

## **Camping Equipment for Emergencies**

**By Joseph Parish**

When asked by a new prepper where they could purchase their emergency survival gear I frequently direct their attention to one of our great camping supply stores in my area. Most camping equipment can for all intents and purposes double as emergency supplies if and when the situation is encountered.

A friendly visit to your local camping center can prove extremely fruitful as the people who run these businesses can provide you with a considerable amount of valuable information. Each time I visit any of my local locations I usually leave with more knowledge than I had when I arrived. I feel that obtaining a good supply of camping gear is one of the best decisions you are likely to make involving your emergency preparations.

Think back to the times in the past when your area of the country may have experienced extended electrical power outages. Chances are if you had the proper camping equipment you would have breezed right through the crisis without the least concern. Camping lights, camp stoves and tent heaters all can provide you and your family with a measure of security when you encounter the unexpected. As an experiment, take a trip to your local Wal-Mart or shopping center right after the power has been lost in your town. You will quickly find that the camping gear is some of the first items that they will quickly run out of.

If you anticipate water to present you with a problem during an emergency you may wish to look into obtaining several collapsible water containers and a good quality backpack water filter. If funds permit you could invest in a drip through unit with extra filters. Seychelle water filtration bottles are fairly inexpensive usually costing less than \$20 dollars and the replacement filters run approximately \$10.00 each. As a back up you should store several gallons of unscented bleach and as a last resort there are many ways to create an improvised filter to make the water drinkable.

In our area of the nation we receive many emergency broadcast notifications by way of our television. These alerts are intended to warn us of impending dangers however I cannot help but think back a few years to the Katrina disaster and how the government let the people down. This makes it more important than ever that we stress the concept that we must learn to take care of ourselves. We cannot allow our safety and well-being to fall into the hands of the government merely because we are too lazy to do the proper prepping ourselves.

Look around you today and say to yourself, "if we had a major disaster in the next five minutes would I be prepared to save myself and my family? Would I have all the supplies that would be necessary for this undertaking?" There you have your answer folks to this issue of preparedness. Let's get started today.