



Warren CERT eNews



Not if..... When Always Vigilant - Always Prepared

Volume 3 Issue 11

November 2017

This newsletter is brought to you by the Executive Board and is meant to give you the latest news and information from around the organization as well as further your capabilities in a disaster or emergency situation.

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- How to get your Amateur Radio License
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- Cool Products Page (look for the CERT 10% discount code)

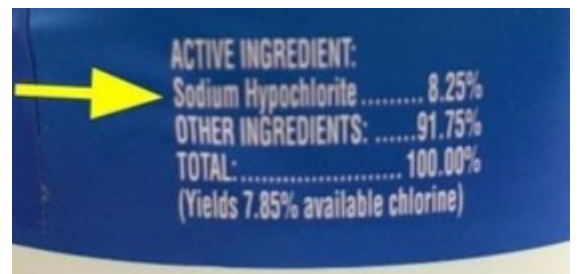
BLEACH vs. PURIFICATION TABLETS- WHICH IS THE BEST OPTION?

Using chlorinated bleach or purification tablets are two of the most common ways to purify water. Both are effective options and tablets or bleach can be stored for a long period of time.

However, there are some differences between the two products that can influence the taste and quality of the water.

Let's compare both options and you can make your own decisions based on your needs and preferences.

You should only use pure, chlorinated bleach that has an 6 to 8.25 % concentration of sodium hypochlorite. This a common combination, and you should be able to easily find it. You do need to check the label to ensure that you are purchasing bleach with this particular concentration



You also need to avoid using color-safe, scented or bleaches that contain additional cleaning chemicals as well.

The biggest drawback to using bleach as a water purifier is that it can alter the taste and texture of the water.

Another issue arises when incorrect proportions of bleach to water are used.



PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD (PVSA)

As another level of recognition and acknowledgement for all the time volunteered by our members CERT has added the ability for members to qualify for the President's Volunteer Service Award or PVSA.

Please go to <https://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov/register-vo> and create your own account. Each person must create your own account! To associate your account to the Warren CERT team you must reference our Record of Service Key WBU-4628



Any community volunteer work is allowed to be added for review. Any other groups or teams you volunteer can be submitted for consideration. For example RACES/ARES, Ducks Ltd., any city commission, etc. Any non-compensated training you do or volunteer work you perform may be submitted.

[Every member should log all your community service.](#)

BLEACH vs. PURIFICATION TABLETS– WHICH IS THE BEST OPTION?

Too much bleach can lead to a burning sensation and potential health problems whereas too little bleach will not kill off the pathogens that are found in the water.

The general consensus from health departments is to add 6 to 8 drops of bleach to every gallon of water.

Do this with a medicine dropper in order to ensure accuracy.

If water is cloudy, let it settle and filter it through a clean cloth, paper towel, or coffee filter.

Volume of Water	Amount of 6% Bleach to Add*	Amount of 8.25% Bleach to Add*
1 quart/liter	2 drops	2 drops
1 gallon	8 drops	6 drops
2 gallons	16 drops (1/4 tsp)	12 drops (1/8 teaspoon)
4 gallons	1/3 teaspoon	1/4 teaspoon
8 gallons	2/3 teaspoon	1/2 teaspoon

- Locate a clean dropper from your medicine cabinet or emergency supply kit.
- Locate a fresh liquid chlorine bleach or liquid chlorine bleach that is stored at room temperatures for less than one year.
- Use the table above as a guide to decide the amount of bleach you should add to the water, for example, 8 drops of 6% bleach, or 6 drops of 8.25% bleach, to each gallon of water. Double the amount of bleach if the water is cloudy, colored, or very cold.
- Stir and let stand for 30 minutes. The water should have a slight chlorine odor. If it doesn't, repeat the dosage and let stand for another 15 minutes before use.
- If the chlorine taste is too strong, pour the water from one clean container to another and let it stand for a few hours before use.

Another way to reduce the cloudiness of water is to pour it through a cheese cloth to remove extra impurities.

