** First to deliver calories to members.

This is best done, cost wise, by rice and noodles (spaghetti, macaroni, etc.).

Second, serve vegetables with the calories.

Third, provide protein periodically. Cost wise, this is best done by serving rice and beans within eight hours of each other (or together). Next best is the canned hams and chicken listed below.

**Storage:** Rice can stay in 50 lb. Bags for years.

Noodles can be packed in plastic storage containers to protect from rats.

When Ramen Noodles begin to lose their taste after a year or so, they are still edible.

### **Three Month Supply for One Adult:**

Canned Goods Suggested – 6 Cubic feet:

Vegetables, #10 cans:

Corn, Green Beans, Sweet Peas, Sweet Potatoes

Canned Fruit #10 cans:

Peaches, Fruit Cocktail

Noodles:

Spaghetti, egg noodles, Ramen Noodles

Canned Meat:

Chicken

Sauces:

Spaghetti (best if in plastic bottles)

Spices:

Bullion Cubes

Oregano, onion flakes

Soy Sauce

Worcestershire Sauce

Rice: 100 Pounds (Two 50 lb. bags)

### **Personal Meat**

Every three days families will cook for themselves to break the monotony. This will be a great time to use meat from your personal stash. Assuming you are with a family, these are the best buys to get protein, through meat, to your family:

### **Canned Hams:**

In a nutshell: Bristol 1 lb. Canned Hams can be purchased 66% off regular price at the Dollar stores.

**Cost:** \$3.25 at Dollar General and Family Dollar 20 Cents per Oz.

Cost: \$10.00 at Amazon (before freight)

**Storage:** Room Temperature

**Life:** Best used by Jan 2022. Life of 40+ years.

Fully Cooked.

**Advantage:** If you intend to serve meat, this is 100% meat; not diluted with gravy & potatoes as in a can of stew.

Note: Refrigerated Canned Hams in the meat section of grocery stores are half cooked and only have a refrigerated life of 9 months. They are packed in plastic cans verses the long term tin cans of the fully cooked Bristol hams.

The best I can tell Textured Vegetable Protein (TVP) costs about \$3 to create an equivalent one lb of meat. But it must be repackaged to extend its life beyond 2 years.

The ham tastes like meet, has the texture of meat and is fully cooked. So far, I have not found a cheaper

way to deliver protein other than beans and rice.

### **Canned Chicken:**

**Cost:** 14 cents per ounce

**Packing:** (6) 12.5 Ounce cans  
\$11 per Pack

**Fully Cooked** (Great with can of Cream of Chicken soup over rice)

**Life:** 40 Years **Source:** [Sam's Club](#)

### **Canned Tuna:**

**Cost:** 16 cents per Oz.

**Packing:** (10) 5 Oz. Cans \$9.53

**Fully Cooked** (Great with can of Cream of Mushroom soup & powdered milk over egg noodles.  
Consider spaghetti noodles, for half the cost, if storage space is a problem)

Source: Sams Club

### **Canned Turkey:**

**Cost:** 18 cents per Oz.

**Packing:** 10 Oz. Cans \$1.85

Fully Cooked (Great with can of Turkey Gravy over rice)

Source: Dollar General, Family Dollar

### **Canned Vegetables:**

Allen's Veg All, 29 oz can, cost: \$1.20 at Family Dollar & Dollar General stores.  
Mixed with Ramen Noodles it make a great meal. What is not used for breakfast can be used for dinner.

### **Beans – The Musical Fruit**

I noticed that our local Sam's club now stocks 50 lb. bags of dried Pinto beans for \$28. They never carried them before. I had planned on purchasing several next month for our prepping supplies.

I already have several 5 gallon buckets of them. But then I decided to do an analysis on dried pinto beans.

They are needed because when beans are served with rice, they yield protein.

Then I discovered that they require cooking for an average of 2 hours. In a grid down situation, that is a lot of fuel, along with exposure of smoke and smells that may telegraph neighbors what's for supper.

Finally I concluded that for the same price or a lot less than some prices, you can buy canned beans that are fully cooked and store about 40 years. This may be a better choice for most preppers.

Dollar General 15 oz can, Fully Cooked Cost: \$0.67; 4.0 Cents per Oz (per 50 lbs: \$32)

Sam's Club 50 lbs Bag, dry & Uncooked. Cost: \$28; 3.5 cents per Oz. (per 50 lbs: \$28)

Augason Farms 5 Gallon bucket, 41 lbs., Uncooked. Cost:\$85; 13.0 cents per Oz. (per 50 lbs: \$104)

Note: The 15 oz can may is based on a very little water weight as well. Thus dried beans may give you more beans.

P.S. I think a hearty protein survival meal of beans, rice and bullion cube would cost less than 50 cents per adult. Advanced: Add a splash of granulated garlic, powdered onion and perhaps even a can of Rotel tomatoes (80 cents) and now you have a real meal. Cost: 83 cents per adult.

**Print This as a PDF File:**

**File Attachment:**

File Name: [SamsFoodList.pdf](#)

File Size: 52 KB

Attachments:

## **29. Rice Insurance - How long Can You Hold Your Breath?**

Rice is probably the most staple food on the planet. This is probably because of the calories it delivers, that when served with beans it creates protein, easily stored, cheaply cooked, and is dirt cheap. Rice rules!

Before we go further let's examine some fun filled facts about rice:

\* **Cost:** \$15 per 50 Lb. Bag of long grain at Sam's Club.

\* **Cups of cooked rice per Lb.:** 6

\* **Cooking Time:** 15 Minutes at low heat.

\* **Shelf Life:** Years stored in its shipping bag.  
Forever is repacked in mylar bags with an oxygen depriver.

\* **Note:** Never rinse off the nutrients sprayed on the rice.

Now let's talk. Just what does this have to do with your Prepper group you might ask, especially if you are already prepped. Let me ask you this, "How long can your group hold its breath underwater if it had to in order to survive?" What if your plans go awry and you end up with many more mouths to feed? What if you planned to feed yourselves for X months and later discover you must survive for X + 6 months?

Well, cheer up, you can purchase inexpensive insurance to cover those possible shortfalls – rice.

In Episode 7 of Ken Burns' series The Vietnam War, an American 4 year POW survivor said that they survived on only 3 cups of rice per day. If we assume that was cooked rice then that means one 50 LB bag of rice can feed one adult for 100 days or **three months, at a cost of just \$15.**

Math: 50 lbs X 6 cups per LB / 3 cups per day = 100 Days

Now keep in mind that the above is barely surviving subsistence. To go deluxe simply double the rice provided, increasing the cost to **\$30 per adult per 3 months.** Now I admit it would be a bland boring diet if not supplemented with vegetables, but it would be survivable and that is our main concern here.

The bottom line is that your group can store rice at an **average cost of \$22 per adult per 3 month** survival rations **for any contingency that may arise.** Now that's cheap insurance in a chaos situation!

### **However:**

If a Prepper is not only concerned about survival but is also concerned about **not losing muscle tone**, then consider investing **\$20 per month in just beans and rice, if you are flat broke.** This is the cheapest you will survive AND look great in that new Speedo bathing suit!

### **The Protein in Rice & Beans**

This article suggests for protein needs, eat 6 cups of beans weekly. When combined with rice, perfect protein is yielded. This equates to a half of a 16 oz can of beans daily, or 15 cans per month.

### **Facts / Assumptions:**

\* \* Can of Black Black Beans; 15 ounces; cost: 65 cents; Contains 2.25 cups.

\* \* 50 Lb Bag of uncooked rice: Cost: \$15 at Sam's Club; Yields 300 cups of Cooked Rice.

