

Contact: Mark Sauter
City Manager's Office
Phone 562-904-1895
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, November 20th

Downey, CA, November 16, 2010

The Downey Emergency Preparedness Committee and CERT volunteers will be distributing free plastic food-grade barrels on Saturday morning, November 20th. The distribution of the barrels will begin at 8 a.m. The event will end when the supply of barrels is exhausted or at 11a.m., whichever comes first. The barrels are a donation from the Downey Coca-Cola facility and staff.

The location for the November 20th 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. There will be a one barrel per car limit for this distribution event.

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.

Special barrel cap handles, pumps and siphon hoses will be for sale at this event. The minimal program costs have been off-set by the sale of accessory tools for use with the barrels. Cash or checks (written to City of Downey) will be accepted as payment for the barrel accessories. Please see attached map for directions.

Questions or comments may be sent to ready@downeyca.org

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