

## Sources for Free Survival and Preparedness Information on the Internet, by K.L. in Alaska

Recent comments in SurvivalBlog provided excellent advice on using the public library. You can gain lots of knowledge with no expense, then purchase only those books you want to keep on hand for personal reference. Also, many colleges and universities loan to local residents, so you can use them too, even if you aren't a student.

If your local libraries participate, a great resource is [Worldcat](#). It lets you search for books from home, then go check them out, or get them through interlibrary loan.

What will happen to the Internet when the [SHTF](#)? There's no guarantee it will survive. Even if the World Wide Web endures in some form, most of the individual computers connected to it will not. Hopefully by then you will have already downloaded all the free info that's going to help you cope with the new world.

You may want to download a copy of information on this web site or any other web site with useful content. It would be a shame to face some disaster when all the resources of the internet are no longer at your fingertips.

In preparation for a worst case scenario, it's a good idea to begin now to collect the knowledge that will come in handy later. You can download whole books, save them to jump drives, and keep an entire library in a very small space. All kinds of free manuals, guides, tech tips, and schematics are available on the internet; for everything from firearms to furnaces to computers to appliances.

All of the downloads listed here are in the public domain or allowable for copying. Stay away from sites that may involve copyright infringement. If you use a file-sharing site such as Limewire, Kazaa, or any site that uses bit torrents, you are not only downloading, but also uploading. Your participation involves automatically uploading to other users. If the file is illegal, you are distributing illegal material, not just downloading it. Stay away from these and stick with the legitimate sites listed below.

Keep in mind that some of this information you download might be illegal to use at the present time. You can't practice dentistry on your neighbor just because you have the book. Nevertheless, you have the right to possess this very vital information. After [TEOTWAWKI](#), all bets are off. The information you collect today might save your life or the life of somebody you love.

Many downloads are in Portable Document Format (PDF) form, so to read them you must have a suitable program such as Adobe Reader, which is the free version of Adobe Acrobat. There are alternatives to Adobe that can read PDF files, if you prefer. Some of these files are very large. If your internet connection is slow, it's better to right click and download rather than try to read a huge file online.

Some documents you may want to print out. Others you can just leave on disc. Just be sure to store your drives safely. Not included in this list are the many web sites that are

very good resources in themselves. Rather, these are the files you can download for offline viewing at a later time. **Download them while you still can!**

[Project Gutenberg](#) was mentioned as a good place to go for eBooks.

[The Smithsonian Institution](#) is another great resource. They have digitized many older books, maps, and documents in their collection.

[Wikisource](#) has a nice collection of free eBooks.

One way to search for books no longer in copyright is to use [Google Book Search](#). Check "full view." If it comes up in the search, it can be downloaded as a PDF file.

A good alternative to Google is the [Internet Archive](#) which includes books, images, audio, and more. The Internet Archive also hosts the Wayback Machine, which archives copies of an incredible 85 billion pages from the internet of years past.

Over 100,000 free eBooks can be accessed through [Digital Book Index](#)

[2020ok](#) is a directory of free online books and free eBooks

The British Columbia Digital Library has an impressive [Collection](#), including dictionaries, encyclopedias, and most importantly, the *Holy Bible*. It also has a [Guide](#) to other digital libraries.

[Scribd](#) is an online document library of free research articles, eBooks, and other content.

A great resource for home schoolers is the Internet's largest directory of free audio & video learning resources maintained by [LearnOutLoud.com](#).

Check out the postings of [Home Schooling On-line Resources](#) on the The Mental Militia Forums, as well as the "**Must Have**" [Books/reference material](#) topic.

More than 3,200 pages related to the U. S. Constitution can be downloaded from [The Founders' Constitution](#)

**Firearms** For any firearm you own or plan to own, you should have a drawing of its Exploded View, which will help identify parts and how they fit together. One of the most comprehensive collections of Exploded Views is the paper edition of the [Numrich Arms Catalog](#), which in itself is a gold mine of information and very inexpensive for a volume of over 1200 pages.

But if you only need certain Exploded Views, there are many places on the internet where you can download them for free:

[Gunuts](#) is a good place to start with hundreds of drawings. Another source is [The Okie Gunsmith Shop](#), which is apparently no longer operating, but you can still download drawings and parts lists from its web site. [Big Bear Gun Works](#) has another good list. For pre-WWII firearms, check out [Gunsworld](#). For examples of specific firearms manufacturers, see [Remington](#), [Browning](#), and [SKB Shotguns](#)

The book, *The Defensive Use Of Firearms* by Shane C. Henry is available as a download from [rec.guns](#). An enormous amount of additional gun information is available on the [rec.guns web site](#).