\* \* Calories per Cup of:

Beans - 220

Cooked Rice: 213

**Calories Provided:**

Beans per day: 220 1 cup

Rice Per day: 1,278 6 cups

**Total Daily Calories: 1,498**

(**Note:** Less than 1,200 calories per day is considered starving;  
Ideal would be 2,000 calories per day)

**One Month Cost of Beans & Rice:**

Beans (½ cup/can per Day) \$10

Rice (6 cups per day) \$9 (1 lb uncooked rice per day)

Rounding \$1

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**Total Monthly Cost: \$20**

Print as PDF File:

**File Attachment:**

File Name: [SamsFoodList.pdf](#)

File Size: 52 KB

**30. Three Minimum Meal Plans**

Our group now has three meal plans for members to choose from:

**Original:** Sam's Club food (uniform purchases - cook as a group)

Cost: \$250 per Adult for 3 months supply, minimum.

**Super Preppers:** Sam's Club group for 3 months, then switch to Freeze Dried foods, prepared by those owners.

Cost: \$250 per Adult for 3 months supply, minimum,  
plus separate cost for Freeze Dried Emergency food.

**Economical:** Beans & Rice; Prepared by those owners

Cost: \$60 per Adult for 3 Months, minimum.

Per Adult: 100 Lbs of Sam's Club white rice,  
and (48) 15 oz. cans of fully cooked beans (Pinto, Black, Kidney etc.,  
(Granulated onions, garlic, Ro-Tel tomatoes are optional)

**We recently added the Economical Meal Plan** to make joining our survival group easier for some prospective members. We still need more members, especially young ones, and this option:

\*\*\* Makes joining one fourth of the cost for their food compared to our original minimum food requirements.

\*\*\* Makes it easier for current members to cheaply increase their activation stay before being furloughed for lack of food.

\*\*\* Makes it more economical for current members to stockpile food for inactive extended family members who would rather not know about the group until activation time.

**The options offered** by this new food plan is that members who choose it can stockpile their required food to insure entry at activation time. They then can add to their inventory to make it more palatable. They can even come back later and purchase food under the Sam's club plan to eat more varied meals, and use their Minimum Meal Plan inventory when the Sam's food is consumed.

**All Preppers are not equal.** We now recognize that. Each family is responsible for their own health and well being. They are free to stockpile more meat, vitamins, vegetables or special needs foods. We in fact encourage that.

Therefore, each food plan is defined as a **Minimum**. There are no limits placed on **Maximum** food preparations. That is by design.

Each family is responsible for deciding how much money to spend; how long to prepare for and how much to supplement their minimum requirements.

It has never been the goal of any of our Council members over the past few years to play god. The only goal was to set **Minimum requirements** for all members and to have an **agreed upon method to move them out** of the group when their means to support life for themselves runs out. Thus they will not be a danger to the rest of the group. I know this sounds harsh but it is the reality of a **planned lifeboat situation**.

**Each family decides their own fate**, not the group.

### 31. Vitamins

This is the simplest and best article I have seen on the subject for Preppers.

TEOTWAWKI Vitamin and Mineral Recommendations, By Dr. Bob  
[survivalblog.com/teotwawki-vitamin-and-mineral/](http://survivalblog.com/teotwawki-vitamin-and-mineral/)

Be sure to read TO SUM IT UP at the bottom of his article.

His recommendations cost about **\$20 per adult per year**.

For a beans & rice diet only, the cost would be **\$31** per year per adult (to provide "C" daily).

### 32. Paradise Farm Recommendation per adult per year:

Vitamins Made For Her - 90 count 1/2 Bottle - . . . . . Cost: \$5  
Nature Made Vitamin C 1000mg, 300 Tablets 1/2 Bottle . . . Cost: \$13

However, if you plan a diet of mostly beans and rice then you should have 1 full bottle of Vitamin C.

. . . . AMAZON. . . .

[Nature Made Vitamin – For Her 90 count](#) \$10

[Nature Made Vitamin C 1000mg,300 Tablets](#) \$26

[Nature Made Calcium, Magnesium, and Zinc with Vitamin D, With D-3 100 Tablets \(Pack of 3\)](#) \$17

### 32. TRAINING AFTER ACTIVATION

Most of us have families, jobs and outside responsibilities that makes training on weekends as a group nearly impossible. Rather than fight it we just work with it for the good of our group. We have no real group training classes.

Instead we have prepared classes to be taught after activation. The teachers have their [lesson plans](#) and all required materials inventoried at the retreat. Below is a view of some of the classes:

#### **Silent Gun Class:**

Members will be trained on BB guns (pistols & rifles) first, then progress to 22s. The ammo will be 22 subsonic rounds which sound like BB guns when fired. We have a SERP pistol that fires just a laser light for continued training and fun.

Then each member will be trained to be proficient on their on defensive guns in regards to reloading, jams, safety, etc. Once proficient in the hardware use, at dawn a group will go to a nearby creek bed to fire the real guns all they want. After dark they will return to the retreat.

All guns, ammo boxes and magazines will be color coded so anyone can reload any weapon.

See: [Silent Gun School Plan](#)

#### **Security / Militia:**

Our Security manual goes into great detail on all that our security guards need to know to perform their duty. That includes radio codes, all standing orders to base their decision making on (covering any event that may be encountered), orchestrated capture plan at the gate, escape and ambush plans, etc.

#### **Medical EMT Training:**

Includes both First Aid as well as how to keep ourselves healthy during our journey.

### **Survival Boy Scout Troop:**

Several former Scout Masters will train all members over age of 11, including adults, as a Boy Scout Troop focusing on all survival skills needed, generating fun & relaxation.

### **Personalities / Meditation:**

Becoming expert in understanding each other's personality to keep down conflicts. Meditation to calm us and help keep our bodies healthy.

### **Proposals / Meeting Processes:**

How to think through and present proposals in meetings, Robert's Rules of Order, Obtaining Consensus, conducting meetings, etc.

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## **33. Gunsmith Manual**

We just completed creating a gunsmith manual containing printed schematics on all guns expected to be here at activation time. We also downloaded Youtubes teaching how to disassemble and clean all of them. When available, we got PDF versions of the [Owner Manuals](#).

We made extra efforts with assault weapons (AK47, AR15, M1, M16, SKS and Nagaut), with lots of Youtubes on the A/R as it is the most popular weapon. Be sure to add these to your manual even if your group does not own one of these weapons as you may merge groups later.

This manual will certainly help those that volunteer to be the gun smiths.

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34.

### **Water**

Do all of your own research on installing wells, purifying water in soda bottles lying in the sun or purchasing filters.

But the old standard stand by is adding 1/4 teaspoon of **unscented** bleach to a gallon of water. If it is [muddy](#) or full of debris filter it through sand and/or cloth first.

**Old Bleach:** Bleach quickly loses its strength. I do not know the deterioration rate, but to avoid it aging on you purchase a 1 lb. bag of granulated pool shock (about \$30) as it lasts forever until used and will purify about 10,000 gallons of water. Dose: 1 Heaping Teaspoon to 2 gallons of water, yielding 2 gallons of bleach to be used 1/4 teaspoon per gallon of dirty water.

The above formula is for a 100% **calcium hypochlorite** (pool shock). If using about 70% shock, use

1.5 Heaping Teaspoons per 2 gallons. Make certain it does not say "Super Shock" as that has algicide in it.

If you can taste the chlorine then pour the water from one container into another until some of the chlorine evaporates, then next time cut back on the 1/4 Teaspoon dosage a little.

