
MODULE 0: ZERO HOUR READY — FOUNDATION**Lesson 8: Launchpad & Research**Five Critical Points, Your Scorecard, and Where to Go From Here

WHAT THIS LESSON COVERS

This is the end of Module 0. But it is the beginning of everything else. This lesson covers the extreme scenarios you need to understand for Phase 3, gives you the five critical points to carry out of this module, walks you through your self-evaluation scorecard, and sends you out with your top three priorities. Do this lesson honestly. The scorecard is only as useful as your honesty with it.

Estimated reading time: 20–25 minutes. Have your PDF handout open alongside this guide.

The Extreme Scenarios - Phase 3 and What's Actually Coming

Most of this module has focused on Phase 2 - the grid-down period, the social breakdown, the survival challenges of a world without functioning infrastructure. That's appropriate because Phase 2 is where most people will die, and because Phase 2 preparation is where you can do the most work right now.

But Phase 2 is not the main event. Phase 3 is. And while you can't do much to directly prepare for the physical forces of Phase 3 beyond what we've covered in the location and bunker lessons, you need to understand the sequence so you know what you're responding to when it arrives.

The Micronova

In our cosmological disaster scenario- the Micronova is the solar event that drives the great physical changes of Phase 3. When it happens, the flash is the primary immediate danger. The flash is directional - the area of highest intensity is expected to be over what we might call the "promised land" region: parts of Africa, the Middle East, and southern Europe. The further you are from the zone of maximum exposure, the lower your flash risk.

But take no chances. When the sun turns red, go underground. Period. The question of whether you personally are in the high-risk zone for the flash is not a question you want to answer in real time. Underground when the sun turns red. Come up when the shaking starts, because by then the burn risk is over.

The Great Earthquake

When the Micronova shell reaches Earth, the induction passes through the crust, the crust unlocks, and the great earthquake occurs. This is a planetary-scale seismic event. Your bunker location on elevated, solid ground - chosen as we discussed in Lesson 6 - is your best protection.

When the shaking starts, if your structure feels unstable, exit. The burn risk is gone. The wave risk is not yet arrived. Above ground during the earthquake is survivable in many locations. Underground in a collapsing structure is not.

The Impactors

After the earthquake, there is a window of relative safety on the surface. Use it to assess your situation. Then go back down when the impactors begin — you'll see them as streaks through the sky, or you'll know they're approximately 24 hours after the shaking.

Stay down until six to twelve hours after the last heard or felt impact. Then assess again. Weather extremes may continue - hurricane-force winds, extreme precipitation - but the acute Phase 3 threat window has passed. You are entering Phase 4.

The Flotation Plan

If your tsunami risk score from Lesson 6 puts you below 3,000, the flotation plan is not a backup - it's your primary survival strategy for Phase 3. Your vessel must be able to take impacts: not an inflatable, not a lightweight boat. Think of it as a bumper boat. Sturdy enough to bounce around in debris-filled floodwater without being destroyed.

When you start floating, you'll be going in one direction for hours, then stop, then reverse. When you start going back and you can see land - get to it, even if it means abandoning your supplies. The goal is to be alive on land when the water recedes. Everything can be rebuilt. You cannot rebuild from drowning in the ocean when your supplies run out.

The Five Critical Points - Carry These Out of Module 0

Everything in this module builds to these five. Internalize them.

1	All of your prepping must happen in Phase 1. The moment Phase 2 begins, the preparation window is closed. You are in execution mode. Everything you do in this course is Phase 1 work. Don't waste it.
2	Your planning must be informed by three things: the general risks of what is coming, the specific dangers and vulnerabilities of your situation, and the gaps in your current supplies, skills, and knowledge. Know all three before you plan.
3	Phase 2 is where almost everybody dies. Not Phase 3. Phase 2. The social and resource breakdown is deadlier than the physical event for the vast majority of the population. Your Phase 2 preparation is your primary life insurance.
4	The survival network is both critical and primary. Critical: you will not survive long-term without it. Primary: it is the first thing to work on, because it makes every other preparation task smaller, more achievable, and more likely to succeed.
5	Location has three layers: macro (avoiding the Big Dumb Mistakes and doing the tsunami equation), micro (your specific community's rural versus urban placement), and micro-micro (your specific bunker site within that location). All three matter and all three require deliberate planning.

Your Self-Evaluation Scorecard

Your handout includes the self-evaluation scorecard. The maximum possible score is 150. The first time most students complete this, the score is not impressive. That's fine. That's the point.

This scorecard is a tool for measuring your progress. Do it now, at the end of Module 0. Then come back in six months and do it again. Then again six months after that. If you have been doing the work -

putting in the committed hours you promised when you started this course - the progression in your scores will be one of the most concrete confirmations available to you that the work is paying off.

Be honest. The score you inflate doesn't help anyone. The score you're honest about tells you where to focus.

Your Top Three Priorities Right Now

For ninety-nine percent of students finishing Module 0, these are your top three priorities, in order:

PRIORITY 1: Find Your Network

Stop buying food. Stop buying gear. Start the network conversation. Every impossible mountain on your list gets smaller the moment you have more people working on it. The network is the prerequisite for everything else working at the scale it needs to work.

PRIORITY 2: Identify Your Family's Specific Gaps

What skills does your family not have that are critical? What supplies are missing from your red and yellow categories? These gaps become your pre-planning work - the work you can do now while building your network, so you walk into your first community planning conversation already knowing what you need.

PRIORITY 3: Cover the Big 4 for Your Household

Even within a network, the Big 4 are largely on you. Two years of food and water is the target - reach for it, and if you can't hit that standard yet, get as close as you can. Acquire your defense tools with a clear rationale. And make yourself hard to kill - by another person or by cholesterol. Your personal health is entirely under your control, and right now is the best time to work on it.

Continuing Your Research

This course will continue to expand. The modules that follow Module 0 go deeper into specific threat scenarios - grid-down and EMP, natural disasters, pandemic, civil unrest, economic collapse, supply chain breakdown, NBC threats, and personal security. Each module builds on the foundation you've established here.

Outside the course, continue researching. The daily space weather and geophysical update landscape is rich with information relevant to Phase 1 monitoring. The skills and community-building work is ongoing and never really complete. The self-evaluation scorecard is a recurring tool, not a one-time measure.

You made it through Module 0. You have a framework that most people on the planet do not have. Use it. See you in Module 1.

End of Module 0 — ZERO HOUR READY: Foundation

4Ward Defense Personal Protection

ZERO HOUR READY: The Complete Preparedness System
Module 0 | Student Reading Guide