

# ANARCHIST ECONOMICS

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What would life be like without an economy? [A complete breakdown of the economy we expect to find when we awake each morning.] What is a natural economy? *The things we do to survive.*

In a natural disaster of “biblical” proportions [1900 San Francisco Earthquake, Hurricane Katrina], what is destroyed? *Food, infrastructure, housing, stores, transportation, health care, cooperation.*

In Spain 1936 and Argentina 2006 the capitalists abandoned which part of the means of production? [The part of it they owned: factories, transit, etc.]. *They were replaced by worker self-management.*

What institutions would we create to form the nucleus of a rudimentary collectivized economy? [How do we retool the economy? Where do we begin?] *“From each according to their ability...”*

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## 10 URBAN NEIGHBORHOOD RECOVERY TASKS

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**1.** People need **clean water**. Any clean springs or rivers should be protected by not having people living next to them. Drinkable water [potable water] storage devices should be labeled and non-potable water should be stored separately and labeled “not safe to drink”. *Restore/establish running water and wastewater treatment [see below] when possible.*

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**2.** People need to **eat**. Let us **scrounge food** and store it according to its **perishability**. We should eat the most perishable first. We need to scrounge cooking fuel [wood, gas]. We need **cold lockable structures** to use as food and fuel storage points. We should then build rudimentary [outdoor] **kitchens** and **mess hall spaces** where people can sit and eat. The mess hall can double as the **commons** [assembly hall] where community meetings and other activities are held. *We want to repair/adapt indoor space(s) for this purpose as soon as possible.*

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**3.** Basic **sanitation** is essential. More people die from disease than any other malady when they have to live together collectively [e.g., when fighting a war]. Valley Forge troops were arrested for not using designated sanitation points [for pissing in the woods]. Garbage dumps [materials recovery facilities], latrines [out houses], and composts should be located downstream/downwind of a population areas and clean water sources. Trash is sorted at MRFs for recyclables [cleaned, sent to storage], non-recyclables [sent to landfill] and greenwaste [sent to compost]. Separate provisions should be made for disposal and incineration of medical/biohazard waste [including dead bodies]. *Identify a permanent landfill site to use for the disposal of non-recyclables as soon as possible.*

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**4. Cleaning water** [wastewater] runoff from kitchens, laundries, and personal hygiene [bathing] facilities should soak into the earth through a filtration bed. **Chemicals** should not be dumped with cleaning water. They should be stored in a dry lockable space where it can be sorted for reuse or until a safe method of disposal is learned. **Flammable and hazardous materials** should be stored separately.

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**5. A medical aid** station needs to be established where people can be treated for basic injuries and illnesses. Medical supplies and medicines should be scrounged, sorted and stored in a lockable space. Segregate patients with communicable diseases. *Upgrade to a full service clinic when possible.*

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**6. A supply depot** should be established to store, sort and repair anything we scrounge for future use/re-use. Food items should be stored near the kitchens [see above]. Clothing should be separated, laundered, and repaired. *“...to each according to their need.”*

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**7. Safe houses** need to be identified where people [esp., female & child] can sleep and feel safe: so they don't have to sleep in the street. These can be spaces converted from other uses. Sanitation is essential to prevent infestations or hygienic ailments; especially with children. The structure should be reinforced to protect its inhabitants from inclement weather, burglary and robbery [defensible space]. A rudimentary **communications** system [voice/written] should begin with the safe houses. Surplus clothing should be moved to the supply depot [see above]. Any weapons should be locked up in a low profile room until needed [emergency, militia].

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**8.** Establish a **motor pool** for collective transportation resources. Find a lockable fuel and lubricant storage site [may be a scarce resource]. Find a lockable vehicle maintenance/repair building. Store **emergency response vehicles** at the motor pool in case of fire, etc.. Use as a base for neighborhood repair, cleanup, and foraging [scrounging] missions. Use as a base for public transit, demolition of uninhabitable structures, and new construction [e.g., housing, adaptive reuse].

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**9.** Create a **workshop(s)** [light manufacturing] to build/repair items needed by the community. Assemble scrounged tools [incl. welding], machines [incl. pneumatic air pumps], electric generators, etc. into a lockable building(s) [needs storage space for raw materials, space for “free school” classes]. *Restore/establish electricity [lighting, refrigeration of food] when possible. Convert to solar photovoltaic and/or windmill electric power generation when possible.*

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**10.** Build a **greenhouse(s)** for year-round growing of edible plants and seedlings for community gardens. Scrounge seeds/seedlings from edible and medicinal plants [incl. herbs]. Mark “brownfield” areas [heavy metal, solvent, or petrochemical land uses] as hazardous for growing food crops. *Identify alternative land/locations for planting future community gardens when possible.*

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