

# AMERICAN SURVIVOR

SURVIVAL INFORMATION FOR THE NEW AMERICAN

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**IN THIS ISSUE: 20'20 Foresight, Almost Human Extinction, Survival Caches, Big Out Bags Review, American Survivor Compendium, Last Chance for Live Free USA, Winter Survival Class, More**

## 20/20 Foresight

### The Potential for Chaos and Conflict in 2020

While the election of Donald Trump seems to have put support for the self-reliance and survivalist movement into a state of extreme apathy, we are approaching a period of social and political conflict and chaos that could endanger every American's survival, freedom and right to be self-reliant. While attendance at preparedness expos is down, every survival periodical (except this one) publication has ceased, and membership in preparedness organizations is declining, none of the serious dangers to survival and freedom have actually diminished. The economy has improved, but the national debt and other economic issues remain as a time-bomb. The rest of the world is in an economic and political death-spiral, sending hordes of desperate people fleeing into the remaining few free and safe nations. The frequency and severity of natural disasters continue to increase. Crime and various forms of terrorism are no less prevalent. While a conservative, pro-freedom administration is certainly to the advantage of self-reliant citizens, most survival threats are beyond the control of

government agencies. Furthermore: **we must anticipate a powerful and possibly violent counter-attack against freedom and self-reliance as the elections of 2020 approach.** Special interests and extremists are gearing up for a life-or-death struggle to take back control and impose their agendas on the American public. We can also be assured that whichever side wins the elections in 2020, the other side will not accept the results. We can expect massive demonstrations, sabotage, domestic terrorism, economic disruption, and even massive civil disorder and possibly armed combat situations.



**The wise survivalist or prepper should be taking advantage of this short period of calm to maximize preparations and organization instead of apathetic procrastination.**

We are already seeing terms like “resistance” and even “revolution” on demonstration signs and in social-media posts. We are also aware of growing militant groups at both ends of the political spectrum, some with definable objectives and values and others simply seeking chaos and power. The following is an examination of the options for a world-be survivor depending on how events develop before, during and after the 2020 elections.

- **Resistance:** The political left currently uses the term “resistance” to stir-up support for demonstrations against a variety of political actions or for various legislation. As in the 60s, racism and economic inequality are often used as excuses for violence and destruction in the streets. Of course true resistance movements such as those used against the Nazis in World War Two or the Soviet Occupations throughout the Cold War involved sabotage, assassinations and raids. Resistance is by definition a counteraction to the existing regime. So, whoever feels that they are the losers in 2020 are likely to take resistance to a new level in a sustained campaign.
- **Counter Resistance:** While we see counter demonstrations on some issue, the major counter resistance groups have focused on financial support for candidates and conservative causes. If a robust and violent resistance develops after the election we could see the rise of “Home Guard” and “Militia” groups as a counter to crime and civil disorder.
- **Revolutionary Action:** Both the extreme left and the extreme right contain armed and trained elements. Gangs might align themselves with left

leaning revolutionaries while elements of the military and police might be inclined to support rightwing insurgencies. Such a development is highly unlikely, but not outside the realm of possibility. Actual armed conflict and a breakdown of law-and-order could develop and spread. Urban areas could turn into battle grounds. States could even secede.

- **Counter Revolution:** If one side is actively trying to overthrow the elected or established regime then actions to resist such an insurgency are counterrevolutionaries. If a revolutionary force has already succeeded in some kind of coup or overthrow by whatever means, then the immediate efforts to prevent the establishment of that regime is counterrevolutionary.

Whether a group or movement is a “resistance”, “counter resistance” “revolution” or “counter revolution” can depend on ones point of view and the propaganda value of the term. Depending on how events in the next few years develop, many of us could intentionally or unintentionally find ourselves in one of these categories. Maintaining neutrality may be difficult to maintain.

- **Active Neutrality:** Even in the most popular revolutions and resistance movements only a fraction of the population is actively involved. Most just want to survive the conflict while others may wait until they can see how things develop before committing to even minimal support of either side. Active neutrality may be best summed up in the slogan “Don’t Tread On Me”, but The very act of defending your home and family may force you into a

resistance or revolutionary position. When your community or your associates are swept into the conflict, they may take a “with us or against us” attitude. Neutrality will be particularly hard to maintain. Active neutrality means taking your own side, alone against both sides.

