

Contact: Mark Sauter
City Manager's Office
Phone 562-904-6107
Fax 562-923-6388

msauter@downeyca.org
11111 Brookshire Avenue
Downey, CA 90241

City of Downey

Press Release

Emergency Water Storage Barrels Will be Offered on Saturday, September 25

Downey, CA, September 16, 2010

The Downey Emergency Preparedness Committee and CERT volunteers will be distributing plastic food-grade barrels on Saturday morning, September 25th. The distribution of the barrels will begin at 8am. The event will end when the supply of barrels is exhausted or at 11am, whichever comes first. The barrels are a donation from the Downey Coca-Cola facility and staff.

The location for the September 25th event will be the Discovery Sports Complex / Columbia Memorial Space Center on Columbia Way, near Lakewood Blvd. Community members interested in picking up a free emergency water storage barrel must enter the event from Bellflower Blvd and proceed west on Steve Horn Way and follow the signs to the staging area at the park. There will be no entry into the distribution event from Columbia Way or Ardis, though these two streets will be kept open for Kaiser Hospital and park traffic.

The distribution will be a 'drive-thru' only event. There will be no accommodations for walk-up visitors. All attendees will be directed to stay with their vehicles as they work their way through the distribution effort.

The storage of an ample supply of fresh water is one of the most important actions community members can take as they prepare for an emergency. Fresh water is almost always in short supply after disasters. Experts recommend each person store a minimum of 3-7 gallons of water for emergency use. Additional water should be stored for pets.

Each barrel is cleaned and rinsed by Coca-Cola staff members before delivery to the distribution site by Coca-Cola trucks and drivers. The barrels vary in size from 15-55 gallons. The exact quantity of each size of barrel varies for each event. A special instructional label is attached to each barrel. The minimal program costs have been off-set by the sale of accessory tools for use with the barrels.

Please see attached map for directions.

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