You may encounter water that has a strong chlorine odor as well. All you need to do is pour the water into a new, clean container and allow it to rest for a couple of hours and it should be fine.

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THE MONTH IN REVIEW - CALL OUTS, DEPLOYMENTS, AND EVENTS

Oct 6 - General Membership Meeting
Oct 7 - Call-Out 27270 Gloede
Oct 8 - Call-Out 32831 Surow
Oct 14 - Call-Out 24877 Hoover
Oct 15 - Call-Out 1981 8 Mile / Emmons Entire block
Oct 15 - Call-Out 8130 Meadow
Oct 17 - Leason's Fundraiser
Oct 21 - Trunk-N-Treat / Candy Handout
Oct 24 - Call-Out 12868 Couwlier
Oct 27 - Westwood Elementary Trunk or Treat
Oct 31st Halloween Candy Check Fire Station# 1

193 Volunteer Hours - Call-Out & Meeting/Training Hours

115 Hours Executive Board / Administrative

UPCOMING EVENTS

Full details available at meetings, emails, and official CERT calendar

Sun Nov 5 Time Change - DST Ends - Set your clocks back @ 02:00
Sat Nov 11 November Fest—A tribute to Veterans 13:00 - 20:00
Sat Nov 19th CERT FSE Exercise - Stay tuned for detail. All hands on deck for this
(Moved from 11/11 due to Novemberfest)
Sat Dec 2nd 09:00 - 13:00 CERT Family Appreciation Breakfast
Sat Dec 2nd 17:00 - 20:00 Tree Lightning Ceremony

We need to get a head count for the appreciation breakfast. Please bring all your household family to celebrate with us!

Send an RSVP to Mike Riley @ mriley@warrencert.org with total number attending

Make sure you follow Warren CERT on Facebook & Twitter

<https://www.facebook.com/wrncert/>

[@WarrenCERT](https://twitter.com/WarrenCERT)

HAM RADIO - HOW TO GET YOUR AMATUER RADIO LICENSE

Simple Answer.... Take and pass a 35 question multiple answer test. These questions are pulled from a pool of 426 questions.

Is getting a HAM radio license difficult? Not really, although some would say it depends on who you ask. There are a few ways that you can approach the test.

- 1) Learn the information and take the test - Buy a book and study, study, study.
- 2) Download or find an online test bank and take the test over and over until you consistently pass it (This is the method I used).

Where can I take the test?

The ARRL has a great tool for finding test locations near you. [Find an upcoming test near you](#)

What level license do I need?

Technician class (first level) will cover you for everything done in CERT.

Do I need to learn Morse code?

Nope, this used to be a requirement way back in the day, but no more! (Ask me about this someday, Morse code was my kryptonite)

How much should I plan to spend on getting licensed?

Typically \$15 to take the test. Books and study guides are above and beyond. Books are available from the executive board.

Do I need to buy / bring a HAM radio to take the test?

No.

What should I bring to the test?

ID, SSN, and some pencils! [ARRL covers the specifics here!](#)

How long does the license last?

Ten years, but the licenses can be renewed without retesting.

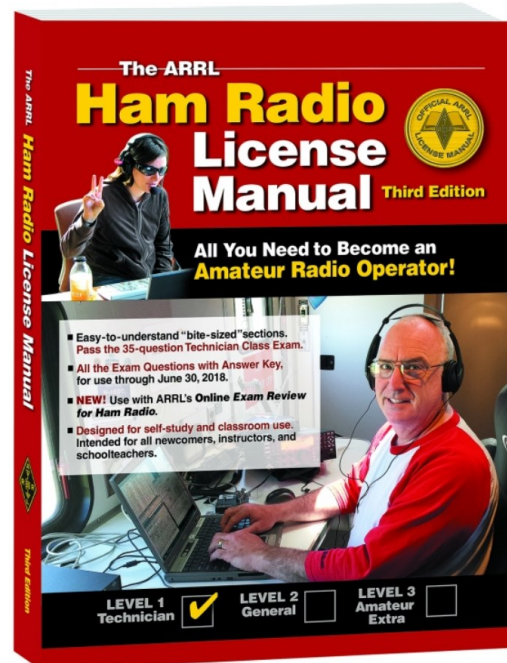
[Ham Study](#) – A great study resource for all your needs.