- **Passive Neutrality:** It may be possible to simply keep a low profile and avoid contact and commitment throughout a conflict. If you reside in a low density or rural population and have no vested interest in the situation, this may be your first option. Of course this requires being able to survive the economic disruptions, grid dysfunction, and other challenges until order is restored.

Any involvement in these options should be positive on morally justifiable. Destruction of property, looting, vandalism, disruption of public services (e.g. food, power, transportation, etc.) must be avoided. It is wrong and will only alienate the public that you need for support. Violence of any kind must be defensive and justifiable. Responsible resistance or revolution could include:

- Active crime prevention when law and order systems are ineffective
- Property protection against illegal seizures, looting, and vandalism.
- Protection of schools, churches, business and political events.
- Border protection if the border defenses have broken down
- Support of the military and police as needed
- Providing medical aid and support for victims of political violence
- Active publicity for your side, including radio, internet and print.

## Conclusion

Given to polarization and rhetoric in today's society, it is difficult to imagine a peaceful election and post-election scenario for two thousand twenty. **The current apathy and inactivity within the survivalist and prepper movement is unjustified and a prelude to socioeconomic disruptions in a few years.** The wise citizen should be stocking-up, organizing, training and preparing for social and political conflict in addition to the existing threats of natural disasters, economic instability, terrorism and war that continue unabated. **Even if one is able to avoid direct participation in any conflict, the effect on one's safety, property and liberty will be survival challenges for many citizens.**

Most of our readers are not old enough to remember the near-revolutions of the 1960s. Live Free USA existed then and probably has the most usable experience with recognition of and survival through such a period. During those times the extreme left initiated revolutionary warfare by exploitation of social and political issues. The Communist Party was a real arm of Soviet operations in America. Martial Law was required, shoot to kill orders were necessary. Our older members can recall the sound of gun-fire and the smell of burning buildings. There was the Symbionese Liberation Army (left wing), the Minute Men (right wing) and scores of other para-military groups. The FBI, Red Squad, and other agencies planted evidence, set traps and sent in agent-provocateurs to incite illegal activities so they could make arrests. The internet and social-media today would make similar developments far more intense and wide spread.

## ALMOST HUMAN EXTINCTION?

This short article is a follow up to the "Human Extinction" article by James C. Jones, published in the previous issue.



### **A World with Less than One Billion People**

In my previous article titled "Human Extinction" I explained that overpopulation was bound to lead to single or combination of catastrophic events that would inevitably reduce the population to somewhere between a few billion to a few hundred million. Can you imagine hundreds of millions of empty, deteriorating homes, stores and buildings? Empty highways? Nature reclaiming cities, suburbs and farm? What would remain? Our whole civilization and our whole economy since the dawn of time has been built on population growth and expansion, never on contraction and reduction. I hope that our (Live Free USA) efforts will have helped some of you and your children and grandchildren survive and retain civilized values and individual freedoms through these inevitable challenges and struggles.

### **Scenario number-one**

The most probable (in my view) consequence of this massive population adjustment would be the establishment of three levels of inhabitants. At a total "human" population of three or four billion.

### **AI Beings**

No less than Steven Hawking (arguably, the world's smartest person) has designated the development of artificial intelligence (AI) as the greatest threat to humanity. If you have not been keeping up with the development of robots, they are almost human already. A few more decades (at best) and they will be smarter than most people. Human vanity, hubris and denial is driving AI into every facet of life as we speak while concerns are ridiculed or ignored. The rise of virtually immortal non-human entities as the biological population plummets could lead to the remaining humans being dominated by their own creations. Yes, this may already be happening.

### **Super Humans**

The upper one-percent of the population is already accessing superior medical care and survival preparedness. Advance biomechanical and genetic techniques portend to make "some people" stronger, smarter, and more resistant to diseases and yes "superior" to those less well-connected, wealthy or fortunate. They will have access to the best technology and remaining resources to control the new world order. The elite would no longer have to be concerned about the "masses" because most of them would be gone.