See [Youtube](#)

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### 35. Contingency Membership Scholarships

#### **Future Losses:**

If a clone of our group were created in another state but equal in membership number, one might assume that at activation time at least one family might not show or have a change of heart and collect their supplies and instead plan to stay with family. One might also assume at least one member or one member's family may be evicted due to inability to calm down, inability to give up outside addictions, and thus be a threat to the group's survival.

#### **Best Bet:**

We have discovered that once you get past your core founding group it is most difficult to find new members. If we lose members after activation time, the last thing we want to do is admit drowning, panic driven unsupplied strangers that can undermine our group's survival. Those strangers will not really have skin in the game to risk themselves for the group. We would prefer to have friends or relatives instead.

#### **Time To Buy Insurance:**

Four months ago our group decided we could possibly end up undermanned after activation. We made an all out attempt to locate new members but to no avail. Note that we are in a small rural town 30 miles from a 300,000 populated city.

Therefore, I will be blinking in a game of chicken by again introducing my Proposal for Contingency Membership Scholarships. Through it I will purchase up to \$2,000 in food supplies to bring in two related young, local families in the event we need them.

I have tried to discuss their families joining before but they are not interested in today's world. However, in chaos they would be most interested as they have young kids at risk. They are [very close](#) to my wife and I, and are just the type of members we would wish for, thus our "ringers". If we don't need them then the extra food would belong to my clan for extended time for us.

In the Proposal I ask other members to chip in if they wish by purchasing additional food stocks for the ringers, if they so choose to donate them after activation. This would save me money so I don't have to fund this 100% myself, and if no one helps then I will go it alone as my family is at risk. Like it says in

the bible, it depends on whose ass it is down in the ditch or something to that effect, and right now it is my ass.

**File Attachment:**

File Name: [Proposal-ContingencyMembershipScholarships.pdf](#)

File Size: 49 KB

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### **36. Fuel Storage For Engines.**

We have been prepper storing both gasoline and diesel in Florida for the past 10 years. It is hot for 9 months out of the year.

We store gasoline in a 100 gallon above ground tank and in some 50 gallon drums and diesel in a 200 gallon above ground tank. All is kept under an awning for cooling.

We add life extender chemicals according to directions to extend for a year and a half. However, per directions, if you double dose the additive you can now save the fuel for 3 years. Same with diesel.

However, you can [continue](#) to add an algaecide to the diesel and it can be stored a lot longer.

We store a water remover/octane booster to throw on the back seat of cars just in case as the old fuel is used. Every three years we use up all of the gasoline (in one car just to be safe) and replace it. We have never had a problem with the fuel.

We always discard the last inch in the storage tank just in case it contains water.

Because we have a group retreat we also store the fuel life additive chemical so that it can be put into automobiles that arrive but may be unused. If needed, this fuel can then later be drained and used elsewhere.

Too hot to build a rigid awning? Then check out this Silver/[Heavy Duty](#) Reflective All Purpose/Weather Resistant Tarp (from [Harbor Freight](#)). It is sun resistant. We built a wall tent out of one and let stand unattended through several coastal storms. It is still like new after staying up for three years! The trick is to keep it stretched tight.

---

### **37. Proposal Method For Keeping The Peace.**

Formal Proposals is how we can reach consensus quickly while at the same time write our operations manual. This is how they will work for us.

I once took a law class in which the professor would make you argue with him. Then he would point at you and snap his fingers. You then had to argue for his side and he took yours. It was unnerving. We will use the same tactic in that we will change sides in debates.

## **Written Proposal Format:**

....**The Problem:**

....**Facts & Assumptions:**

....**The Plan:**

....**Cost: (Group Cost)**

....**Pros:**

....**Cons:**

In our Proposal Process you must disclose both the strengths and weaknesses in your proposal. Then all parties to vote on that proposal receive it timely so that they can know it thoroughly. They are required to take your side of the proposal, even if they are dead set against it, then improve on it so that it might even win them over, and communicate that back to you. Then they are off your team and the proposal is up for discussion and approval. There should be no surprises on voting day. All of this allows the author to have time to discuss, negotiate and alter the final proposal is presented.

This is how consensus can be made easier. When my mother died several years ago, some of my eight siblings were fighting like animals, as we have done for a lifetime. We used this proposal process and we were calmly able to muddle through a difficult time.

This is a different manner to present proposals, I know. But for transparency, working with highly emotional people and people that will vote on something they are not qualified to vote on, it works very well. This will also keep the leadership from being lynched later for a decision made. Later on members will be able to see all the facts considered in the original vote before they attempt to change it.

I am sharing a system that has worked for me when in a hostile room with 70 people going wild. I am used to presenting to some individuals that have no concept of what you are discussing. That is what we may be facing.

If the system works for you then use it. If it doesn't then don't. Keep in mind that one of the duties of the Planning Focus Group is to "**Assist others in writing a proposal**". This makes the timid just as powerful as the loud mouths.

See Sample of a Proposal below:

### **File Attachment:**

File Name: [Proposal-SacrificialGuardHouse.pdf](#)

File Size: 32 KB

### 38. Communications.

Communications with whom during a period of chaos? We asked that question after two of us became HAMs and spent a lot of time and money on radio equipment. We discovered that we asked too late.

**Communication With Whom?** It later became obvious our main goal was to communicate with our outside guards, thus a range of a half mile. These guards would be in danger if they had radios that could monitor 125 channels at all times but kept them from hearing footsteps.

**Our New Plan** was to outfit guards with cheap GMRS (non-HAM) walkie talkies that Walmart sells for kids ([\\$10 each](#)). Their range is normally up to a half mile, depending on the [terrain](#). We will turn off the scan mode and just monitor one channel, saving battery life. This way the guards can focus on being a guard instead of radio intelligence gatherers.

The drawback to GMRS is their low transmission power is not reliable to always penetrate walls. We originally had a tech with a soldering iron cut off the antenna on a base GMRS radio (\$80) and rewired it to connect to an antenna on the roof. This worked but this can be done easier and much cheaper.

**The Magic of Baofeng HAM Radios** was then discovered. They are very cheap Chinese HAM radios that are the only HAM radios to communicate with the GMRS radios as well.

- ... Cost: About [\\$30 each](#)
- ... Range: 4 to 6 miles from radio to radio. (Line of sight)
- ... More power than GMRS
- ... Can Pierce walls.
- ... Comes with earphones.
- ... Can communicate with 2 meter repeaters extending range to 60 miles.
- ... Simple to operate.

**Our Group's plan** is to have these for security leaders so they can communicate with the GMRS users and at the same time be able to communicate privately in HAM with the Watch Commander for private discussions. No repeater will be needed for this private talk. If someone has to go on a four mile trek for more beer he will have a Baofeng.

To boost the range of the Baofengs we then put a car 2 meter magnetic antenna (\$15) on the house roof to insure we would get all the GMRS and off site Baofengs, as well as local repeaters.

**Licenses Required?** The quick answer is "**No**". GMRS says "Yes" but people seldom pay the fee to register them. Now on to HAM radios. The entry Tech HAM license is easy to get and costs \$15 every ten years to use a 2 meter radio. But the Federal Communications Commission clearly states that in an emergency anyone can use a HAM radio without a license.

Consider having **one person** in your group **get a license** so he can learn more and perhaps get help from the local radio club. The rest can learn to use the GMRS radios and then will be ready to use the Baofengs in an emergency. It's that simple.

**Advanced Radios.** Later we acquired two used car 2 meter radios (a lot more power). With two magnetic car antennas we could communicate with a vehicle in transit directly up to about 10 -15 miles and 60 miles using a repeater.

