PREPARING FOR THE STORM
What is a Prepper?

The Provident Prepper says “a prepper is someone who has the wisdom and insight to look to the future and prepare for possible events that may impact his or her life. These people build knowledge and skills, gather supplies, and join together in communities that work together for the benefit of all. Preppers take reasonable steps to prepare for the future while also making time to enjoy the present.”

The vast majority of people are preppers of some sort...

- Auto Insurance
- Home Insurance
- Both Car & Home
- Life Insurance
Common View of Preppers

For ratings, TV shows like Doomsday Preppers show preppers as fringe extremists* in society who are potentially dangerous and often hold extreme political views.

* Occasionally they are correct.
The history of prepping and preparing for adversity is traceable back to the earliest of human times. The story of Joseph saving the Egyptians to survive a 7-year famine by storing grain in the 12th Dynasty, even humans preserving food since the earliest days. In the middle ages people preserved foods in the summer to eat in the winter. Animals would often be slaughtered in the fall, due to the expense of feeding them through the winter, and preserve the meat to use through the following cold months. Of course, food preservation has come along way since.

In the United States, the effort to motivate the population into improved self-reliance was successful and resulted in the planting of 20 million victory gardens. In 1944, these victory gardens produced over eight million tons of fruits and vegetables. Victory gardens accounted for 40% of all fresh fruits and vegetables consumed in the United States and was equal to all commercial U.S. production.

Numerous countries involved in the wars encouraged their citizens to plant “victory gardens.” The promoting of victory gardens went hand in hand with the rationing of food. These campaigns for preparedness and self-reliance became patriotic endeavors.

With the end of WWII, the world entered the nuclear age. Along with the atomic age came the fear of nuclear war between the world’s superpowers. This resulted in the building of bomb shelters throughout the United States by individuals and local and federal governments. Perhaps one of the most famous and massive bomb shelters is the Greenbrier Resort in West Virginia. The Greenbrier project began in 1958. The project (“Project Greek Island”) would become the potential shelter for 1,100 people, including the US Congress. The Greenbrier remained in operation until 1992 when it was outed by the media.

Source: https://mind4survival.com/the-history-of-prepping/
Construction on the bunker began in 1958, which was built 720 feet into the hillside under The Greenbrier. Once it was completed in 1961, the facility was constantly maintained by a small group of government employees working undercover as audio and video technicians.
History of Prepping

The Survivalists

It was in 1976 that Kurt Saxon coined the phrase “survivalism.” Howard Ruff wrote his book, Famine and Survival in America, based upon the turbulent financial times, which helped lay the foundational concepts of today’s modern prepper philosophy. At the same time, the start of the contemporary firearms movement began at the American Pistol Institute, founded in 1976 by USMC Lieutenant Colonel Jeff Cooper. As the 80s progressed into the 90s, the media and a large portion of society began to label people who took preparedness actions negatively. This tactic drove many well-intended but concerned people who engaged in preparedness underground to prepare in secret.

Y2K/9/11/.com
1999 – 2006

In the late 90s, as the specter of Y2K approached, the media campaign against people who prepared began to soften. Y2K was the fear that due to a computer glitch, computers would shut down at the start of the new century. Fortunately, 2000 started without a hitch, and the prophecies of a Y2K doom never materialized. What did materialize was a rebranding of the survivalist movement, preparing for adversity, which resulted in an increased acceptance across society. With increased recognition, the word “prepper” replaced the word “survivalism.” The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 ushered in a new age of ongoing worry and concern with preparing for adversity. The .com crash also added fuel to the movement.

Financial Crash
2007-2020

The financial crash of 2007/2008 brought about new fears in people which resulted not only in more prepping, but people going more towards minimalism and alternative living. The corresponding housing crisis left people not being able to afford their mortgages and many downsized to either tiny homes or nomadic living (RV, trailer, etc). It fueled the prepper movement even more as confidence in government and the financial sector diminished greatly.

