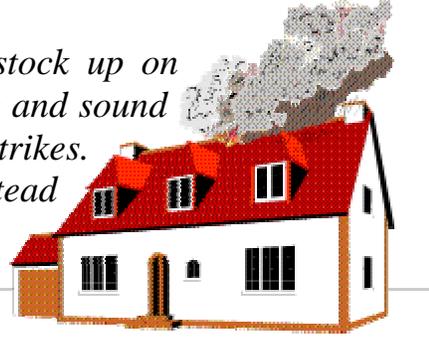


## A Survival Scenario

*OK, you've gone to all this trouble to stock up on survival goods to keep you and yours safe and sound through whatever disaster or emergency strikes. All this preparation stands you in good stead when the balloon goes up. You have food, water and shelter while most of the sheep are lost without the shepherd.*



*Then your neighbor is killed by a bunch of marauders who steal everything he has, rape his wife and children and torch his house. The last you see of them, as you peer out the basement window, they are laughing as they drag his 14-year old daughter away, naked, into the night.*

*You have a sinking feeling in the pit of your stomach. You know they'll be back, and your house will be their target. No one has seen a police man for over a week and the national guard is protecting gas stations in the city, nowhere near your house.*

This is *not* the time to realize you should have included a gun or two in your survival supplies. Remember, even if you could get to the gun store and they were open, there's a five day waiting period (Thank you, Mrs. Brady).

This is the time to make sure all your magazines are loaded, all your guns are clean and to set up some rules of engagement with your family.

### **The Best Tool for the Job**

Not everyone likes guns. But in a scenario like the one above, they are probably the best chance you have of surviving the next day or week. And that's what this site is all about: Survival, using all the tools at hand. And guns are just that -- tools. Used properly, they can get the job (protecting you and yours) done more efficiently and effectively than you could do without. And misused, they can be dangerous. Just like your car or chain saw.

If you abhor the thought of killing someone to save your own life, if you think having a gun simply means you'll end up getting shot by it or if you believe the right to bear arms granted by the second amendment applies only to the National Guard, not we the people, you should give up now and check in to a local FEMA Camp since you are unable to protect your family or yourself.



If you are not a gun owner, but you are thinking of buying one, we encourage you to learn to shoot, to handle a gun safely and to practice.

Meanwhile, [back](#) to the specifics about protecting yourself during a survival-situation.

## Protecting Your Stuff

If luck or planning lets your live through the immediate disaster -- the hurricane passes, the earthquake dies down or the riots are quelled -- you are faced with the longer task of living through the aftermath. All the topics we've dealt with earlier -- food, water, shelter and emergency medicine -- are critical. But you have to hang on to all four to survive, and many of those who are less-prepared may envy your stash and wish to make it their own. See the [scenario](#) we put together for an example.

You need to protect yourself both from those who see the situation as an opportunity to cash in and those who are so desperate they have no way to survive except by taking your stuff. You will run into the first (criminals) early in a long-term survival situation. The second will be a later phenomenon, after their meager supplies have petered out and the hand of government is nowhere to be found.

There are several steps you can take to protect yourself from these and others who threaten your survival:

- Keep a low profile. The fewer people who know you have a huge stash of food and water, the less who will turn to you. This also means don't flaunt it and create resentment. Don't be