**Purchasing a Baofeng.** We purchase only the UV-5R, their cheapest. They will be discontinued in August, 2019. Suggest you then purchase the cheapest model offered. Some have more power for more bucks, but offer the Prepper nothing more than the cheapest.

Options:

- ... Longer antenna for some. [\\$13](#)
- ... Remote Mike [\\$6](#)
- ... 12 Volt battery adopter for (base) [\\$6](#)
- ... Car Antenna [\\$10](#)

**How To Ruin Any Radio.** Hit the Transmit button without an antenna installed.

**Beware of Digital Radios.** The new digital radios give their Geo-location when transmitting.

**Programming.** The Baofengs come with test programmed channels most of which needs to be deleted as they will not work in your area. Attached below is a large copy of their programming instructions as they ship a micro small print version.

Also attached below is our **Step-By-Step Programming** for guards' Baofeng. Note that the repeater frequency and settings need to be replaced by your local repeater. If you [need help](#) call your local radio club. For a cup of coffee they will jump at a chance to help you for free. They love this stuff.

**Long Distance Radios** are discussed in an attachment below. You can sink a lot of time and money into this that may not give you a Prepper payback because it may be most difficult to find anyone out there to talk to.

**Intelligence Radios** will also be Baofeng radios which are loaded with several local repeater frequencies. If we are lucky we will get gossip from HAMS that also have the [long distance](#) radios. But our primary interest is our three county region.

**File Attachment:**

File Name: [UV-5R-Owners-Manual-2\\_2019-08-05.pdf](#)

File Size: 871 KB

[/b].[/color]

**File Attachment:**

File Name: [BiggerRadios.pdf](#)

File Size: 31 KB

**File Attachment:**

File Name: [SecurityRadioProgramming.pdf](#)

File Size: 50 KB

Attachments:

-  [BiggerRadios.pdf](#) (32KB)

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### 39. Raising Critters For Food.

#### 'Taint Worth It.

Our Prepper group has lots of chickens that can be free ranged in time of activation after the chicken food runs out. We have no roosters as they make too much noise. When a hen lays she brags but we don't have neighbors close enough to hear them. That is our plan.

We built a rabbit barn with 15 does and bucks to began producing meat. But we then discovered we could not store enough rabbit food to produce lots of rabbits that would take three months to become dinner. We could not free range them like the chickens because they would not come home at nights as the hens would. So we abandoned that project and gave away the cages.

Here was our deliberate reasoning once we came to our senses. Eggs are sentimental. So too with rabbits unless you are planning for an Adam & Eve long term event.

**What we really want is [protein](#).** That is the real goal.

The cheapest way to get protein is rice and about 7 ounces (half a can) of beans within 8 hours of each other (or in one meal), each day. This allows the rice to then become protein. That is why most of the world lives on that stuff! You can buy red, kidney, black, pinto or other canned beans in any of the Dollar stores for about \$0.70 per can. This is better than dry beans because anything in a can is fully cooked and requires no energy to eat it, whereas it takes at least an hour and a half to cook dry beans. You do the fuel costs.

So here is the kicker. While you are in the Dollar stores, you can purchase a one pound canned ham (Bristle brand I believe) for \$3.00. That meat is **cheaper than raising** chickens or rabbits for meat!

Plus it too is **fully cooked**.

But also keep in mind you don't have to have protein every day.

Therefore, for us the chickens and eggs will be for fun. But the protein for our estimated stay is next to the forks and can opener. This looked better than running out into the night half asleep and dying to [protect](#) the chicken coop. **Cans are quiet.**

See: [Sam's Club / Costco Type Food For Members](#).

See Also: [Rice Insurance](#)

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#### 40. Sanitary Shit.

##### SHIT

Shit happens, and it's going to continue to happen when shit happens. The question is what are we going to do about it? We have all heard the stories of people in high rises unable to get rid of their shit. When that happens expect cholera, hepatitis and diphtheria in your neighborhood. So what's a mother to do?

If you are a city slicker you may get a double whammy: no water and no sewage. Then on top of that the people uphill or up from an underground lift station, will continue to use rainwater to flush with. But without electricity the lift stations will not function, distributing shit to about ten percent of the households, making them uninhabitable. To prevent this, all homes should have a \$4 four inch [sewer pipe](#) cap. If you discover you are a lucky recipient, just dig up the line, cut it and install the cap with a rock holding it in place.

If you have a water shortage however, you still have a shit problem so now we have two problems in one. So let's solve them as one. First make a **composting toilet with \$25** in materials or for free using a toilet seat, a closet door and its two hinges, plus a five gallon pail. It will take a family of four a week to fill two buckets. Cover your daily deposit with dirt, sawdust, shredded paper, compost or grass using just enough to hide the color. I swear, there is no odor.

You can also buy an **adult potty chair** at a thrift store for \$10 and place a 5 gallon bucket under it.

A normal family uses 15,000 gallons of water each month with half of that, 7,500 gallons, used to flush. The compost toilet requires only 4 gallons per month. We just solved half of your biggest survival problem – water!

Now let's use the **Human Manure Composting** method to dispose of it. We will eventually build a 4 cubic foot compost pile. Stake out a 4 foot by 4 foot location. Empty the bucket, making sure that it is slightly wet if you choose not to urinate in it for some reason. Try to build sides that allow air in (pallets). Dig a hole in the pile and empty the bucket then cover it with a few inches of dirt, grass or

paper. Never turn this compost pile. About every six inches of level place a layer of straw or sticks to allow air into the pile. The idea is to let the shit cook and build up steam. It will completely cook down anything in it in two weeks.

**Anything bio-degradable** can go in that pile, including Pampers, bloody bandages, road kill, Tampons, etc. It will all cook down.

Continue to build the pile up to a height of four feet. When finished, let it age one year to kill the human pathogens. It is now ready as a fertilizer on your garden.

Get your neighbors to do this as well and you have just prevented the dreaded unsanitary diseases, no shit.



Article [permaculturenews.org/2014/07/21/building-basic-compost-toilet/](http://permaculturenews.org/2014/07/21/building-basic-compost-toilet/)

Human Manure method: [humanurehandbook.com/](http://humanurehandbook.com/)

## **NO TOILET PAPER**

Yes you can survive it.

Purchase a liquid bug sprayer, adjust the wand and you have a bidet. [Cost \\$15](#)  
You may have to shorten the wand or heat it to bend it a little.

Or assign one wash-rag to each person. After several uses, wash it.

## **FEMININE PRODUCTS - [Washable](#)**

### **BATHING**

#### **Hot Towel Method**

1. Heat one half quart of water in a covered pot.
2. Check frequently. As water starts to steam and form small bubbles on bottom of pot, remove from fire.
3. Get a medium-sized hand towel, large kitchen towel, large clean shirt or whatever.  
Slowly and carefully immerse towel into pot. Move towel around slightly to allow capillary action of cloth wick up hot water.

If towel is completely saturated, use less water next time as a fully wet towel will be too hot to pick up, let alone wring out, and it will drip all over the place.

4. When towel is very hot but not too hot to handle, pick up towel and vigorously wash body.
5. Wipe your butt with toilet paper. Then using the towel, wash your face, arms torso, back, legs. Then wash your armpits, crotch and butt.

#### **Bucket and Bench Method**

1. Wet your rag in the bucket to wet the body.
2. Soap and wash.
3. Rinse with the remaining water in the bucket.

#### **Navy Shower**

- 1) Rinse quickly. 2) Turn off water. 3) Soap up and bathe. 4) Rinse quickly. 5) Get out.