### **Residual Humanity**

The existence of artificially intelligent entities and artificially endowed humans is inevitable. What will remain of "normal" humanity in the Twenty-Second Century and beyond is difficult to predict. They will be the product of great changes and struggles. They will be the survivors of unimaginable disasters. Societies that have fallen in the past left behind small cultures of more primitive people existing

in the ruins of their ancestor's greatness. The values of great cultures and civilization were lost and required centuries to recover. Depopulations and collapses have never happened on a worldwide scale and against a backdrop of such advancing technology. There will certainly be vicious predators preying on helpless victims, but we can only hope that human values and an enlightened population of survivors emerges as the dominant entity. That's a challenge for your grandchildren. Your job is to be sure they are ready.

### **Scenario number-two**

The population could just grow to a point where it exists in a perpetual state of struggle and poverty. The number holding just at the "sustainable" level regulated by periodic wars, famines and epidemics. In this scenario we could sustain (maybe) about ten to fifteen billion miserable people. There would still be a small well-off minority and the rise of artificial intelligence to serve the elite and manage the masses. A pretty grim picture of the future.

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## **Survival Caches**

### **By Old Nam Vet**

It doesn't matter if you plan to bug in or bug out, have some caches of vital supplies just makes prepper sense. If you're planning to bug in, the unknown can happen at any time, forcing you from your home. Unknowns like forest fires approaching the home, looters to big for you to stop, a plague, whatever. You can be forced to leave and sometimes only have a few minutes notice. Having supplies you can pick up along the way could be a life saver, your of your family's. If you plan is to bug out, the same criteria

holds. You may think you have the route laid out and can get to your retreat area quickly, but Murphy still rules, even more so during a crisis. The route can be blocked and you're forced to go with an alternative route that takes you much longer. You can be robbed of your BOB and, assuming you're not killed, be left with just the clothes on your back. You can lose your BOB while crossing a river. Whatever can go wrong during a bug out probably will go wrong and your left with empty hands since there is no bag to be held. Wouldn't a cache you prepositioned be welcome under any of these circumstances?

There is a science to setting up a cache or system of caches. And it is a 4 step process to properly develop and set up your cache(s).

Step 1: Determine the purpose and contents of your cache(s)

Having a variety of caches makes sense for survivalists/preppers. A few examples are:

- A. Food or other supply caches on the route to your intended bug out location (BOL) If your on foot it going to take you a lot longer to get there then you can imagine
- B. Weapon of bullion caches away from your home to prevent discovery and confiscation from a tyrannical government.
- C. Weapon caches near your open if you return and find a threat already inside.
- D. Food or other supplies in case you cut off from returning immediately home and need something to get you by until you are able to retrieve you main supply.

As you can see there are a variety of different caches and reason for having them. Only you can determine what type of cache you need.

## Step 2: Packaging your cache.

Now that you've decided what and why to cache you need to figure out how you're going to package it for long term emplacement. Different types of cache requires different packaging. The normal methods of storing items like food or medical supplies hold true with caches while other items such as firearms take a bit more effort. Since firearms need more elaborate steps to properly cache, we'll start with them first.

First make sure your firearm is both empty and completely cleaned. Next liberally coat it with a preservative to prevent rust from forming. I prefer G96 Gun Treatment Spray, it works the best in my opinion. Next take your food saver and make a bag long enough to completely enclose the weapon, then vacuum seal the weapon inside the bag. Finally place the sealed weapon in a PVC pipe large enough to completely protect the weapon while it is cached. This method allows for rapid use of the weapon when it is recovered.

The second method is to completely cover, inside and out, with a preservative grease like Cosmoline (Vaseline will also work in a pinch) then store it in a PVC or ABS pipe that is sealed on both ends. This method will keep the weapon protected from rust or corrosion, but will require a complete disassembly and thorough cleaning prior to using the weapon. I don't care for this method since it requires a lot of effort and time before the weapon is usable. It will take a lot of rags, solvent and

time, lots of time. Plus Cosmoline is expensive, dipping the weapon into the Cosmoline requires a special "dipping station" or a mess if you brush it on.

Both methods will work and your weapon will be successfully used after decades of storage.

