



Water Drum Program

A reliable water supply is an important part of any preparedness program. Following a major earthquake, EBMUD says that they will get *most* residential customers back online within 30 days. You need to be ready to have drinking, cooking and sanitation water in the meantime. Municipal governments will distribute potable water supplies within several days but that means standing in line with containers to get your rationed water. The most reliable way to assure adequate water is to store water at your home and office.

Lamorinda CERT Foundation periodically purchases large quantities of FDA approved blue water drums and associated supplies like wrenches, pumps, spigots, dust covers, etc. By purchasing in bulk, the freight charges are reduced substantially.

What do you need? It is recommended that each person have one gallon for drinking and food preparation plus one gallon for sanitation (tooth brushing, hand washing, etc.) each day. That is 14 gallons per person per week. If you have a swimming pool, that can serve for most sanitation needs. Once you figure out how many gallons you want, determine which drum size is best for you.

The 5 gallon Samson Stackers are convenient and only weigh 44 pounds when full. The 15 gallon drums are more expensive per gallon than the 55s but can be moved. The 55 gallon drums are stationary once filled but are the most economical for large volumes.

The newly offered small, 2.5 gallon Samson Stackers are light. They weigh only about 22 pounds full and are meant for people who cannot lift heavier drums. They are tan, not blue, so they must be stored inside, away from light.

With your drums you need a drum wrench at each drum storage location. These are special wrenches. *Bung* wrenches fit into the recessed slots of the 15 and 55 gallon drum bung caps. *70mm* wrenches fit around the Samson Stacker cap. The new LMO Wrenches are combination wrenches and fit all of the drums that we sell except the 2.5 gallon drums which require a special 63mm wrench.

You need a way to get water out of your drums. Here are the options:

- For the 2.5 gallon Samson Stackers you tip and pour from the jug.
- For the 5 gallon Samson Stacker, use a spigot or just pour from the jug.
- For 15 gallon drums, you can use a spigot. The down side here is that you must tip the drum on its side and support it on a step or on blocks to get a container under the spigot. After using a spigot, you will refill the drum and seal it with a ¾" plug.
- For 15 or 55 gallon drums, you can use a siphon pump. The pump will operate with the drum vertical. For the 15 gallon drum you will have to trim the feed tube of the pump. It will then not work on a 55 gallon drum.

To keep dirt, leaves, etc. out of the fittings on the top of the 15 and 55 gallon drums, we offer dust caps. These are 'shower cap' style caps made of 4 mil plastic. They last a year or two when outside and exposed to weather.

An example order for a family of 2 for 30 days would be:

2 – 55 gallon drums	This would be a 55 gallon Package
1 – Bung Wrench	plus an additional 55 gallon drum and
1 – Pump	an additional dust cover.
2 – Drum Dust Covers	

An example order for a family of 4 for one week would be:

12 – 5 gallon Samson Stackers	This would be a 12 drum Package.
1 – LMO Wrench	
1 – Spigot	

Drums dimensions, weight and bleach requirements are:

2.5 gallon Samson Stacker – 8" x 9 ½" x 11 ¾" high, 1.2# empty, 22 lbs. full
Bleach – 1.5 ml per Stacker

5 gallon Samson Stacker – 12" x 11" x 15" high, 2 lbs. empty, 44 lbs. full
Bleach – 3 ml per Stacker

15 gallon – 15 ½" Diameter, 21 ¾" high, 7 ½ lbs. empty, 132 lbs. full
Bleach – 10 ml per drum

55 gallon – 23 ¼" Diameter, 34 ¾" high, 21 lbs. empty, 480 lbs. full
Bleach – 35 ml per drum

Use only unscented, non-gelled, plain *fresh* household bleach, as supplied.

Order drums and supplies from: <http://supplies.lamorindacert.org>

Using a spigot with a 5 gallon Samson Stacker



A Samson Stacker package has an extra white 70mm cap. Remove the knockout seal in this extra 70mm cap using a knife or a hammer and screwdriver.

When the hole is clear, screw in the spigot.

These caps have a tamper evident ring that breaks off like a milk carton. The cap is reusable without the ring.



<- Opening Vent

To use -

Remove the closed white 70mm cap from a drum and screw on the cap with the spigot. After tipping the Stacker on its side you can dispense water. *The Stacker has a vent so water will flow freely. After removing the small white cap, use an ice pick or sharp knife tip to puncture the vent and allow air into the drum.*

When you empty one drum, remove the 70mm cap from the next drum and move the spigot with cap to the new drum. This way you always have secure 70mm caps and one cap with a hole and spigot. Alternatively, just remove the 70mm cap, forget the spigot, tip and pour from the drum.



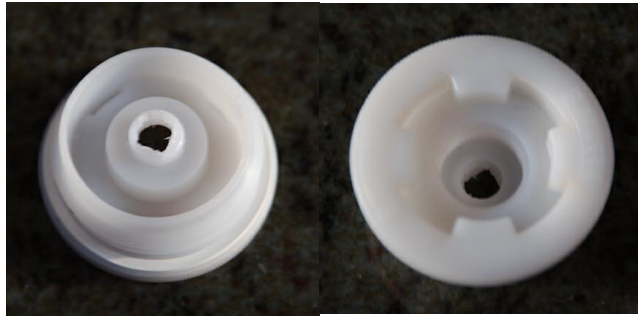
Using a spigot with a 15 gallon water drum

To use a spigot with a water drum there are a few steps.

1. Remove the 2" cap. It has a $\frac{3}{4}$ " internal thread and a seal on the bottom.



2. Knock out the seal at the bottom of the cap using a screwdriver and hammer. You'll need to support the cap between 2 boards to get the seal out. This one then got trimmed with a knife.



3. Insert the spigot. Tip the drum onto blocks or a step. Dispense water.



4. Remove spigot. Refill drum. Replace 2" cap and tighten. Put $\frac{3}{4}$ " Poly Plug in 2" cap.