### **BEDDING**

#### **Sun Drying**

1. All sleeping bags, sheets and blankets should be taken outside, turned inside out, and shaken.
2. They should be hung on bushes, across something, or placed on a clothes line so that the sun and fresh air can clean them.
3. After several hours, remake bed.
4. This should keep down bed bugs and lice, as well as remove the extra dead skin caused from infrequent baths.

Attachments:

-  [Toilets.pdf](#) (29KB)

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#### 41. Local Defense Only.

One of our agreed upon policies is that we would be a local defense militia only. If a member wants to get involved in a local political hassle or take a side on a Civil War issue, that member must leave the survival group. The group might support him with medical care or doing his laundry, but as such the group could not be made vulnerable by his decision.

#### **What we created was a lifeboat only.**

Members enter our group by bringing their own food supplies. When they run out they will be furloughed to a location near us so we can support them in all ways except food. Therefore, each family chooses how long they will camp with us. They determine their own fate.

Most members have supplies to carry them from 6 months to 24 months.

Our survival group goal is protection just during a [short term](#) period of chaos. We are not about saving the whole world.

**P.S.** Our Council made policies on all the hard decisions the group might face if things get really bad for a long time. This was done while the council was calm, clear headed and had time to discuss and plan. We used the survival card games [Conflicted](#) to Que us for potential problems. Records of those policies are saved so if a new council revisits a decision all the factors considered are there for their review.

**P.S. Again.** See this thread [Conflicted - The game Of Mental Preparation](#) You can review how others dealt with major possible problems regarding the human side of survival.

**File Attachment:**

File Name: [DifficultPolicies.pdf](#)

File Size: 32 KB

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**42. Merging Groups.**

We have a large extended family of many households that may joining us. One option is being considered to treat this as a Merger to facilitate the process. That Proposal is attached below. But in the meantime our main concerns are outlined here.

1. Make sure we control the merger in a manner that **protects all that was promised to current members**. What they were promised still remains.
2. Make certain that the merger **reveals our location only to individuals who have an investment in your group**, such as their supplies on site.

If necessary **do not disclose our location until you are sure of the group working out and submit all deliverables to apply**. You can give them a radio set to a HAM Simplex frequency to contact us in event of chaos beginning so we can meet off location to finalize things.

3. Make certain that we get all entry information on individuals and they have completed all entry requirements as individuals.
4. Make certain that each family becomes familiar with all of our rules and expectations and **they agree to to all of it. They except our terms**. The last thing we need to for folks joining under false assumptions on both of our parts resulting in mutiny.

Even if you are a five member family merging with another, **formalize and control the rules and conditions**.

5. Make certain they realize the group has the **power to evict as well as decide which persons are admitted** to begin with, and the entering groups understands all may not be accepted.
6. Have the group asking for entry **pick a leader to facilitate the merger** with that group's members to speed the process up. Otherwise we may lose new members applying and turned away while this merger group fades away.
7. Finally Insure that **we know our maximum capacity** and do not exceed it by accident.

**File Attachment:**

File Name: [Proposal-MergingBillsFamily.pdf](#)

File Size: 53 KB

#### 43. Bear Proof Doors

I live in an area with lots of 19th century Civil War forts in it. Most have underground tunnels for troops to enter and leave through and most of those tunnels have 90 degree right turns in them just as you enter. The reason is the majority of intruders would be right handed and a hard right turn into an unknown space would leave the intruder unable to use his weapon as he made that turn, giving the advantage to a defender.

I once visited an Alaskan Indian long lodge with a single entrance, a bear proof door. It was a small open circle at the bottom of the front wall. A man could crawl through but a bear could only stick his head and one shoulder through. He could then be safely clubbed by the residents.

**Our Bear Proof Door Application.** We have a large steel barn with an overhead roll-up door, and the other three walls have double bay doors that open out. We will use the barn as our safe haven. A guard will be outside each door behind walls of sandbags. Our concern is how do we [protect](#) them if they are overwhelmed without opening the large doors?

We can build low tubes about three feet long through the walls for them to navigate through. The tunnel will have a curtain on the inside end. Further back from the inside end will be a short stack of sandbags for a prone shooter staring into the tunnel. Trip alarms can be in the tunnel.

If an intruder enters the tunnel he would not be able to use his rifle as he crawls through [blind](#). If he is shot he will block the tunnel for other intruders. If the curtain is raised the inside shooter can shoot anyone who peeks in.

**Your Bear Proof Door Application:** If you shelter in a brick home you can cut out and add a tunnel on a door, then reinforce the upper door with plywood so the door is not weakened. You might do the same on a [sliding glass door](#) with half of it left open then covered with plywood.

Using both doors as guard stations, guards could be outside behind sandbags on the porch where they are always protected from the rear with easy escape to safety.

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#### 44. Be Cool (Grid Power)

##### Proposal for: Be Cool

##### **The Problem:**

How can members stay cool while grid power remains up?

##### **Assumptions & Facts:**

William owns a 400 amp power service.

He does not want to be left with a \$7,000 power bill for power used by members who will leave the farm after activation.

---

Some families will have campers at the farm.

**The current plan** is to turn off power to all members upon activation.

If grid power remains up but our smart meters are turned off, we can remove and jump the meters. However, that meter box will have to be replaced (\$500) in the future.

A power bill for 60 members can add up fast over ?? months.

Within two weeks of activation our currency may be worthless.

If the grid stays up, we do not know what the power rates will be that are charged during that chaos time. The Government may allow the power companies to raise the rates retroactively.

If a power deposit in Silver Dollars is delivered on activation date we don't know what their value would be when members leave the farm, but probably a lot more.

None of this has been discussed with William.

However, it might be up for negotiation now or after activation.

**Plan:**

Members who want to remain on the grid, for heating and air in particular, need to negotiate with William for that.

An offer of XX Silver Dollars may be placed in a safe for power deposit upon activation.

. . . (This might be at activation day silver valuation,  
. . . times estimated monthly power usage at activation day power rates,  
. . . times estimated months stay.)

Monthly power usage can be estimated each month for both members and the account owner. We have watt meters for that.

After activation a final accounting can be done using:

. . . Actual power bills for that period;  
. . . Estimated repair bill added for meter jumping.  
. . . Estimated power usage will be assigned to each party  
. . . with costs being divided accordingly;  
. . . Actual silver valuation on settlement date will be used  
. . . so William does not make a profit.

. . . . Member refunds or shortages can then be settled up.

**Pros:**

Gets power (comfort) on for those that participate.

Silver held in vault will not be needed at that time anyway.

Protects William.

All parties participating are winners.

Prevents a mutiny after activation.

Allows use of electric washing machines instead of manual washing.

**Cons:**

May require some members to pull additional wiring.

May cause jealousy in those that do not participate.

**45. Cheap Uniforms.**

Someone donated about 100 various sized Tee Shirts from a failed organization. They are white with red lettering.

We will dye the shirts first in Olive Green. Then we will dye the top of the shirt down to the breast area in Dark green on top of the Olive color, being sure to dye the short sleeves.

Next we will put splotches of Olive Green, Dark Brown and a little tan over the top Dark Green part with the **exception of the sleeves**. When finished we will have Tee Shirts with definite color patters that we alone will have, and ones that protect our members.

We have inventoried both powdered and wet Rit Dyes and [rubber gloves](#) so this can be done upon activation. A simpler way might be to use spray paint for the splotches.

We can take some of the dyed shirts, split them down the middle, and using string turn them into (safety) vests that can be worn over bulky winter clothing.

