

Beat: Business

## RIGHT INTO THE WILD OR HOW TO BE READY FOR THE APOCALYPSE ?

### SURVIVALISM - HOW IT WORKS

PARIS - NEW YORK, 19.07.2015, 16:13 Time

**USPA NEWS** - Summer approaching individuals, associations, activists,... proposed quickly survival trainings, weeks-ends, week sessions... for groups, families or individuals. Courses can go up to 12 months program.

It can include bushcraft, survival courses, wilderness awakening, wilderness navigation, hide working intensive week-end, primitive weapon 4 days workshop, buckskin mocassin workshop.... Whatever dedicated to survivalism. Of course at a high price. Nothing is free or cheap nowadays, even when providing survivalism skills. The targets, of course, are the «spoiled» urbans living in large cities who «lost» touch with the essentials and need to be reeducated to be able to survive to the potential coming diverse collapses. The survivalism movement started beginning of last century in the UK and USA.

The survivalists have to be prepared for emergencies, including disruptions in social or political order, on scales from local to international. The survivalists can also be called preppers. In the 1970s, both terms were used interchangeable but survivalism tending to take on a more media-sensationalized, combative image. Survivalists often acquire medical and self-defense training, stockpile food and water, prepare to become self-sufficient, & build structures that may help them survive a catastrophe (eg. Survival retreat or an underground shelter).

The most ardent survivalists aim is to remain self-sufficient for the duration of the breakdown of social order. The Great Depression that followed the Wall Street Crash of 1929 is cited by survivalists as an example of the need to be prepared. In the 1960s, articles on the subject appeared in small-distribution libertarian publications. During 1970s, the fear were economic collapse, hyperinflation and famine. During the early 1980s, a nuclear war became a common fear and some survivalists constructed fallout shelters. In 1999, many people purchased electric generators, water purifiers and several months or years worth of food in anticipation of widespread power outages because of the Y2K computer-bug.

Other survivalists have more specialized concerns, often related to an adherence to apocalyptic religious beliefs. Some New Agers anticipate a forthcoming arrival of catastrophic Earth changes and prepare to survive them.

People who are not part of survival groups, also make preparations for emergencies. This can include preparing for earthquakes, floods, power outages, blizzards, avalanches, wildfire, terrorist attacks, nuclear power plant accidents, hazardous material spills, tornados and hurricanes.

Recommendations can be of keeping a first aid kit, shovel and extra clothes in the car or by maintaining a small kit of emergency supply, containing emergency food, water, a space blanket and other essentials.

In popular culture, survivalism has been associated with paramilitary activities. Some survivalists do take active defensive preparations that have military roots and that involve firearms. The potential for social collapse is often cited as motivation for being well-rated. Some non-militaristic survivalists have developed an unintended militaristic image and the term survivalism has been used to signify unrelated right-wing reactionary paramilitary activities.

This conception of this return to essential way of life has spread worldwide. The preparedness, survivalist groups, blogs, forums... have grown considerably, mostly in Western World. (eg. Australia, Austria, Belgique, Canada, France, Germany, Netherlands, New, Russia, UK, USA...

#### Article online:

<https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-4553/right-into-the-wild-or-how-to-be-ready-for-the-apocalypse.html>

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