[Technician Class License Test Bank](#) - This is the full test bank of questions for the Technician level test. You could memorize this and take the test.

[Technician class study guide \(Online & PDF\)](#) - A study guide of terminology and information you need for the Technician test.

[The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual](#) - As mentioned this can be bought from the executive board at cost.

More information - [Getting your Technician license \(ARRL article\)](#)



**Any person transmitting on Amateur Radio without a license is in violation of federal laws.
Any Warren CERT member will be subject to discipline and possible termination from the team!**

EXECUTIVE BOARD

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Ham Call Sign</u>
Director	Michael Riley	586-943-6110	mriley@warrencert.org	kd8fmg
Co-Director	Karen Carrier	586-481-4613	karencarrier@yahoo.com	
Secretary	Mike Rose II	586-855-1685	mrose@warrencert.org	ke8cih
Coordinator	JoAnn Christian	586-980-2055	kd8stz@yahoo.com	kd8stz
Coordinator	Ryan Prouse	248-259-1226	ryanprouse68@gmail.com	kd8ygv
Coordinator	Jim Parsons	586-306-2724	jimparsons@comcast.net	kd8sua
Coordinator	Sandra Jones	586-457-6159	sgjones586@gmail.com	
Coordinator	Ron Mesic	248-830-8450	rmesic@gmail.com	n8xz
Coordinator	Steve Zabik	586-350-5555	szabik@warrencert.org	

BLEACH vs. PURIFICATION TABLETS- WHICH IS THE BEST OPTION?

Continued

Most purification tablets contain some form of chlorine. The most common ingredient in tablets is either [Sodium Dichloroisocyanurate](#) or [Trosclosene Sodium](#). Tablets are also known as [NaDCC tablets](#).

The main difference with using tablets is that you are adding bleach to the water. The taste and texture of the water will be more "natural" than using bleach, but the benefits are essentially the same.

It is important that you make sure to use the right proportion of tablets to water. Tablets come in a variety of sizes that are intended to purify a specific amount of water. Using too much can impact the taste and quality of your water supply, and you can actually get sick if you ingest high concentrations. Using too little can limit its effectiveness in terms of purifying your water and fail to kill off all of the pathogens.

Advantages of NaDCC (Sodium Dichloroisocyanurate) Tablet:

- Release chlorine only when dissolved in water.
- Tablet is in a stable form.
- Easy handling & compact storage: No leaks or spillage.
- In water it releases hypochlorous acid, an active ingredient having biocidal activity against Gram Positive & Gram Negative bacteria,
- Bacterial Spores, fungi, algae, viruses etc.
- Resistant to organic spoilage.
- Dissolves quickly in water forming clear disinfecting solution and acidic solution of ph up to 7
- Economical
- Less corrosive to rubber and stainless steel.

Another consideration is to keep an eye on expiration dates. Bleach generally has a shelf life of about a year and tablets will vary from product to product. Use both options before their expiration date to avoid putting yourself at risk from drinking contaminated water. The only other limitation to think about is weight and bulk. Bleach is heavy and can't be transported easily. It makes an ideal option to have at home, but tablets obviously work better during a bug out situation or in the field.

Keep in mind that boiling water is the best way to kill off contaminants in water, so use that as your first option before adding chlorine to your supplies. However, these options work quite well if you need to process a large amount of water or don't have access to a source of heat.

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Most of the articles posted in our eLetter are the result of an idea or topic with some research and validation.

In the course of doing the Bleach vs. Purification Tablets, which was originally supposed to be a quick and fast informative article, I fell down one of the largest rabbit holes I've experienced in a while.

Anyone who uses the Internet or does research has experienced the rabbit hole effect. For those of you not familiar with the term or concept:

A rabbit hole, in a metaphorical sense, is a long and winding exploratory path with many connections and offshoots.