We have **\$30** tied up in 100 Tee Shirt uniforms.

You can do the same by buying assorted Tee Shirts at a thrift store because once they are dyed they will all look alike.

**Hint:** Save the used dye in a large container so later it can be reused as new members wish to dye their own Tee Shirts.

---

#### **46. Long-Term Tents - Big, Simple & Cheap**

**Long A-Frame Tent, . . . 9'x 29' x 5.5', . . . Cost: \$110  
261 Sq Ft.**

Door flaps can be added using cheaper blue tarps.

Side screen windows can be added.

. . . Add horizontal 2"x 2" struts 2' off the ground to hold the screens

. . . add ties to the struts to hold the rolled-up tarp. **Additional Cost: \$50.**

Use a 19'x 29' Long-Term Silver tarp from [Harbor Freight](#). Cost \$60

See Pictures: [Link](#)

Video: [Link](#)

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#### **47. Modified Walmart Tents.**

##### **Problem:**

Is there a cheap, long-lasting, labor free tent for a family to survive in long term?

##### **Facts & Assumptions:**

We are in Florida where it is hot nine months each year and no snow.

We have some families that will have campers on site. Without power they will be living in a small oven most of the time and will probably make a tent for cooler sleeping. They will run out of propane and have no winter heat in the camper. Some of those campers cost \$10,000.

We have some families that will live in tents.

Most of the Walmart type tents are not designed for continuous three month usage and tear up soon after that period due to sun, falling pine cones and overuse of zippers. However, they do have handy windows, zippered doors, flooring and mosquito netting.

Panel #22 on this site describes a homemade 12' X 14' wall tent that will last about three years. Cost \$300. But it does require labor to construct it.

Military Surplus large tents normally cost \$1,000 and up.

---

### **The Plan:**

Purchase a large Walmart wall tent. Cost \$125.

Purchase (4) 2x4x8's and (1) 2x4x14'. Cost \$25.

Purchase a large blue tarp (be shredded in 6 months (Cost \$15) or large [weather resistant silver tarp](#) lasting 3 years. (Cost \$25)

**Step 1:** Erect two inverted "V"s to hold the 14 foot ridgepole.

**Step 2:** Erect the wall tent under the ridge.

**Step 3:** Install the Fly tarp over the ridge pole.

### **Pros:**

The Fly tarp will provide shade and keep the sun from destroying the tent. It will also give added rain and wind protection.

The tarp can be lowered on the outside making the "V" steeper in bad weather, thus protecting the tent more.

If the Fly tears it is no big deal as it will still do its job of shading.

Tent and Fly damages can be repaired with an inventory of duct tape, pack of grommets and para-cord. Broken zipper? Use grommets to add tie strings.

The Fly tarp can be reinforced by turning it into a boat sail. Tie it tightly to a rope or para-cord so that all of the pulling force is on the ropes and not the fabric. You may have to add more grommets for this. The guy lines to the tent pegs can now be tied to the sail rope.

Secure the tarp with tent pegs or a Dead Man. Bury logs or a 2x4x14' in the shallow ground horizontally. Tie two foot para-cord strips around the Dead Men with a loop in the end that can be used to hold the guy lines. Option: Add a 6" white piece of PVC piping near the loop so the lines can be seen at night.

**Note:** If dead men are used put two boards on each side of the tent. One for normal weather and one closer to the tent for storms. Also consider digging in the two inverted "V"s to bring them down lower to the tent and make them more secure.

### **Cons:**

The tent will still be cold in the winter (just like the \$10,000 campers).

Remember that you need to be raised off the ground during the winter as that will be where most of your heat loss will come from. Lay on straw, pallets, mattress, extra blankets or cots for this.

### **Options:**

---

An extra piece of nylon screen wire hanging from the ridge pole can be used as a flap over the door so the zippers aren't overused and tearing the tent.

No bathroom? A urinal bottle or used adult potty chair will save wear and tear on the tent zippers. Shy? Wear a poncho and Halloween mask of Nixon.

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## 48. Fuel Storage For Cooking.

To begin with, before taking economic advice about stove fuels it must be recognized that you must **first consider your** expected future group size, months of activation, if you will be staying in one location, what equipment you have to start with and if you will be doing group cooking. You have to consider this before you can begin, otherwise you may paint yourself into a corner.

The cheapest cooking fuel is twigs gathered for a homemade Rocket stove. But cooking for 50 persons many months may expose you to danger in your daily search away from camp for twigs.

That brings us to Propane and [liquid](#) gasoline. So let's get to the bottom line – the costs (when compared in BTUs).

If you use a propane camp stove you might want to stop purchasing the 1 Lb. Canisters as they are too expensive. **You can cook for 1/9th of the canister cost** by purchasing a \$7 [adapter hose](#) and use currently owned 20 Lb. (max) Propane tanks.

Or you can have the **same savings** by using a \$88 [Coleman liquid Gasoline stove](#) and using unleaded gasoline.

**Why Use liquid gasoline?** A 50 Gallon storage drum costs **\$30** and will store up to 6,250,000 BTUs of energy. That amount of BTUs would require (23) 20 Gal. Propane tanks (**\$750**), thus a **savings of \$720** in [storage costs](#) using new tanks. Plus the gasoline can also be used for engines.

Therefore, you might consider using Rocket stoves, Propane and liquid Gasoline for stove fuel, but use the canisters sparingly. If in a large group for a long time, then lean heavily on liquid gasoline.

**Note:** A 30 Lb. tank can use a \$8 [adapter to refill](#) 1 Lb. Canisters. Then when the tank is down to 20 lbs, the \$7 hose adapter can be hooked to the stove.

**Rate of BTU Consumption.** That will be a most difficult job for you to determine. Just boiling water for [freeze dried](#) food or cooking dried beans for two hours? Will some members be leaving when they run out of food early? Cooking three or two meals per day? One pot meals?

The only real way you may get this accurate is to monitor fuel usage after one week of activation and then adjust as factors change.

Note: It takes about 1,180 BTUs to raise water to boiling temperature.

Thus a 1 Lb. canister can prepare 18 gallons of instant coffee, a gallon at a time.

**See: Cooking Fuel Facts** attached below.

Attachments:

-  [CookingFuel-Facts.pdf](#) (38KB)

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#### **49. Group Location – Landless Preppers**

##### **In A Nutshell:**

Your easiest and safest place of retreat is a [brick home](#) away from neighbors. You can house about 15 persons.

If you do not have a brick home then swallow your pride and retreat to one that is brick. Realize that it takes a minimum of 6 guards to protect the home (one inside and one outside).

If you are over ten members then consider a rural retreat. You can lease a derelict home now or pick out a vacant property and have your gear packed and ready to go.

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##### **Landless Preppers**

This article is just for city slickers who may wish that they weren't if we go into a long crisis. I keep hearing from wanna-be preppers that they are stuck where they are as they don't have enough money for land in the country. This is the dumbest thing I ever heard. People, get your head out of your asses, stop doing as you were trained to do and make the decision that your extended family will survive. That's right, you have to decide to survive!

In order to solve the country land problem simply stick \$50 in an envelope marked "Land" and you are done.

We have a country fall-back farm. I surveyed every house within a half mile radius of us for future organization, help and threats. What I discovered was that one third of the houses either are vacant or would be vacant in a long crisis. Most of the current vacancies were related to deaths or owners in nursing homes. You see, the average age of our neighbors is above 65. When some people die their land sits for several years due to lack of wills and also from Medicaid confusion if Medicaid can seize the property for payment for assistance given. Then there is the inheritance city slickers gain but cannot use and thus end up with divided siblings unable to move forward. I think you are beginning to get the picture here.

