The Prepper Family's Summer Bucket List

Food

☐ Identify and forage for wild edibles in your yard
☐ Garden but be sure to include one new-to-your-family plant
☐ Cook a meal over a fire
☐ Give your food storage a once-over for expiration dates and damage. Restock to desired supply levels.
☐ Have children cook a meal by themselves in the house, with supervision
☐ Have children cook a meal by themselves on the grill. Supervise!
☐ Have children cook a meal by themselves over the fire with plenty of adult supervision
☐ Make and eat your own MREs (Meals-Ready-to-Eat) from food storage
☐ Use your personal water filters at a local park
☐ Visit several local farmer's markets to find local food sources
☐ When you start to get low on groceries, wait an extra day before shopping and eat what is on hand
☐ Start a compost bin
☐ Put in a rain barrel
☐ Dehydrate a fruit, a vegetable, and herb, and some meat
☐ Can a fruit, a vegetable, an herb, and some meat
☐ Visit a local u-pick farm
☐ Have a day with zero food waste
☐ Grind wheat and make your own bread from it
☐ Rotate your water storage
☐ Only cook with cast iron for a week
☐ Sprout seeds

Emergency Drills

☐ Tornado drill
☐ Fire drill
☐ Evacuation drill (Do 1-hour, 30-minute, and 15-minute notice evacuation drills)
☐ No power for a full day and night
☐ Only use generator power for 6 hours
☐ “There's no toilet paper!” (Cloth wipes, anyone?)
☐ No running water for a full day and night (Do not skip bathing or washing dishes)
☐ Minimize water down the drain for a day—reuse dish/bath/pool water in garden or for plants
☐ Robbery/home invasion drill (Do several with the intruder coming from different doors/windows)
☐ Spend a day unplugged from electronic devices (no internet connection)

Put your supplies to work

☐ Update your emergency binder
☐ Check clothing and shoe sizes in vehicles, bug-out bags, and emergency/storm shelter
☐ Review your home library
Add money to your cash stash by holding a yard sale
Buy a tarp if you don't have one, and brainstorm all the ways they could be useful
Rotate any gas/diesel you have stored and refill right away
Check expiration dates on any bleach/sanitation supplies and restock
Reorganize garden tools

Learn or improve upon skills

- Go camping (Reorganize your gear when you get home)
- Go hiking
- Go fishing
- Go biking
- Have children start a fire from scratch
- Wash clothes by hand
- Go geocaching
- Have kids use a paper map to get from point A to point B
- Build something functional from scratch with wood, a handsaw, nails, and a hammer
- Make your own bug spray
- Make your own sunscreen
- Make homemade laundry soap
- Hone shooting skills at the range (Make sure to keep ammo stocked up)
- Sew something simple without using a sewing machine (Learn a new stitch if you already know how to sew)
- Buy a new piece of cast iron and learn how to season it
- Identify 10 local birds
- Identify 10 local insects or small animals
- Identify at least 10 different trees that grow in your area
- Sharpen tools and knives
- Earn certifications in first aid and CPR (Discuss defibrillators and Epipens, too)
- Have everyone try out a fire extinguisher
- Try starting a fire without a lighter or a match
- Learn to tie 5 different knots
- Plan evacuation routes on a map and then actually drive those routes to become familiar with them

Practice skills in different scenarios

- Spend a day living out of your car (Take notes on what you wish you had)
- Walk home from work (Bonus points if you can ably carry your emergency kit/bug-out bag)
- Show the kids how to walk home from school safely
- Do some summer school (If you don't homeschool, consider it a practice run in case you should ever need to)
- Play the “What If...” game
- Discuss social media safety rules

Fun and educational activities for your family summer bucket list

- Go scavenging for supplies at garage sales
- Play board games, so you know the rules before you lose power and those games become a major form of entertainment
Learn new card games
Work on a family history tree and talk about family medical history
Learn to play chess
Do craft time using supplies from the recycle bin
Read classic literature
Make paracord bracelets
See how many ways you can use a kiddie pool
Find a local history or reenactment group and attend one of their performances
Visit a local history museum or county historical society to see how people grew food by hand in your area
Practice memorization with children—stories, emergency addresses and numbers, stories, directions, songs
Relax and go on a day trip or vacation
Write letters (Can your children read and write in cursive? Can they address an envelope and put a stamp in the correct corner?)
Start learning a foreign language as a family
Get to know your neighbors

Visit thesurvivalmom.com for more family fun tips.