



by Scott Obel

CERT is Recruiting Lido Residents to Become Co-Block Captains

At the monthly CERT meeting held August 13th the group decided to hold monthly meetings on a regular basis on the SECOND Saturday of each month at 10am at the clubhouse. The group discussed on island training for First Aid, Gas Meter Safety and Awareness, and Fire Prevention.

Since the last meeting many block captains active before the pandemic have been contacted, with some confirming their interest in being block captains. Many thanks to all those who attended the last meeting and helped to recruit new members and block captains and who contacted recent block captains to confirm their interest in remaining as block captains.

CERT is recruiting co-block captains whose purpose is to assist the block captain for their street by serving in their absence during travel, etc. and welcomes any volunteers. Please email Lido CERT with any questions, concerns or comments at: lido.cert.nb@gmail.com.

CERT will publish monthly articles in the Islander to provide tips and thoughts about disaster preparedness to help residents. Following is the first of these.

Ensuring Ample and Safe Water Following a Disaster

Good news: our water supply will withstand a major earthquake. Bad news: there will probably be serious damage to the pipes delivering that water, especially in liquefaction areas like Lido. Here's what you should know to ensure that you have enough safe water following a disaster.

Storing and Purifying Your Emergency Water Supply

- The minimum drinking water supply is one gallon per person per day. You will also need water for food preparation, bathing, brushing teeth, and dish washing. Store a 3-5 day supply of water (at least 5 gallons for each person).
- Water should be stored in sturdy plastic bottles with tight-fitting lids. They should be cleaned with a bleach solution before using and reusing. Rinsed chlorine bleach bottles work well for water storage. Plastic containers for juice and milk do not work as well because they tend to crack and leak more readily. All containers should be labeled.
- Stored water should be changed every 6 months.
- Avoid placing water containers in areas where toxic substances, such as gasoline and pesticides, are present. Vapors may penetrate the plastic over time.
- Do not store water containers in direct sunlight. Select a place with a fairly constant, cool temperature.

Safe Water Sources in the Home

If you do not have enough water stored, there are sources in your home that may provide safe, clean water for drinking purposes.

- Water drained from the water heater faucet, if the water heater has not been damaged.
- Water dipped from the tank of the toilet (not the bowl). The water in the bowl can be used for pets. Do not use water that has been chemically treated or "blue" water.
- Melted ice cubes.
- Canned fruit, vegetable juice, and liquids from other canned goods.
- Carbonated beverages do not meet drinking water requirements.
- Caffeinated drinks and alcohol dehydrate the body, increasing the need for drinking water.
- Water from swimming pools and spas can be used for personal hygiene, cleaning, and related uses, but not for drinking.

Unsafe Water Sources

Never use water from these sources for drinking.

- Radiators
- Hot water boilers (home heating system)
- Water beds

Water for Drinking and Cooking

Safe drinking water includes bottled, boiled, or treated water. Here are some general rules concerning water for drinking and cooking. Remember:

- Do not use contaminated water to wash dishes, brush your teeth, wash and prepare food, or make ice.
- If you use bottled water, make sure the seal has not been broken. Otherwise, water should be boiled or treated before use.
- Boiling water kills harmful bacteria and parasites. Bringing water to a rolling boil for one minute will kill most organisms.
- If you can't boil water, you can treat water with chlorine or iodine tablets or unscented household chlorine bleach. If you use chlorine tablets or iodine tablets, follow the directions that come with the tablets. If you use household chlorine bleach, add 1/8 teaspoon of bleach per gallon of water if the water is clear. For cloudy water, add 1/4 teaspoon of bleach per gallon. Mix the solution thoroughly and let it stand for about 30 minutes before using it. Remember, however, that chlorine tablets, iodine tablets, or liquid bleach will not kill many parasitic organisms. Boiling is the best way to kill these organisms.

For more information on emergency preparation and response on Lido, contact lido.cert.nb@gmail.com