As mentioned earlier, other items, such as food or medical gear, can be stored successfully using the same techniques you'd employ for long term storage in your BOL. A few tips to make the cache container better are adding padding, such as extra cleaning rags, Styrofoam peanuts, clothes, etc. To cushion the contents, reduce the amount of air in the container and add insulation. Make sure you label the container if you're planning on more than a couple of caches spread far apart. Use metallic paint or etcher to label it so it lasts as long as you want the cache to remain. Add breaching tools, especially for the PVC/ABS pipe. Something like a sharp hacksaw blade or two, so you can get into the container if you're unable to take the entire container with you. Place the tools in a triple thick plastic bag(s) and tape or tie it to the container. Or use something like an Otterbox to store the tools with the cache. Finally, sanitize your cache and its contents. This helps protect you if the cache is discovered by another, especially by some government agency. Remove all fingerprints, store only unregistered firearms and do NOT place documents inside the cache that can lead others back to you. If you must store such documents, store them separately in another, smaller cache close by, but directly with the primary cache.

Step 3: Choose and record your cache site.

Location, location, location. Just like in real estate, the location is what's really important. You want a place or places that will help keep your cache undetected. That's difficult with today's technologies such as metal detectors, ground penetrating radars, change detection imagery or RF tomography. To properly hide your cache it should be some distance from your home/BOL and in an area that isn't in line for a major usage change in the near future. I buried several caches in 1998, yes I fell for the Y2K hype, and left them there for over 15 years. All but one were still where I placed them, the lost cache is now an apartment complex. How was I able to find several secure spots that wouldn't change over time you ask? Well I scouted out a number of small family/country graveyards to do my burying. I hid what I was doing by only visiting the graveyards during a weekday when there was little or no traffic. And as cover I had my young daughter doing etchings of the older head stones while my son and I quickly dug the holes, placed the containers inside and covered them with the dug dirt. The extra dirt was spread around on the other graves so nothing was left to indicate that anyone had been doing any digging. BTW, the foods that I stored in the caches included cans of soup and Ramen noodles. The soup was just fine, no rust or bulging and we ate them with no problem. The Ramen noodles were just as good, but very dry. The seasoning packets we threw away and used bouillon cubes for flavoring. Again they were eaten with no ill after effects.

#### Step 4: The burial site.

I already covered most of this in step 3. But a few tips are in order. Since not everyone has access to small graveyards

for their cache sites you have to use other criteria for your choosing a site. Check out soil drainage and type. Moisture is one of the biggest threats to your cache, so avoid choosing a site near a river or lake. Sandy loam is the best, drains well and is easy to dig. Heavy clay or rocky ground will be hard to dig in and the clay has a tendency to retain water.

Check out the local ground cover. Grass will show that it's been walked on or dug up unless you remove it as sod and replace it properly. A better choice would be ground that is made up of loose materials like dirt, humus, leaves, mulch, etc.

Use natural concealment whenever possible. This will allow you to place and retrieve the cache without being seen by passersby who may come back later and rob your cache.

Rocks and subsurface obstructions may impede your ability to get the cache hole deep enough. Bring a pick or long screw driver to help remove these while your digging and don't forget to replace them in the hole when you refill it.

Snowfall and freezing are problems if you're live in an area with cold winters. The constant freezing will cause the ground to expand or retract and possible expose your cache. Or worse, damage the container and ruining the contents. Also frozen ground will make it almost impossible to retrieve the cache if needed in the middle of winter. Snow is worse than grass as it allows the evidence that someone has been there, recently, making the curious wonder what you were doing or possibly leading than directly back to where you're at.

Marking the site so you can find it again.

Now that you've gone to all the trouble to bury/hide your cache, how do you make sure you can find it again? First you can mark it into your GPS for future reference. This works well, as long as the grid is up and you're able to access the GPS when you need it. However if someone else gets your GPS, they have the knowledge of where it is and possibly what it contains. If you use the GPS, I'd have a backup plan for finding it again and for making sure that if your GPS falls into the wrong hands your cache is still safe. A second method uses your simple compass, a permanent landmark and a measuring tape. You use the compass to take a reading from the landmark and measure a distance on that heading from the landmark. This is a pretty good system as long as the landmark remains and you don't forget the heading or distance. This method can be written down safely as long as you don't note exactly what the landmark is or how far the distance is. A way of keeping it secure from prying eyes would be to mark the heading as off by X number of degrees and the distance logged as different from the true number. Do this by adding or subtracting the amounts or multiplying the distance by a certain factor. The third method would be the line intersection method. Again you'll need a compass and a couple of landmarks. Place the cache and then take a heading to one of the landmarks. Take a second heading to the other landmark. Where the two lines from the headings cross is where the cache is. You can refine this by adding a 3<sup>rd</sup> landmark. But it really isn't necessary. Again you can disguise the headings the same way you would in the second method.