I suggest that your extended family go land hunting. In a crisis, there are no land boundaries, no trespassing laws and no real rules. You do as you must to stay alive. So do it. Locate several abandoned properties, close to each other, with pump houses (wells). Plan on moving in at crisis time. If the owner shows up then simply move to the next. But in the meantime, be of service to the community. Camp out back or move in. Lay low so it still appears abandoned. But at least now you have a plan to go forward.

Now back to the \$50. Purchase a piece of plastic window pane that you can cut, a tube of clear silicone and an exterior door knob. On moving day break out a back window for entry. Change the back door lock and repair the window. No harm done.

Have someone prepared to **power the well with a generator** (simple process). Run the generator ten minutes every three days to fill up the bath tub, water heater, kiddie swimming pool etc. so that now you have safe drinking water. Purchase \$25 worth of 2 inch PVC piping and an elbow, along with a 1 foot X 2 foot piece of tin flashing, so that you can take the generator exhaust and blow it eight feet straight up into the clouds. Not only will this muffle the sound but it will make it impossible for neighbors to pinpoint the sound source. Note that most wells require generators that can produce 220 Volts @ 20 amps. Then all you have to do is construct a \$25 composting toilet that uses no water. You no longer have a water problem.

For \$100 you have just resolved your land, shelter, water and sewage problems. Get your head out your ass and start thinking family survival instead of poor pitiful you.

### **Hide and Seek**

One of my fondest childhood memories was playing hide and seek on summer evenings around twilight. Your only care in the world was to find a good spot and not get caught. Nothing else mattered in life.

But as life would have it, we were poor and my parents could not afford a lot of neat hiding places. Because there were nine of us kids and considering all the neighborhood kids playing, there was a shortage of good hiding places. Even so, you could always find a place to hide.

You know, in all of those summer memories I never recall anyone demanding to see my papers authorizing me to hide in that particular spot. The way we played the game it was simply first come first serve. Besides, we were just hiding there during the game, we weren't claiming that spot forever.

So too will it be if you have to relocate to a better hiding place in the event of a long emergency. I spent a lot of time studying the strategy and tactics of Robert E. Lee. With the exception of Gettysburg, he almost always fought a defensive war and chose the location of an upcoming battle. And that choice was always to a great advantage to the defender. His philosophy was probably, "As long as you have to choose, choose to your advantage." Did you know that a dug in defender has a 3 to 1 to a 6 to 1 advantage over an attacker? The military term for this is Force Multiplier.

This is precisely why no one has ever invaded Switzerland, and not because of the popular belief that they are all armed with Swiss army knives. Then if you consider that if your land choice makes you invisible you always win as you cannot lose a battle you do not have to fight. O.K. Enough said about bugging out.

### **Buy Out Your Neighbors**

What do you do if you don't have a brick home to bunker down in but your neighbor does? Do what Donald Trump would do - buy him out. Problem solved.

What do you do if you have a brick home, a lot of prepared extended family but not enough room in your home for all of them? Again, buy your neighbor out. Then your two houses can protect each other as long as you have the walkie talkies to coordinate things.

Isn't it amazing how easy it is to solve insurmountable problems? By the way, with the drop in home prices, I wouldn't store up more than a six month supply of rice (\$60) per each current home-owner there. Post collapse I am sure they will bargain with you for the food and protection.

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## 51. Creating A Food Supply Plan

This is a response I posted to a Prepper website regarding “Building A Food Supply”.

I am the oddball on this site as I researched and designed a large group survival plan before building it. So instead of starting out as one family with needs I planned for the needs of 60 persons. That has given me a different view from most. Although it may not be the right view, it is a different view.

I began with the viewpoint that we were climbing into a lifeboat for a period of time and our goal was to stay alive when we reached land. We were not concerned in having the same healthy body as when we got in the boat. (money constraints, of course).

So we started with **calories first**. 1,200 per day is considered starvation. so we planned for between 1,500 and 2,000 per day.

**Quick Hint:** Rice and noodles are the cheapest and easiest way to deliver survival food to people. (Cost, long-term storage and preparation wise).

(We can calculate calories in just the rice and noodles for a quick estimate on sustainable calories on hand.)

Next we looked at [protein](#). The cheapest was beans and rice which combined turns the rice into protein. (Most of the planet already knows this.)

Then we looked at **fuel economy**. Anything stored in a can is fully cooked and can be stored for about 40 years.

This includes canned hams at \$3.00 per pound.

Be aware that dried beans takes 1.5 hours to cook for dinner. The more fuel you burn the more your neighbors can see the smoke and smell dinner.

We tried to get down to one pot quick meals.

Then we addressed **food burn out** by adding a bunch of flavors.

**Math problem?** We came up with a one month plan per adult. Then just multiply it by the number of months each adult plans to hunker down. A child is 1/2 rate.

(We even condensed it down to Cubic Feet per Adult so we don't have to count cans.)

From the above goals we then developed three nourishment plans for our members, depending on their money situation.

**P. S. Sound Spartan and Unromantic?** I am reading a book about shipwrecked sailors. The journal of one survivor describes eating a very old and disgusting tasting sea lion.

He mentioned, "Starvation is a marvelous sauce."

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## 52. Leadership Lessons Learned From Ship Wrecked Groups.

**Re:** [The Shipwreck of the Whaleship Essex: The True Narrative that Inspired Herman Melville's Moby-Dick](#)

Five years ago my son, who seldom reads a book, threw me the above book and said, "Read this." It is based on the manuscript by the First Mate of the only recording of a ship deliberately sunk by a whale. The Movie [In The Heart Of The Sea](#) was based on his manuscript.

I read it from a survivalist's point of view. Below are some facts not mentioned by the author but gleamed.

1. The Captain went into shock and moored the ship's three long boats to the wreck for three days as if it was a wake. He forbade anyone from boarding her.
2. Unknown to all, the cook had retrieved the maps, compass, ship's clock and sextant and had them hidden in his long boat for those three days. No one else had thought of them until the ship sank.
3. On the fourth day the Captain studied the map and decided to proceed to South America, a 90 day journey. For some reason he declined to head to a known trading island just 6 days away.
4. As I recall, 23 men set out and only 3 men survived.
5. The ship had giant tortoises aboard as ballast to keep the ship from listing. One was placed in each

long boat for food. The rest were left on the ship. Some could have been sun dried aboard the vessel while it was sinking.

6. Each long boat had a small cask of fresh water aboard. They could have half emptied more water casks so they would float and lashed them to their boats or towed them.

7. There was still food in the galley that they failed to retrieve.

I just finished another excellent book that I recommend - [Island of the Lost: An Extraordinary Story of Survival at the Edge of the World](#), By Joan Druett

The book chronicles the history of a small schooner that in 1864 crashed on rocks 300 miles South of New Zealand, in the sub-Antarctic region. Its 5 man crew made it to shore and suffered weekly gales and hurricanes plus near freezing temperature most of the time.

A few months later another larger ship foundered 20 miles away on the other side of the island with 19 crewman making it to shore. There was an impassable mountain between them.

**Almost two years** later 5 of the 5 crewmen made it home alive on their own. Only 3 of the 19 crew were rescued by luck.

One of the biggest differences between the two groups was leadership style and morale. The book makes a perfect case study of survival group morale, starvation signs and what may work and may not work in group survival.

### **My Conclusions:**

1. We are accustomed to military rule in that you must obey orders or subject to being shot. That's great for the military but what about **leading a few merged families**? Gonna shoot them?