Source: https://mind4survival.com/the-history-of-prepping/
History of Prepping

Coronavirus

In 2020, the Coronavirus changed the world within a matter of months. As the virus spread and people panicked, around the world people started purchasing food and other items in mass quantities. Shelves where emptied, people started pulling mass amounts of money out of banks and 401Ks and even the government made it easier with the CARES Act to take money out of retirement. Those who had been mocked as preppers were now seen to be right after all. A new generation of preppers have been created as people come to realize societies are fragile.

We mocked preppers and survivalists - until the pandemic hit

You’ve heard of preppers, right? Survivalists? If you’ve watched TV shows like Doomsday Preppers, you know about their strange, apocalyptic beliefs: that a disaster could strike at any time, overwhelming first responders and the social safety net; that this crisis could disrupt supply chains, causing scarcity and panic and social breakdown; that authorities might invoke emergency powers and impose police curfews. Crazy theories like that.

In fact, many perfectly reputable organizations – including the US federal government and the Red Cross – recommend Americans maintain extra food and emergency supplies. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (Fema) advises keeping a two-week supply of food, as well as water, batteries, medical masks, first-aid supplies and a battery- or hand-powered radio, among other things.

In mainstream society, however, interest in prepping usually invites ridicule about bunkers and tin-foil hats. Preppers have spent years as the objects of our collective derision.

Until now. Today, we’re all preppers - or rather, wish we had been. Non-preppers have been caught in a rain shower without an umbrella. I don’t know if preppers are laughing right now, but perhaps they’re entitled to some vindication.

Link to Full Article
California could run out of fresh water in one year, a top NASA scientist is warning, and the impact on the rest of the country's food supply could be devastating.

The Golden State's supply of fresh water might be completely depleted in 2016 if present conditions persist, hydrology expert Jay Famiglietti estimated. California supplies the majority of more than 35 fruits, vegetables and nuts to America.

"Right now the state has only about one year of water supply left in its reservoirs, and our strategic backup supply, groundwater, is rapidly disappearing," Famiglietti wrote in a Los Angeles Times op-ed March 12.
Looming Threats

The New York Times

‘Overtaken by Aliens’: India Faces Another Plague as Locusts Swarm

Jaipur, was making his rounds earlier this week when he saw the sky suddenly turn a weird pink.

It wasn’t some quirk of the weather. It was locusts — millions of them, “like a spreading bedsheet,” he said.

“The locusts have attacked the golf course!” Mr. Doodi yelled into his cellphone during the battle Monday morning. “It’s man versus locusts!”

As if India needed more challenges, with coronavirus infections steadily increasing, a heat wave hitting the capital, a recent killer cyclone and 100 million people out of work, the country now has to fight off a new problem: a locust invasion.

Scientists say it’s the worst attack in 25 years and these locusts are different.

By Abdi Latif Dahir

Published April 22, 2020 Updated May 13, 2020
NAIROBI, Kenya — In the largest slum in Kenya’s capital, people desperate to eat set off a stampede during a recent giveaway of flour and cooking oil, leaving scores injured and two people dead.

In India, thousands of workers are lining up twice a day for bread and fried vegetables to keep hunger at bay.

And across Colombia, poor households are hanging red clothing and flags from their windows and balconies as a sign that they are hungry.

“We don’t have any money, and now we need to survive,” said Pauline Karushi, who lost her job at a jewelry business in Nairobi, and lives in two rooms with her child and four other relatives.

“That means not eating much.”

The world has never faced a hunger emergency like this, experts say. It could double the number of people facing acute hunger to 265 million by the end of this year.
It’s difficult to know what to believe because there’s so many conflicting stories and “fake news” these days. Much in the non-mainstream news is the Grand Solar Minimum which many are prepping for, but mainstream channels will say is false, nothing to worry about. Preppers prep in case the mainstream is wrong.

You have to ask yourself, do you want to chance being unprepared? Below are differing videos on the subject.

**News Landed**

**MINI ICE AGE TO HIT EARTH IN 2020 AND LAST 30 YEARS, CAUSING EXTREME WINTERS**

By Praveen Sturgeon | February 4, 2020

The Sun is going to experience its lowest activity in over 200 years in 2020. During this time, Earth will enter a “mini ice age” where there will be food shortage and extremely cold winters. The average temperature could even drop as much as one degree Celsius in one year. According to the data from NASA, this is because the Earth is about to experience a “solar minimum.”