My personal choice is the second method. I've found that in my area finding two or more landmarks is difficult, especially when I'm hiding a number of caches. Nor do I prefer the first method, I just don't trust the GPS to be there when I need it. Since I was using graveyards as my cache locations, it was easy enough to choose a particular headstone as my landmark. Very few people will mess with an old headstone, unless they are going to use the land for an apartment complex.

I hope this short article has helped you with building and hiding your caches. It is meant to stimulate your brain to think about how and where you'll handling your caches, but it is NOT the be all, end all for developing your own caches. Use it as a starting point and make your own decisions because your life or your family's lives may depend on it.



In my lifetime I have read/bought several score of survival books, but this has to be among the top five. Regularly \$17.99, Amazon has it on sale for \$5.50. I also intend to get his companion book, *Build the Perfect Bug Out Bag: Your 72-Hour Disaster Survival Kit*.

Book Reviewed by Rudi

## **Build the Perfect Bug Out Vehicle: the Disaster Survival Vehicle Guide,**

By Creek Stewart

This is an amazing book written in 2014, by the author who runs a survival school in Southern Indiana: [www.willowhavenoutdoor.com](http://www.willowhavenoutdoor.com). In 219 pages and 17 chapters he succinctly covers every aspect of a BOV (bug out vehicle) that you could ever want, including pros and cons of options, and “where to buy” each item. There is no fluff in this book, just hard facts. Rarely have I seen a book this well-organized, or so well-written. Some of the chapters:

- BOV vehicle maintenance
- Off-road travel
- Storage solutions
- Bug out boats
- Bug out ATVs, UTVs, and Motorcycles
- Non-engine-powered bug out vehicles

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### **AMERICAN SURVIVOR NEWSLETTER COMPENDIUM AVAILABLE**

A Listing of Articles Published in Live Free USA's Newsletter since 2007 has been posted on our [www.americansurvivor.org](http://www.americansurvivor.org) website on the main page posts and on the Members Only/Publications/American Survivor page where all of the back issues are available to paid/on-line members \*. There are over 65 issues with over 300

articles available and each new issue is added as it is published.

Live Free USA started publishing a survival and self-reliance newsletter in the early 1970's. The original mimeographed issues and the later off-set printed issues remain in binders, but most of the more recent digitally produced issues are converted to PDF files and are available on the “Members Only/American Survivor” section of our website. The newsletter was originally titled “Directions” and then “New Directions” finally to be “American Survivor” in 2007. Over the years there have been significant format changes and four different editors and creators. In the 1980's we published a 16-page issue every month, as support dwindled in the late 1990's we got out only few issues each year. After the events of 9/11 we settled on six issues/per year off 10-pages. We added two more pages a few years ago. While the costs of postage and printing have increased we have kept the membership/subscription rate to a mere \$20.00 annually. This list only includes the digital issues, so there are a few hundred issues containing at least five hundred well written and illustrated articles that would need to be scanned or converted (any volunteers?)\* in order to save them for the future. Since we have no office or archives all of this will be lost eventually. I have some issues of age that may prevent my doing more than one or two more years at this job. If we do not get a new editor and some more supporters American Survivor and Live Free USA may only survive in hyperspace. I have listed only the major articles in each issue, not the Live Free news items, product reviews or book reviews unless the review contained how-to information. While I wrote many of the articles myself there are many great

contributing writers that we are and have been fortunate to have.

**\*Only members who join on-line via our website can access the back issues and other publications**

*\*\* Anyone interested in scanning and/or republishing these older issues, please contact me at [survivorjj@aol.com](mailto:survivorjj@aol.com).*

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## **THREE BOOKS by James C. Jones NOW ON SALE!**

Books by James C. Jones now on sale. Three books by the editor of American Survivor and the founder of Live Free USA are now on sale from Skyhorse Publishing.

