

Conspiracy Theories and the Lunatic Fringe!

I really hate to add this Tip. It seems that once you decide to make preparations for yourself and your family in a disaster or emergency, some folks make some pretty weird assumptions about you! You're doing this because...

- ...There's a conspiracy to take over the government! If there were, who put YOU on their mailing list? You'll find out only when (or if) it succeeds or fails.
- ...The President is ruining the economy and the country! Not a lot you can do about that, except vote against him if he runs again. Besides, the President is a lightning rod who takes the rap for many, many things he *didn't* do.
- ...The economy is going to go completely down the tube! If it did, your preparations are better than nothing. Would they last until the government minted new money, and the new economy got started? Don't know. Hope so.
- ...Terrorists are going to attack (name your town)! They got New York City and the Pentagon, and after that the Navy SEALs got them. If they did attack your town, who will tell YOU before it happens? No-brainer.
- ...Crazy Arabs will use atom bombs on the U.S.! They could do this, but they risk having their nations dissolve into radioactive ash. YOU should worry?
- ...The (Blacks, Whites, Jews, Catholics, Mafia, illegal Mexicans, Gays, etc.) are going to revolt! If it's put up or shut up time, what do YOU think will happen to them?
- ...The weather is going crazy! You mean "climate." There do seem to be more tornadoes, storms, tidal waves, etc. Storing some food won't change this. All you can do is ride this one out. Nobody controls the climate or knows its future.
- ...Epidemics! New diseases are going to kill us! Unless you're immune to any new diseases (or many of the old ones), your other preparations won't help you.
- ...The world has too many people, and we'll all starve! Some people are starving now. Not because food is scarce, but because food distribution is uneven. But if you're reading this on a computer, I'll bet your local grocery store is full of food. If someone thinks the world has too many people, suggest that you know at least one person who could give up his life to help right this problem. No takers, I bet.
- ...China and/or Russia are going to start World War III! Right, and you're storing 3 months worth of food to survive this? Lotsa luck, and play it again, Sam.
- ...A giant asteroid is going to hit the Earth! Yep, one apparently wiped out the dinosaurs, so it could happen. That was 62 million years ago. So, what are the odds of it happening this year? Go get struck by lightning; it's much more likely.
- ...You're part of a paramilitary group that will take over the government after the disaster is over. Amazing what happens when you buy some food and ammo, isn't it? Hey, can I be Vice-President?