**WHAT ARE SOLAR MINIMUMS?**

A solar minimum is a period of time when the Sun becomes dormant, exhibiting its lowest solar activity. This is a normal phenomenon that usually occurs once every 11 years. However, the solar minimum that we are going to experience this year is called a “Grand Solar Minimum.” This is an extreme solar minimum where solar activity is much lower than regular solar minimums. Grand Solar Minimums occur about once every 400 years.

The last Grand Solar Minimum, the Maunder Minimum, was between 1645 and 1715. During this time, the canals at Thames and Amsterdam froze over multiple times, a rare occurrence today.

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**The Washington Post**

News about an imminent "mini ice age" is trending — but it’s not true

By Sarah Kaplan

July 14, 2015 at 1:29 a.m. MDT

“Scientists warn the sun will ‘go to sleep’ in 2030 and could cause temperatures to plummet,” blared one headline this weekend. "Earth heading for ‘mini ice age’ within 15 years," warned another.

By Sunday evening, news that the Earth could be headed for period of bitter cold was trending on Facebook and whizzing across Twitter. The story — which has been reported everywhere from conservative blogs to the British press to the Weather Channel to the Huffington Post — was based on a recent presentation at the Royal Astronomical Society’s national meeting. Researchers studying sunspots found that solar activity is due to decline dramatically in the next few decades, reaching levels not seen since the 17th century, during a period known as the Maunder minimum. Back then, the decline coincided with what’s called the “Little Ice Age,” when Europe’s winters turned brutally cold, crops failed and rivers froze over. Could another one be on its way? Not quite.

Though University of Northumbria mathematics professor Valentina Zharkova, who led the sunspot research, did find that the magnetic waves that produce sunspots (which are associated with high levels of solar activity) are expected to counteract one another in an unusual way in the coming years, the press release about her research mentions nothing about how that will affect the Earth’s climate. Zharkova never even used the phrase “mini ice age.” Meanwhile, several other recent studies of a possible solar minimum have concluded that whatever climate effects the phenomenon may have will be dwarfed by the warming caused by greenhouse gas emissions.

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**The Sun Goes QUIET**

Cold weather Crop Losses

**Rare Pandemics Linked to Solar Activity**

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**The Sun Goes QUIET**

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Types of Preppers

There are all types of preppers, from the hard core survivalists to those who keep extra food and water on hand in case of an interruption in services (like at fema.gov).

