

## 10 DIY Projects For Your Water Safety

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Without a doubt, water collection, storage and sanitation should be at the very top of your prepping list.

Though you can go up to 3 weeks without food, you won't last much longer than 3 days without water and you'll be in bad shape way before that.

We've spent hours combing the web for some of the best DIY projects water projects and put together a top 10 list for you.

Enjoy!

### 1. Water Barrel Storage Rack

Storing more than a couple 55 gallon drums of water is a space issue for most people but this simple guide walks you through the process of building a wall unit that will hold seven drums efficiently.

This handy tutorial comes with detailed plans and pictures so that even the newest of DIYers can get this project done. The toughest part is cutting the wood to the right lengths and the biggest expense is the wood, assuming you already have the drums.

If you're a bit handy or want to take the time to figure out the numbers to scale this project up or down, you can modify this to suit your need for more or less storage space or smaller barrels.



### [Water Barrel Storage Rack](#)

#### 2. Build Your Own Rain Barrel

Even if you have to buy the plastic drum and all of the plumbing and lumber (but who does that?), you can build this rain barrel for less than \$100. The guy that wrote the article actually offered some alternate ways to use this along with different plans.

For instance, if you only want to catch water from a downspout, you can just drill a hole in the barrel and run a piece of pipe from your downspout to your barrel.

If you want to get a bit more complicated and make it so that you can use a hose to get the water out, there are detailed directions for doing it.



### [Build Your Own Rain Barrel](#)

#### 3. Plastic Water Bottle Filter

Water purification tabs are great for killing the germs in your water, but you also have to worry about heavy metals, trace pharmaceuticals and chemicals such as pesticides.

Plain old dirt is rough on the palate, too. That means that you need to filter your water before you purify it.

This project teaches you to build your own personal water bottle filter using only a small water filter and a plastic bottle in about 25 minutes. It won't cost more than \$5.



[Plastic Water Bottle Filter](#)

#### 4. Triple Barrel Rain Water Collection System





OK, this one really impressed us.

It's extremely simple to make, doesn't take up much space, collects 165 gallons of water and has a plan for adding a run-off tank that you can hook a hose to.

It's doesn't require much in the way of tools and can be made with very little cash if you have access to 55-gallon plastic drums and lumber.

#### [Triple Barrel Rain Water Collection System](#)

### 5. 5-Gallon Water Filter System

Commercial home water filtration systems typically cost hundreds of dollars. They also probably won't work if you have no power, which makes them essentially useless if SHTF.



This post shows you how to build your own simple filtration system using 2 5-gallon buckets, a spigot and a couple of ceramic filters.

You can build it for less than \$100, especially if you get the food-grade buckets for free from a local restaurant, bakery or donut shop. If you're super handy, you could probably figure out how to modify it so that it hooks it up just like a commercial system.

Personally, this would be cool to have in the barn as long as it's cleaned out regularly.

[5-Gallon Water Filtration System](#)

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## 6. Easy Hand Pump

Are you tired of dipping water out of your collection barrels and carrying it to wherever it needs to go? Would you like for the kids to be able to get water out of the barrels safely and easily?

If so, then this is the project for you. He teaches you how to build a hand pump to get the water from the barrel to a bucket, or you can hook up longer pipe to shuttle it elsewhere.

You only need a saw, a drill and a knife or scissors and it probably won't cost more than \$30. If you're handy, it won't take more than a half-hour. If not, allow an hour.



[Easy Hand Pump](#)

## 7. Pressure Cooker Water Distiller

This is one of the sturdiest, best-made distilling/desalinating systems that we've seen.

As with every other home distiller, it eats up the fuel because it takes a while to complete the process but this one makes it about as efficient as heat distillation can be.

Plus it's fairly affordable, you can distill several quarts of water at a time, it doesn't take up a ton of space and the distiller is portable, sort of.



[Pressure Cooker Water Distiller](#)

#### 8. Tea Kettle Water Distiller

If you just want to distill a small amount of water on the stove-top then this is an easy way to do it.

It's affordable to make because all that you need is a tea kettle, a couple feet of copper tubing, a plastic connector and a rubber coupler.

Again, it takes quite a bit of fuel (2 hours to get 16oz of clean water) but it's a viable way to desalinate and distill water, at least over the stove.

[Tea Kettle Water Distiller](#)

## 9. Permanent Solar Still

Typically, when you hear solar still, you think of a hole in the ground and a garbage bag or tarp but this one is made using a painted glass box, pans to hold the water, tubing and buckets to catch the fresh water.

It's a good system to set up in advance as it takes hours or even a day or 2 to get enough water to do much but it uses the energy of the sun and IS a viable way to desalinate and distill water.

### [Permanent Solar Still](#)

## 10. PVC Piping and Pump Water Transportation System

If you live near a river or creek, this water pumping system is a great way to get water to your garden or house without electricity. It's relatively simple to build and you can do it for around \$100, depending upon how much PVC you need. If needed, it will even work over a distance and uphill.

If you're handy, you can probably modify this to run through a water filtration system so that the water comes to the house filtered, though he doesn't give directions for that part.

No big deal, though – you can always filter it after you get it to where you need it.



### [PVC Piping and Pump Water Transportation System](#)

We hope that you found at least some of these DIY projects for your water safety useful and we wish you the best in your prepping efforts.

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If you have any DIY water projects, please share them in the comments section below, or send us your story and pictures on [support@survivopedia.com](mailto:support@survivopedia.com) .

This article has been written by Theresa Crouse for [Survivopedia](#).

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