**Advanced Survival:** I wanted to provide usable and practical methods of replacing each life-critical service that is provided by society and the grid under normal circumstances. There are chapters on what to do when the water stops flowing, what to do when the grocery store is gone, what to do when the fire department isn't responding, etc. I illustrated each chapter and provided some background in how these needs were addressed a few generations ago. I also supplied an imperative "Storm Warning" chapter to validate the necessity of preparedness and self-reliance. **208 pages, 5 ½ x 8 ¼, paperback for \$16.99 from Skyhorse Publishing at [www.skyhorsepublishing](http://www.skyhorsepublishing)**

**Total Survival:** This book is more emergency or disaster related. I cover ten ways to do survival related tasks such as "Ten Ways to Start and Maintain a Fire", "Ten Critical First Aid Skills", "Ten Self-Defense Techniques", "Ten Ways to Acquire and Preserve Food", etc. The book is fully illustrated and should give the reader a lot of usable skills and techniques. I cover urban, outdoors and general disaster issues based on using my Ten Principles of Survival. **Paperback for \$16.99 from Skyhorse Publishing at [www.skyhorsepublishing](http://www.skyhorsepublishing), shipping January 2019.**

**150 Survival Secrets.** The format is question and answer as in "How can I survive an earthquake?", or "What can I do to survive a civil disorder?" One-hundred and fifty subjects is a lot to cover. I touch on a lot of controversial topics. Some items are covered in a paragraph or two while others may run to ten or more pages with illustrations. While I covered the traditional outdoors, self-reliance and disaster survival subjects, I addressed ethical and philosophical issues as well. There are some detailed sections on the organizational aspects of preparedness groups and even some paramilitary information. This is probably the closest thing to a true survivalist manifesto or manual ever written. In fact, I was a bit surprised that it is getting published. Being that this is a new book from the publishers, they are planning a promotional campaign. **Paperback for \$16.99 from Skyhorse Publishing at [www.skyhorsepublishing](http://www.skyhorsepublishing), shipping February 2019.**

**These three books together constitute a total survival library including, not only the answers and techniques for virtually every survival situation and self-reliance technique, but also the philosophical foundations of the survival/self-reliance movement and Live Free USA. I created these so that Live Free USA and its members would have a foundation for the future.**

**ATTENTION NORTH CENTRAL INDIANA MEMBERS  
YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER IS REORGANIZING  
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## ***LAST CHANCE FOR LIVE FREE!***

As of November 2018 there were no proposed candidates for the positions of President (vacant in January), Vice President (vacant since last April) and two Directorships that will be vacant in March. We actually need to add at least three additional Directors to carry out the various projects and programs we hope to complete. While Live Free USA has plenty of funds and members we will be crippled without committed and active leadership in 2019. In fact, we cannot even register for not-for-profit and incorporated status without registering officers. We do not want place holders. Officers are required to perform duties and manage programs as specified in the bylaws. There will be no 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting unless we can effectively fill this leadership gap soon. Anyone interested in stepping forward, please contact Jim Jones at [survivorjj@aol.com](mailto:survivorjj@aol.com) and/or attend the December 15<sup>th</sup> "Winter Survival" class at Cabela's to converse with other members regarding this issue.

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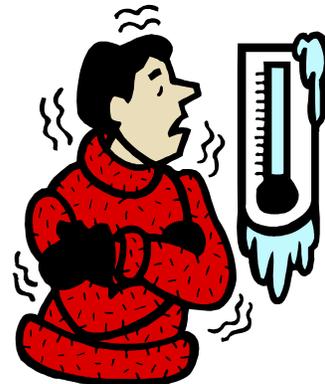
## Surviving Winter Emergencies at Home and in the Outdoors

At CABELA'S Sporting Goods Store, Second Floor Conference Center, 7700 Cabela Drive, Hammond IN, Just South of I-80 at the Indianapolis Blvd. Exit

**Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup> 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM,**

Lecture and demonstrations.

Subjects include: clothing, survival kits, fire, shelter, frostbite and hypothermia, movement on snow and ice. Special attention will be given to home and road emergencies such as home heating, power outages, and stranded vehicles



## Calling ALL Live Free Chapter Leaders!

What's  
happening

When is your next  
meeting or event?

Please send your event details to  
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for posting on the American Survivor  
website, Facebook Page and to be  
included in our e-mail news.

### Staff

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