1. The Sheeple - They actually think they’re prepared simply because, in their minds, nothing bad will ever happen.
2. The Newbie Prepper - Needs a lot of help and may make a lot of mistakes, tendency to become overwhelmed with how much needs to be done.
3. The Hoarder - Someone who stockpiles a lot of stuff and neglects everything else; keeps things from others, unwilling to share, strips shelves bare.
4. The Accidental Prepper - Prepared for short-term emergencies, like a few days. They don’t really plan for prepping.
5. The Average (Urban) Prepper - Not looking to have a 2 or 3 year stockpile or 3-4 guns in their home, but they have food, water for 1 to 12 months and at least a firearm.
6. The Survivalist - Flips finger to modern society but generally law abiding citizens; their skills, experience have them covered from every angle, nothing can take them by surprise.
7. The Homesteader - He knows everything there is to know about growing food, at least partially off grid, and has skills to make anything from soap to clothing.
8. The Self-Defense & Fitness Prepper - Knows how to protect themself, in good shape (crucial for bugging out) but lacks a solid stockpile. Fitness will save them.
9. The Minimalist Prepper - Prefers to keep their stockpile to a minimum and focus on the skills, living off the land, etc.
10. The Know-It-All Prepper - Knows so much about prepping they could make even the most respected survivalists envious but has not done much to actually prepare.
11. The Economist - Usually focused on stockpiling precious metals, they believe an economic collapse is very likely.
12. The Doomsday Prepper - Speaks all day long about how the world is about to collapse, very dedicated to their cause, are prepped to the teeth. Often survivalists.
13. The Tactical Prepper - The tactical prepper is usually a veteran who sees the entire world from a tactical perspective, "us vs. them", has plenty of guns and ammo.
14. The Religious Prepper - Some preppers are religious, others are not. Some believe they will be delivered and may not prep themselves.
15. The Commander Prepper - Uses fear, intimidation, and power to get their way. Forces others to follow their commands, pointing out their superior survival knowledge.
16. The Gun Enthusiast - Has at least 3 guns plus several alternative survival weapons. His mantra is that as long as he has a gun by his side, he’s covered.
17. The Bug-Out Prepper - No matter what, they’re going to have to leave their home in the face of danger. Usually has a bug out location 50 to 100 miles away and bugout vehicle.
18. The Bug-In Prepper - Believes in defending turf and has taken the necessary steps to stay inside no matter what and has a pretty good stock pile.
19. The Fearful Prepper - This type of prepper allows emotions to control them, waking up every single day expecting something bad to happen.
20. The Fake Prepper - Tends to exaggerate on their bug-out location and stockpile. The truth is, they just talk the talk and don’t walk the walk.
21. The Conspiracy Theorist - Focused on the rich and the corporations who are keeping the rest of us in check with their laws and their money. Stockpile gold and silver.

Sources: https://homesteadlaunch.com/preppers-types/
https://www.survivalsullivan.com/the-18-types-of-preppers-you-will-run-into-which-one-are-you/
Misconceptions

Homesteaders vs. Survivalists

Homesteaders and survivalists are often thought of as the same thing. They may have similar traits, but they typically go about things differently. Homesteaders are much like farmers – they grow their own food, often have livestock, often are off grid and provide for their own energy needs. Survivalists may live like this as well, but many are creating a defendable bunker and stock pile food, water, guns, ammo, etc.

Hoarding vs. Preppers

Hoarding brings out the worst in people, prepping brings out the best in people. Many preppers are often accused of hoarding. A man went from state to state buying up all the hand sanitizer (17,700 bottles) and tried to sell it on the web, including Amazon, for a hefty profit. He was quickly shut down, hoarding for personal profit. When Covid happened, many ran out to the stores and hoarded toilet paper, hand sanitizer, cleansers, etc. Preppers buy things in advance, when there is no shortage, often years in advance, and doesn’t have a need to go buy toilet paper or other items when there is a panic. That leaves more for others who haven’t prepped. Preppers can help people, relatives and friends, during times of need. Prepping is a service to society. If everyone had been prepared already during Covid, there would have been no panic. The more preppers in society, the less strain on our system.

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UXhg_XLVY90
After 2008, I started prepping. I went to YouTube and watched videos on how to store food for long term, rotate food, store water, use firearms, security, energy, precious metals, etc. Friends at work often thought it was silly, but some were interested. I made this website, Oblivion, as a resource for them so I wouldn’t have to answer the same questions over and over.

https://oblivion.neocities.org
I'm a prepper and for years have had friends and others ask about how to become a prepper, what's all involved, what are the steps. Instead of repeating myself over and over, I set up this small site to provide information and links to others who have videos that are specifically relevant. So this is basically a vetted list of the best sites for learning how to prep, but goes beyond that. I have provided two guides — Basic Prep List which links to specific videos by topic, such as food, water, power, heat, etc. The second guide is Economic Collapse — EMP, which I believe one of those is the most likely to occur; regardless of what triggers an event, it's better to be prepared than not. This site has 4 sets of link groups:

- **Where To Get Food & Supplies**: gives links to suppliers of emergency and long term food storage and survival supplies.
- **Prepping/Off Grid Life**: links to YouTube channels that provide accurate and credible information and instruction on living off grid.
- **RV/Van Tiny Living**: Cheap RV Living is the best, but all provide insight to living cheaply in a RV, van, trailer or even a car, and living well.
- **Related Sites of Interest**: These are just related sites that might be useful, some on tiny house living, growing food and spiritual topics.