There are several good sources for **Military Publications**: [GlobalSecurity.org](#) has a huge collection of Military manuals.

Try [Integrated Publishing](#) for access to millions of pages of engineering manuals and documents.

The U.S. Army Materiel Command maintains the [LOGSA web site](#) for access to thousands of Army technical manuals.

The U.S. Air Force maintains the [Air Force e-Publishing web site](#).

As mentioned recently, *The Small Wars Journal* has a [Reference Library](#) of downloadable military documents.

[The Brooke Clarke web site](#) has a good guide to accessing military field manuals

**Surviving War and Nuclear Attack** For a basic guide, download [How To Survive A Chemical Or Biological Attack](#).

*Nuclear War Survival Skills*, along with some other very interesting books, can be found on the [Oregon Institute of Science and Medicine web site](#). This book includes plans for the Kearny Fallout Radiation Meter (KFM). If you have not bought a radiation meter, you should at least download the book for future reference. You can also get the [Free Plans](#) from The Oak Ridge National Laboratory. *Nuclear War Survival Skills* is also available on the [KI4U web site](#) as an online book, but not as a download.

The Equipped To Survive web site has some free ebooks, as well as books for sale: [Survival, Evasion, and Recovery](#) and [U.S. Army Survival Manual FM 21-76](#).

The Volunteer Center of Marin County, California has prepared [A Guide to Organizing Neighborhoods for Preparedness, Response and Recovery](#) which you can copy from their web site.

**Medical Resources** [The Disease Net](#) has a library of downloadable manuals on survival, weapons, emergency medicine, and less serious subjects.

[Virtual Naval Hospital](#) is a digital library of naval, military, and humanitarian medicine

The very important field manual, *First Aid For Soldiers FM 21-11* can be downloaded [here](#).

One of the best medical handbooks available is the *U.S. Army Special Forces Medical Handbook ST31-91B*. It can be downloaded free (as well as additional essential guides) from [Delta Gear, Inc.](#)

A newer version of the *Medical Handbook*, plus more great material can be downloaded from [NH-TEMS \(New Hampshire Tactical Emergency medical support\)](#).

[The American Red Cross](#) has some of their disaster guides online for download. For most of their material, you have to go to the local office. Some of it can be copied from the [Earth Changes Media Survival Tips](#) page.

The Red Cross Book, [First Aid in Armed Conflicts and Other Situations of Violence](#)

The UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency book, [The Ship Captain's Medical Guide](#)

[Hesperian](#) makes available free downloads of its books for medical treatment in primitive conditions. Two highly respected guides it publishes are *Where There Is No Doctor* and *Where There Is No Dentist*.

Here is a direct link to the must-have book [Survival and Austere Medicine: An introduction](#). Australian Survivalist Online has several additional [Files for downloading](#).

**The Department of Agriculture** has a treasure trove of information for free download. This agency maintains [The National Agricultural Library](#), a collection of free information on Agriculture, Food and Nutrition, and other related subjects.

Another USDA web site is the [Cooperative Extension Service](#). Click on the map to navigate to various Extension offices around the country. Don't limit your search to just your own state. Many of them have invaluable information on animals, crops, construction, food preparation and much more for free download.

[The USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service \(APHIS\)](#) offers downloads about preventing plant and animal diseases, among other topics.

The USDA Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) offers [Fact Sheets](#) about food handling and preparation, and emergency preparedness.

**Other Important Reference Resources** The classic outdoor guides, [The 10 Bushcraft Books](#) by Richard Graves are available on the Chris Molloy web site. Free manuals for electronic equipment can be downloaded from [eServiceInfo.com](#). Another source is [UsersManualGuide.com](#). For Ham Radio and Test Equipment Manuals, the KO4BB web

site has [Free Downloads](#), as well as [LINKS](#) to many other web sites with free downloads. A few examples of repair information for outdoor equipment are [Penn Reel Schematics](#), and [Mercury outboard parts](#).

**Paid Services** In the unlikely event that you can't find free information on the Net to fix that generator or whatever you need to repair, there are web sites that charge for information. As a last resort, you can check [Sam's PHOTOFACT service manuals](#), or [RepairManual.com](#). Hopefully, that won't be necessary.

The foregoing just begins to scratch the surface. Some of these free downloads are also available as books or CDs from eBay, Amazon or from some of the survivalist web sites. That is fine. Sometimes it is easier to just pay the money and buy the book. But nobody can afford it all, and downloading gives you access to millions of pages - much more knowledge than you could acquire through any other method.