When The Killing Dormant Giant Awakes (2)

Does it make sense to prepare for a volcanic supereruption in US? Are we going to see it in our lifetime?

It’s unpredictable and undergoing changes that may indicate the possibility of an eruption of the Yellowstone Volcano are increasing. But some of us are already facing this type of disaster: Hawaii’s Kilauea has been erupting for 30 years, providing a long history of earthquakes.

Back in Yellowstone National Park, there was a swarm of earthquakes in the late 80’s that had some experts seriously concerned. An example of this is a statement that geologist Christopher Sanders released on January 1, 2009.

{adinserter usf}“I am advising all State officials around Yellowstone National Park for a potential State of Emergency. In the last week over 252 earthquakes have been observed by the USGS. We have a 3D view on the movement of magma rising underground. We have all of the pre warning signs of a major eruption from a super volcano. – I want everyone to leave Yellowstone National Park and for 200 miles around the volcano caldera.”

Though this swarm receded, there has been significant change in the park. The end of Yellowstone Lake has risen about 100 feet and is flooding some parts of the park. Water along some of the paths is boiling and some paths have been closed altogether.

The volcano is responsible for all of the geysers and geological events that are unique to the park but it’s a massive, bubbling cauldron just waiting to blow. It could be

another million years or it could be next week, so it may not hurt to get educated and prepared.

What Areas Would Be Affected by the Yellowstone Volcano?

This is tough to predict because there's no way to know exactly how big an explosion would be. The last several eruptions of the volcano have been relatively minor lava flows. In that case, there wouldn't be much effect outside of Yellowstone. For the sake of this article, we'll look at the worst-case scenario: a supereruption.

*Video first seen on **Info Wars News HD**.*

Supereruptions create an umbrella cloud that distributes ash in a different pattern than typical volcanoes. It's so powerful that local wind patterns have little effect on the direction that the ash blows. The cloud can push ash more than 620 miles upwind. In that case, most of the US would be covered in ash.

Here's a possible ash distribution created by the US Geological Service using state of the art technology, if Yellowstone Volcano has a supereruption that lasts for a month, which is a realistic time estimation:

- More than 40 inches of ash would cover a radius of about 310 miles around the epicenter. This includes the park and Billings Montana.
- Anywhere from 12-40 inches of ash would cover a radius of about 550 miles. That would include Salt Lake City and Casper.
- Between 4 and 12 inches would fall on about an 850-mile semi-oval radius skewed slightly eastward. This would include Missoula, Boise, Denver, Cheyenne and Rapid City.
- 1-3 inches would fall as far as 1800 miles out. This includes Fargo, Lincoln, Calgary and Des Moines. The

radius is stretching into an oval that's skewed southeasterly.

- 0.4-1 inch of ash would fall as far out as 1550 miles. This includes Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Flagstaff, Albuquerque, Kansas City, St. Louis, Chicago, Minneapolis and Winnipeg.
- 0.1-0.4 inches would fall as far out as 2700 miles. By this point, the oval is stretching southeastward significantly. This would include Little Rock, Toronto and Washington DC.
- A light dusting would cover most of the rest of the US, with the possible exceptions of the southern tips of Texas and Florida.

Life After Supereruption

In other words, most of the US would be coated in at least a dusting of volcanic ash. Crops would be seriously affected and travel would pretty much come to a halt. People wouldn't be able to leave the house because of the ash in the air.

Considering this would go on for at least a month before cleanup could even begin, life would be significantly altered for pretty much the entire US and a large portion of Canada.

Food supplies wouldn't be replenished for the duration and crops would be covered and probably killed in a significant portion of the US. Water would be tainted and full of ash.

Changes in weather patterns will likely also occur and global cooling is almost a given, at least as long as the ash is hanging in the air obstructing sunlight. It's gonna get cold.

Seismic and tectonic events can often trigger other events, so earthquakes, storms or other volcanic eruptions may even be possible. Don't forget that there's going to be a lava flow that could extend for 200 miles or more.

Everything in about a 100-mile radius would be killed

immediately. This is the blast zone and could stretch as far as the Dakotas and shortly thereafter a poisonous cloud of ash would coat about half of the US.

Preparing to Survive the Volcanic Apocalypse

Start with your emergency kits and bug out bags. You'll need the standard first aid stuff as well as a pair of goggles and a gas mask, an N-95 disposable respirator or, at the very least, a breathing mask for each of your family members. A spare and an heir would be a good idea if you're using disposable stuff.

Pack warm clothes. It's going to get cold and it's going to stay cold for a bit.

It's hard to give an evacuation radius because there's no way to know how big the eruption will be. Your best chance here if you're within a few hundred miles of Yellowstone is to pay attention and have several different evacuation destinations planned based upon the severity of the volcanic blow.

Pay attention to what emergency services say about the severity of the eruption and follow their advice if they tell you to evacuate. This isn't going to be a time that you can hope to stay home and weather it out if you're in the line of fire. If they say get out, do it.

If you live south, west or east of Yellowstone, pre-plan routes to the south. If you live north of Yellowstone, plan to go north. This is because the ash will be blowing more toward the east and covers most of the land to the west, too. The shortest routes to relative safety will be north or south.

Your best bet, if you can do it, would be to get as far north into Canada as you can regardless of where you live in the States since most of the US will be coated in ash in a worst-case scenario.

Avoid river valleys, low-lying areas and any area close to the blast zone if you're within a few hundred miles of Yellowstone because mudflows, flash flooding, wildfires and hot ash and gas will all be hazards that you may face.

Don't fool yourself that you'll completely escape the Yellowstone Supervolcano eruption: this is going to be a global event and the entire planet will feel the effects of blown ash and weather changes eventually.

If you're stockpiling to stay home in an area that's far from Yellowstone, we recommend storing at least 6 months of food and water for your family.

Seal your house as well as you can to prevent ash from getting in. Close your vents and tape up any leaks. Power will most likely be out in a significant portion of the country and won't be back on quickly so AC (Air Conditioning) or heat won't be options.

Stock up on firewood and cooking fuel or some source of heat that doesn't depend upon electricity and plan to need it for

at least 6 months.

Indoor plants will be a good idea if you can do it. Fresh veggies and herbs will make life more pleasant and will also give you something to do though there may not be a lot of sunlight after the eruption depending upon where you're at.

Though we don't normally recommend depending upon vitamins, in this case we do. Since the sun is going to be covered, you're not going to have access to vitamin D and will need to supplement in order to stay healthy.

You won't be going outside for quite a while so stock up also books, crafts and things to do in the house.

The bottom line in this situation is that there's no way to anticipate exactly how long you'll need to stockpile or where you should plan to evacuate to because if the eruption is small, you may not need to do anything. If it's a supereruption, most of the US will be effectively closed down and evacuation will be difficult.

Fortunately, volcanic eruptions are typically preceded by an increase in activity: earthquakes, land rise, steam explosions, etc. This will hopefully be the case with the Yellowstone Volcano, too.

That way, we'll all have time to make the decisions necessary to stay safe.

This article has been written by ***Theresa Crouse*** *for Survivopedia.*