On the main page are the links to the site; some of the YouTube Channel Owners may have additional content, such as a website or blog which I provide links to as well. You will also see About on some of these sites; this is a link to either a video or site explaining what their channel is all about. Hopefully you will find this information useful for your own life.
This basic prep list provides links to videos and resources by topic, as shown to the right. The links are a vetted list of the best presentations I found on how to do specific things – food and how to store and buy, water treatment, different ways to get power, cooking when there is no power, and many more.

**Shelter**
- Survival Bunkers

**Food**
- What Food Storage Looks Like - 1 year, 1 person
- Buying in Bulk
- Honeyville Foods Tour
- Food Storage - Stock Up Now
- Meals In A Jar
- Dehydrating Frozen Broccoli for Food Storage
- Gardening on the Cheap (Playlist)
- Back To Eden Gardening (Full Tour)
- Survival Seed Bank (Playlist)
- Wonder Mill Grinder
- Food Bucket - ARK Deluxe 1 Month Supply With Gamma Lid 300 Total Servings
- Food Bucket - 30 Day Food Storage Pall Apragons Farms Review
- Food Bucket - Chef’s Banquet 1 Month Supply - Unboxing

**Water**
- Water Filter Review
- Berkey Water Filter - Extreme Testing
- Rainwater Collection System (Playlist)
- Water Planning Off Grid
- Hot Water - Portable Tankless Water Heater
- Water Bob - Emergency Drinking Water Storage

**Power**
- Going Off Grid Step-by-Step (Playlist)
- Living Off Grid, Debt Free
- Do It Yourself Solar Panel System (Playlist)
- Off Grid Solar - 2kw Array (Playlist)
- Harbor Freight Solar Panels (Playlist)
- How to get unlimited power after SHTF - Solar Generator (Kodiak)
- Jackery Explorer 240 Portable Power Station (240Wh)
- Built Portable 420 W Solar Generator
- Goal Zero Yeti 400 - Unboxing and Review Demo
- Homemade Faraday Cage (Playlist)

**Heat**
- Firewood Series (Playlist)
- Energy Options - Propane
- Non-Electronic Pellet Stove

**Cooking**
- Meals In A Jar Cooked in Solar Oven
- Rocket Stoves (Playlist)
- Survival Wood Stove
- Doing Laundry
- Off Grid Laundry

**Waste**
- Off Grid Sanitation
- Poop Subject - Disposal of Waste in SHTF
- Homemade Composting Toilet
- Off Grid Cabin - Composting Sawdust Toilet
- Composting Toilet Pre-Made, The Cabin Can
- The Big and Dirty Questions about Composting Toilets

**Home/Self Protection/Security**
- Self Protection/Weapons
- Preppers Home Invasion Security Defense: Hardening the House for SHTF
- 7 Ways to Immediately Secure Your Neighborhood
- Lockers/Burglars and Securing Your Home

**Communication**
- Survival Communications
- Tecsun PL-380 Radio Review

**Other**
- Spiritual Preparedness
- Medical Trauma Bag
- Medical Books You Should Own
- Cheap Medical Supplies
- Honeyville Foods YouTube Channel
Survival Bunkers were recently added to the page. The owner of Atlas Bunkers said that after Covid hit, his orders went through the roof.
Long Term Bulk Food

You can buy bulk food from different links on my site (no kick backs). There are several vendors that I’ve used, but there are many more. All of them have a backlog right now. You can buy from LDS even if you’re not a member of their church, and they have great deals on bulk food items, but limited selection (staples mostly – sugar, flour, beans, etc.).
I have several prepper YouTube channels featured on the Oblivion site; however, two stand out very well for those wanting to start prepping. Obsessive Prepper AZ is the first, best resource on how to be a prepper. Her featured video is prepping for beginners. She does food and meals very well. LDS Prepper is one of the most prepared individuals I’ve ever seen. He bought a house in Idaho and had solar setup (shown below), created a hoop house for year around gardening and has great reviews on solar, cooking, gardening and water filters.
My favorite YouTube channel on prepping covers more than just prepping. It’s about an older couple who had 4 houses in 2008 – the one they lived in that he designed as a contractor with his own business, and 3 rentals that he renovated. When the housing crash of 2008 hit, over the course of several years they lost all of their homes. They had enough money left over to buy the 35’ travel trailer to live in for the last 5 years. They recently bought a small house in Virginia. Through the years they have been able to make money on YouTube and being representatives for Thrive Life food. This channel documents their life. Not only do they sell Thrive Life freeze dried food, they eat it on a daily basis as their primary food source.
Strategic Relocation