The term rabbit hole is often used to describe online activities. The Web was essentially designed to function as a rabbit hole because of the way hyperlinks work, and Web surfing in general can be considered a voluntary trip down the rabbit hole.

In a fall down the rabbit hole, an individual sets off on the path with a goal, gets sidetracked by various events and changes direction several times along the way, eventually ending up somewhere unexpected, typically without having satisfied the original purpose of the quest. Nevertheless, the path often leads to serendipitous discoveries. Furthermore, according to the principle of obliquity, the meandering path may eventually turn out to be more productive than a more direct one.

The term rabbit hole comes from Lewis Carroll's "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland," in which a young girl called Alice falls down a rabbit hole, encounters many strange creatures and has many surreal experiences.

Doing what was supposed to be a little research on this article has turned into a 20hr (and counting) rabbit hole which not only has given me a lot of information for my own sake it also shed light on a few water purification devices I currently own.

Below are some good links and reference's to further your knowledge and understanding.

You should check them all out!

[The Truth About Water Purification In A Wilderness Survival Situation](#)

[American Preppers Network](#)

[Survival Skills 101: Bleach!! How to Purify/Disinfect Water](#)

[Filter system for water prior to using tablets](#)

[Do water purification tablets affect taste \(Yes, they do\)](#)

[Taste Test! Purifying Water With Various products](#)

A few from the Rabbit Hole

[SODIS](#)

[SODIS 2](#)

[Water Purification and Disinfection](#)

[Michael Pritchard: How to make filthy water drinkable](#)

CERT POLICIES YOU NEED TO KNOW

Continued on page 8

Warren CERT ID and Lanyard can ONLY be worn when activated as Warren CERT and must NOT be visible when stored in your vehicle. Do not keep lanyards in your cup holders, hanging from your rear view mirror, or other obvious place. You need to assure it does not get stolen or is used to misrepresent the team.

When deployed on Warren CERT events, logos and ID's from any other agency's cannot be worn. This includes, but is not limited to Badges (Security, Hospital, Work, etc.), Shirts or uniforms with logos of other agencies (Police, Sheriff, Fire, Ambulance, Security, even other CERT teams). Displaying multiple identifying marks causes confusion and can place you in unwanted and dangerous circumstances.

Under no circumstances should you self-deploy!! IF YOU SELF-DEPLOY AND ARE INJURED YOU ARE ON YOUR OWN! IF YOU SELF-DEPLOY AND ARE INJURED YOU ARE NOT COVERED BY THE CITY! If you decide to offer assistance without being called out by during a city sanctioned event you are doing so as a civilian and assume all responsibility.

You are authorized to use your red warning light while on official CERT call-outs or events and when you are using it according to CERT guidelines. You must be stationary while it is in use. You are only authorized to use it while in the city of Warren. Your light should not be visible outside of the city

Warren CERT has a Chain of Command and every member is subject to follow it. If you ever have any questions or problems bring it to your executive board. No member will email or call a city official concerning a CERT topic without having gone thru the executive board or Emergency Manager.

Under no circumstances should any member attempt to approach or attempt to move any downed wire!

All safety policies and procedures must be followed at all times.

All members, at all times, must exhibit professionalism.

No smoking, indecent or lewd behavior or discussion will be tolerated.

ANY VIOLATION OF THE ABOVE GUIDELINES COULD RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION, EXPULSION FROM THE CERT TEAM OR CRIMINAL CHARGES.

IMPORTANT INFO

Remember call 586-960-5315 and leave your name, time arrived, time departed, and what scene or event your calling about!

Please like our Facebook page [Facebook.com/wrncert](https://www.facebook.com/wrncert)

Don't forget to tell your friends and neighbors, about CERT.

Were always looking for good people.

[Apply at warrencert.org](http://warrencert.org)

Make sure you continue to receive this eLetter and are signed up to the electronic version of the official CERT calendar.

Check your texcom.com info to assure its current!