2. When under [stress](#), shock, depression, and/or starvation **one cannot reason and plan properly**. Therefore, emergency plans should already be prepared for such an emergency.

3. In a survival mode, **leadership must be altered** so that when a leader falters (for any reason) another leader can step forward that is acceptable to the group.

The 5 of 5 shipwreck crew elected a leader who could be fired if necessary. Oddly they elected the Captain. At times he lead; at times he followed. But they were a group of one.

The 3 of 19 ship wreck crew remained under Maritime law with the Captain absolute ruler. He never made a decision. The only reason the 3 survived was because their lowliest seaman had the skills to survive and to lead a few of them informally. After being rescued it was realized the Captain had been out of his mind the entire time on the island and remembered nothing about it.

You can't lead if you don't have the confidence of your followers, especially in a crisis survival mode.

### **53. Organizing A Neighborhood Protection Plan.**

Five years ago I purchased a copy of the book, [A failure of Civility](#) (2012). It is a manual to convert your entire neighborhood into a Neighborhood Protection Plan (Lock down) for mutual protection.

It is an excellent cookbook to make sure you get it done. We plan to implement it after the chaos begins to move our protection perimeter out another half mile.

I purchased the book (endorsed by the Oath Keepers) for \$29. It is now out of print and costs \$200. However, you can [Download a free PDF version](#).

### **54. Creating Neighborhood Redoubts.**

**Problem:** How can you protect yourselves more without taking in more members?

**Answer:** Create Neighborhood Redoubts.

**A redoubt is** a fortified structure that an enemy must first capture before it can attack it's main objective, mainly your survival group.

For you it is a strategically located brick home that can be occupied by 10 to 15 persons that are not members of your group. They will be an alliance.

That many persons is what it might take to have 3 persons pull guard duty 24 hours per day; one guard inside and 1 or 2 outside. By the time you add spouses and kids it all adds up.

#### **What's In It For The Redoubt Residents?**

The redoubt can be strengthened so it is impregnable with built in safe spaces. If attacked your group can do a drive by burning of the intruders' trucks, thus ending the raiding party.

#### **Your Group's Gain:**

Same drive-by support if you are attacked.

Intruders will notify you that they are near by "ringing the redoubt's doorbell."

You now have more defenders you don't have to feed.

#### **Your Group's Costs:**

We inventoried supplies for them at about **\$60 for each Redoubt.**

Supplies include: HAM radio, GMRS radios, Roof antennas, 12 VDC adaptor kits to utilize car batteries and Pool Shock to purify 10,000 gallons of water by creating bleach for purification and cleaning purposes (hand washing).

Supplies also include long screws to replace all 3/4" screws on their exterior door hinges & striker plates and providing (2) swing locks per exterior door to make it impossible to break through them.

We can help them manufacture composting toilets and bidets so they can now run out of toilet paper.


We can create safe space for the residents if they are attacked.

We can supply them with water, health attention, intelligence, training, and all other support with the exception of food. That they must provide for themselves.

### **How Many Redoubts?**

We plan to create 4 around us. Later we can add another 4 as we push our influence out. All of this gives our group more protection.

Attachments:

-  This attachment is hidden for guests. Please log in or register to see it

### **5. Invite Your Neighbors Anonymously To Ally With You.**

Here's how to invite your neighbors to become Preppers and if so ally with you without them knowing who you are.

We discovered this in trying to recruit key neighborhood families to ally with our group as Redoubt Homes, that being one well strengthened brick house with about 10 adults in it for security.

First we created a new contact Email address with a generic name in it, such as [BroadStreetPreppers@Gmail.com](mailto:BroadStreetPreppers@Gmail.com).

Then we composed a letter introducing ourselves as being within a 1 mile radius of them, fully prepped and seeking like minded folks to cooperate with, if need be.

We then included \$20 worth of door locks and bleach making pool shock. We also gave them plenty of notes of Prepping, hygiene and food buying to get them prepped. These gifts will keep you on their minds as the chaos begins to rear its head.

I suggest you advise them to create a generic email address too if they wish to communicate first as the two of you insure yourselves of the trustworthiness of each other.

The bottom line here is you cannot make a long-term alliance with someone who is dying. You both need to make certain that both of you can sustain life for yourself and at least one of you has a brick home.

I suggest you read the attached Invitation letter below.  
Attachments:



- This attachment is hidden for guests. Please log in or register to see it.

## 56. Admitting Last Minute Panic Members.

If you feel we are getting very close to the chaos beginning, how do you admit last minute members?

Consider this. Allocate the membership approval job to **just one person**. Let him act as the “Broker” to bring them in only if they are a true asset to the group. If not, save the space for another who will be an asset.

What is an asset? At this point it is someone who can be a **full fledged guard** to protect your group.

Being an asset is the first test. The second test is **if they can support life for themselves**. If not send them packing. They will endanger your group.

This is where the broker part comes into play. The broker should shape a new member prospect to fit the mold of your needs. He should hold their hand and help them develop a plan to accumulate their supplies within a few days or send them down the road. The last thing needed is more mouths to feed. The broker should have them understand they are being admitted to pull guard duty, male or female, when others in your group may be exempted from guard duty. Sound unfair? Maybe but the others are not the ones who procrastinated and instead built the group.

Their supply plan should meet your food standards, where and how to purchase quickly, estimated cost and how it will be paid for. Once that is set then consider them as membership material **after** they have the supplies in their possession.

## 57. Safe Outside Defensive Position Construction.

Our U. S. Civil War battle of Cold Harbor changed warfare around the planet. After Cold Harbor no other battles worldwide were ever fought by two opposing armies standing in lines firing at each other.

Grant and Lee raced each other to reach Cold Harbor, Va. first. It was just a bar in the middle of the wilderness by the way, so perhaps that explains the race.

Lee arrived three days first. His troops dug several parallel trenches six miles long. The novelty here was that his men placed tree trunks horizontally along the top of the front of the trenches. The logs were raised just enough for the defenders to fire under them thus protecting their heads.

Within a half hour Grant lost 6,000 troopers to slaughter attacking those positions. I think Lee lost about 1,500(?).

Our large rural group will have several guard stations and fall-back defender positions. Our main one will be a stand up wall of RR ties with a mound of dirt placed in front of it. 6 inch firing

slits will be under the last RR tie. Camouflaged netting will be hanging over the slits.

Other guard stations will consist of two RR ties stacked with 4" spacers and then topped by another RR tie. They will be set back into bushes and will have camouflaged netting hanging in front of it so that guards can sit up safely while on guard duty and intruders cannot spot their positions.

An incline of dirt or plywood is behind the ties so a defender can scoot up to fire. If desired, the defender can kneel and fire over the top tie.

An 18" X 8 foot piece of plywood is placed 6 inches behind the shorter guard stations stacked RR ties. It's cavity is filled with dirt thus giving a total depth of 18 inches from the front of the RR tie to the rear of the dirt cavity. The top RR ties have an 8 foot long 2X8 board screwed to the inside of it, giving it 14 inches of wood.

Most of our positions are at slight angles from where we expect firing to come from. This angle will cause their bullets to have to penetrate more wood and dirt than if fired at a right angle. The angle has no negative effect on our guards. Our main guard position will have two of the 2 X 8s on the header tie giving it 16 inches.

Note that our positions do not require trenching.

**Cost:**

**\$30** for (3) RR ties,

**\$15** for net. If wrong color net is ordered simply touch up with spray paint.

**\$6** for a 2X8X8 board for top tie.