A book by author Joel Skousen. He reviews, in depth, different locations around the world and specifically in the US where it is best to live during time of crisis and societal disruption. He reviews each state and provides a score and the reason that state earned that score.
The book covers all kinds of threats to consider – volcanos, earth quakes, other natural disasters, climate, cost of living, land availability, food production, traffic, politics, taxes, corruption, personal liberty, gun control, schooling, military, nuclear and more.

US Primary Threats

The book covers all kinds of threats to consider – volcanos, earth quakes, other natural disasters, climate, cost of living, land availability, food production, traffic, politics, taxes, corruption, personal liberty, gun control, schooling, military, nuclear and more.
Each state is given a rating based on the criteria from the previous slide. Any ½ scores are rounded up. There are only 3 premium states scored.
**Prepping Summary**

**Alternative Facilities**
- 5 Gallon mylar bags in 5 gallon food grade buckets with 2000cc Oxyfree Oxygen Absorbers for dried dehydrated and long term food storage

**Cooking**
- Goal Zero solar generator with 4 - 100 watt solar panels
- Berkey Water filter with extra filters
- Gas stove

**Heat**
- Short wave radio and walkie talkies
- Safe

**Lighting & Batteries**
- Bug Out Bag
- Mechanical Tools

**Water Storage**
- Lots of Toilet Paper!

**First Aid / Medical Kit**
- Home Security

**Silver and Gold**

**Freeze Dried Food Buckets**

**Entertainment**
- Laundry Washer
- Short wave radio and walkie talkies
- Lots of Toilet Paper!
Raised Garden Bed 2015

In May 2015 when I went on vacation, I created a raised garden bed. It went from nothing (shown below where dogs are laying) to creating a garden bed. Only put in 1 yard of garden soil which filled it half way to the top, so it was left undone for over a year.

The dogs had thought the garden bed was actually a bed for them, so they climbed inside and started sleeping in it. Silly dogs.
Hired a guy to haul another yard of dirt to complete the planter, and added 2 other smaller planters by each bedroom window (to the right), and added a fence to keep the dogs out. They destroyed the garden bed the last time in 2015.
Not necessarily prepping, but a way to live life differently. Another sub-site I created was my interest in minimalism and the RV/Nomad life. These people often retire early, live simple, live free, living minimalist & travelling before they are no longer able.

“Jack Reacher

"How many wish they were born knowing what they know now? How many would do things the same way all over again? And how many would live their lives like me?"
The Big Reveal!

You’ve heard the stories, listened to the rumors, wondered what was behind the curtain. Now the waiting is over! It’s time for the big reveal...
The All New 2016 Composting Toilet!
Yes, here it is. The new, home made, one of a kind never before seen anywhere composting toilet. A prepper’s best friend. The model I created has 4 modes of operation – closed, open for serious business, seats up for less serious and maintenance for cleanup and disposal. No water required. Amazon sells one called Nature’s Head (to the right) for $960. Mine is a lot cheaper.

Mode 1 – Closed

Mode 2 – Open

Mode 3 – Seats Up

Mode 4 – Maintenance

Nature’s Head Dry Composting Toilet / Standard Crank Handle

by Nature's Head

45 customer reviews | 55 answered questions

Price: $960.00

- Hand crank agitator in base for fast composting
- User friendly
- Easy installation
- Features a molded design
- Includes 5’ vent hose, bottle cap, 12v power plug

Only $5.00! Per Ride
Try It Now!