Police Commissioner Dwyer would like to extend his gratitude and appreciation to all the members of Warren CERT. Your commitment and dedication to the City and Residents is acknowledged!!

Warren CERT Call-Out Procedures

Warren CERT uses Texcom.com as its primary dispatch and notification system.

All CERT members must be registered with Texcom with SMS (texting) and email. *An exception is allowed for members that do not use texting or email.*

When a call out request is received from an official source the on-duty CERT dispatcher will immediately relay the help request to the members via texcom using text messages and email.

Every message will contain specific details on how to contact dispatch and respond to requests.

Responding parties must respond as detailed in the message.

A request may advise to **call** "Dispatcher Name" at 586-xxx-xxxx.

In this case as stated **call** the dispatcher and advise of availability and interest in responding.

A request may advise to **text** to "Dispatcher Name" at 586-xxx-xxxx.

In this case you must enter the number into your texting/messaging program and enter your response to the dispatcher.

Do not reply to the message you received, it does not go to the dispatcher!

Do not call if the Texcom message states to text to respond!

In all cases, include **your First and Last name** in the response.

The dispatcher will advise of any new updates to the call, information too large to type into the Texcom message, or of a sensitive nature that can't be openly distributed.

The dispatcher may also advise of a CERT Member in Charge (CIC) in charge of the call-out as well as names of other responding members and any preliminary instructions or recommended equipment.

All responding members must report directly to the CIC and follow their directions. With the exception of emergency first aid, members are not to begin response unless directed by Warren CERT. With the exception of emergency conditions members are not to leave the response without checking out with the CIC.

New members will also be advised that they are not to perform any action until the CIC arrives, new members must wait on the side lines, in safe location until given instructions by the CIC or dispatcher.

No member will respond to a call until they have checked in with dispatch!

In all references in the above to dispatcher it refers to the CERT dispatcher, under normal circumstances no contact will be made directly to Warren PD 911 dispatch!

Should a situation or problem develop on a call-out notify CIC immediately. If an emergency develops and CIC is unresponsive or incapacitated notify then notify Warren PD dispatch

Check and update your texcom.com information occasionally. Phone numbers and email addresses do change.

HOW TO MAKE HARDTACK - PART DUEX

Hardtack is a survival food that can sit on the shelves for years. It was first made popular during the Civil War when soldiers were given rations to take into the field. With no refrigeration or luxuries like sugar available, they were forced to survive on the very basic, bland, and incredibly hard crackers that were fondly dubbed hardtack.

It isn't something you would probably want to make and serve to guests today, but you need to know how to make it, just in case. You can make hardtack now and seal it up tight to help fatten your food storage. In an actual survival situation, you could make the hardtack over a fire or in a Dutch oven. It is very easy to make, even if it isn't exactly the best-tasting food. Check out the 5 easy steps to making hardtack.

What you will need:

- 5 to 6 cups flour
- 1 cup water
- Rolling pin
- Pizza cutter or knife
- Cookie sheet

Skewer (a fork could work in a pinch)

Step 1: Preheat your oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit. Pour the cup of water into a bowl. Slowly mix in the flour until it makes a hard dough you can't stir. When it gets to this thick stage, it is easiest to knead the dough with your hands to form a ball of dough.

Step 2: Lightly flour your surface and place your dough in the middle. Use the rolling pin to roll out the dough into a rectangle about half an inch thick.

Step 3: Use the pizza cutter to cut your dough into squares. The size of a saltine is a good size to aim for.

Step 4: Transfer the squares onto an ungreased cookie sheet. Use the skewer or a fork to poke holes through the entire thickness of each square. You can make rows of four or cover the area with holes as you please. It doesn't have to be pretty, but the goal of the holes is to allow the dough to cook thoroughly.

Step 5: Place the hardtack into the oven and cook for 30 minutes. Remove from oven and use a spatula to flip the hardtack to the other side. Cook for an additional 30 minutes. Remove from oven and allow to cool.

If you are storing your hardtack, it needs to be completely cool before you seal it up. The dough needs to be cooked thoroughly and dried out. Even a little moisture can spoil the hardtack. For long-term storage, it is best to cook the hardtack for an additional 30 minutes at a temperature of 250 degrees. Yes, it is going to be rock-hard, which is why it earned the name.

You can add a little salt to the dough for flavor. Topping the hardtack with raw honey or fruit preserves adds a little more flavor, making it more palatable. Hardtack can be dipped in stews or soups to help thicken them up and turn them into a more filling meal.



[From the source](#)

do thing

Being prepared for disasters and emergencies can seem like a big job. Many people don't know where to start, so they never start at all. With Do 1 Thing you can take small steps that make a big difference in an emergency.

Do 1 Thing is a 12-month program that makes it easy for you to prepare yourself, your family, and your community for emergencies or disasters.

Warren CERT is proud to be a partner with do 1 thing. Every month we will be showcasing some of the information from do 1 thing for Individuals and Business's.

Individual:

Emergency Supplies

Goal for November: Remember important items that may be overlooked when leaving your home in a disaster.

Any emergency is easier to handle when you have prepared ahead of time. Put together an emergency kit with important items to keep at home, and a go bag with items you will need to take with you if you evacuate. Think about what you and your family would need in a disaster. You can make kits for your home, car or workplace. Emergencies can happen anywhere.

Emergency Supplies: Gather your emergency supplies in an accessible place.

Emergency Supplies: Create an emergency supply kit for your pet, your car, and your workplace or school.

Emergency Supplies: Stash some cash in case ATMs and credit card machines are not usable in a disaster.

Read More: <http://do1thing.com/topics/supplies>

Business:

Exercise

Goal for Step 11: Make sure employees understand their role in a disaster and are equipped to respond safely and appropriately

The disaster environment is fast-paced and stressful. Danger, adrenaline, and exhaustion can affect our ability to carry out critical tasks. Familiarizing your staff with emergency plans and procedures ahead of time through testing, training, and exercising can minimize danger and financial loss in a disaster.

Exercise: Train employees on their role in a disaster or emergency.

Exercise: Hold a drill or tabletop exercise to test emergency procedures.

Exercise: Offer additional safety and response training for staff members.

Read More: <http://do1thing.com/topics/exercise>

Thank You to do1thing
<http://do1thing.com/>
A Warren CERT Partner

PRODUCTS PAGE

Anyone who uses a gasoline powered equipment misses the old days when gas cans worked.

Now the ease of safely dispensing gasoline can be experienced again....

Check out Gas Spouts

Universal fuel and water jug replacement spout kit. Transfer fluids easily with the EZ-Pour spout.

Work-around the auto-shut off (hard to use) feature of some gas cans with this replacement kit.

Flexible spout design allows fuel to be transferred from the canister to the fuel tank without spills by making it easy to bend the spout to reach any angle. Made of HDPE plastic for durability.

Compatible with 98% of all plastic gas cans including: Rubbermaid, Gott, Essence, Wedco, Briggs, Scepter, Eagle, Blitz, Midwest and most others, both old and new.

Not for use with metal cans.

Diameter approximately 1 3/4". Due to wide tolerances in manufacturer's spout openings, spout can be used with canister's original base cap when needed for fit.

Replace your old or hard to use gas can spout! Also includes 1/2" push in vent allowing a fast and safe perfect pour. Universal Replacement Spout and Vent Kit for Gas, Diesel and Water Cans. Be able to pour fluid easily from your gas, diesel and water cans. **Fits 98% of all cans!!**

KIT INCLUDES:

- Spout and cap
- Spare spout cap
- 1/2" hole push in vent
- Second base cap to fit additional cans
- Flame arrestor



Benefits:

- Fuel simply and easily flows out without using any over-engineered anti-spill devices.
- Equipped with a flame arrestor.
- End cap screws securely to the end of the nozzle rather than simply push on.
- The kit includes a vent so that fuel flows out easy and evenly.

<https://gasspouts.com>

Enter code
cert10save
for a 10% discount