

## WHAT TO TAKE WITH YOU IF YOU HAVE WARNING OF AN IMPENDING DISASTER AND DECIDE TO EVACUATE

You may, at some point before or during a disaster, make a decision about whether to leave. Your decision will likely be based on whether there is time to leave, road conditions, and what emergency management officials are advising.

If evacuation is even mentioned as a possibility, start gathering what you will need to take with you and don't forget extra wheelchair batteries, oxygen, catheters, medication, and food for service animals.

Complete a personal assessment. Decide what you will be able to do for yourself and what assistance you may need before, during, and after a disaster.

### ***Create a card with important information on it.***

Below is a sample published by FEMA:

Other Important Phone Numbers & Information:

**Family Communications Plan**

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Out-of-State Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Neighborhood Meeting Place: \_\_\_\_\_  
Meeting Place Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Dial 9-1-1 for Emergencies!**

## WHAT TO TAKE WITH YOU IF YOU HAVE WARNING OF AN IMPENDING DISASTER AND DECIDE TO EVACUATE

Prepare your vehicle for what could be a very long ride. Stock your vehicle with necessities such as water, food, pillows and blankets, toilet paper, current maps, baby supplies, pet supplies, and prescription medicines. Make sure your gas tank is full—service stations may become inoperable. Bring personal identification and proof of residency—your driver’s license, a utility bill or rent receipt—in case you will need Red Cross or FEMA assistance. Create an emergency communication list in case you are separated from family and friends. Include all your home, work, and cell numbers and exchange lists with family, friends, and neighbors. Keep the lists at home, at work and in your cars. In addition, designate a contact person who lives outside the area for everyone to reach in case of evacuations. Charge up or check camera batteries. You may need to take photos of damage after a storm. Take inventory of your valuables and your home. Make a videotape, take photos or keep a written log.

### EVACUATION CHECKLIST

ITEM
Cash or travelers’ checks and coins (banks may close and ATMs may be inoperable)
Credit cards: also make a copy of the back of your credit cards (the back has contact numbers you may need—especially if you lose them)
Extra set of house keys and car keys
Personal identification (Driver’s license/Passport)
Social Security cards

PERSONAL ITEMS
Deodorants, sunscreen
Light blanket and small pillow for traveling
Lip balm, insect repellent
Outerwear appropriate to the climate
Razor, shaving cream
Shampoo, comb, and brush
Tooth paste, toothbrushes
Towelettes, soap, hand sanitizer
Vitamins
Washcloth and towel
Water, snacks, etc.

COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING (keep these items in a portable container):
Bank account numbers
Birth certificate
Deeds
Emergency contact list and phone numbers
Immunization records
Insurance papers
Inventory of household goods
Map of the area and phone numbers of places you could go
Marriage certificate/Divorce papers/Custody orders
Medical information, doctor/pharmacy contact info
School report cards/ IEPs, if child is in school
Stocks and bonds
Wills, powers of attorney

PET SUPPLIES
Medications, medical records and a first-aid kit in a waterproof container
Sturdy leashes, harnesses and/or carriers (Even gentle pets may bite or try to run away under stress.)
Secure collars with up-to-date information
Current photos in case pets are lost
Food, water, bowls, cat litter pan and manual can opener
Information on feeding schedules, medical conditions, behavior in case you have to foster or board your pets

## WHAT TO KEEP AT HOME IF YOU DECIDE NOT TO EVACUATE

Move valuables, personal papers, family photos and important computer disks that you may not be able to take with you to a water proof container on the highest level of your home

<b>CLOTHES AND BEDDING SUPPLIES</b>
Blankets/sleeping bags and pillows
Complete change of clothes
Extra socks
Extra underwear
Hat and gloves
Rain gear
Sturdy shoes or boots
Sunglasses
Thermal underwear

<b>SANITATION AND HYGIENE SUPPLIES</b>
A small shovel for digging a latrine
Contact lens solutions
Deodorants, sunscreen
Disinfectant and household chlorine bleach
Feminine supplies
Heavy-duty plastic garbage bags and ties for personal sanitation uses
Lip balm, insect repellent
Medium-sized plastic bucket with tight lid
Mirror
Razor, shaving cream
Shampoo, comb, and brush
Toilet paper
Tooth paste, toothbrushes
Towelettes, soap, hand sanitizer
Washcloth and towel

<b>EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS</b>
Assorted nails, wood screws, and rope
Battery-operated travel alarm clock
Chain saw and extra gas
Compass
Duct tape, masking tape, and scissors
Flashlight and extra batteries
Matches in a waterproof container (or waterproof matches)
NOAA Weather Radio, if appropriate for your area
Work gloves
Plastic sheeting
Pliers, screwdriver, hammer, crowbar
Portable, battery-powered radio or television and extra batteries
Shut-off wrench, shovel, and other tools
Signal flare
Tube tent
Whistle

<b>KITCHEN ITEMS</b>
All-purpose knife
Aluminum foil and plastic wrap
Household liquid bleach to treat drinking water
Manual can opener
Mess kits or paper cups, plates, and plastic utensils
Needles and thread
Paper, pens, and pencils
Resealable plastic bags
Small canister, ABC-type fire extinguisher
Small cooking stove and a can of cooking fuel
Soap and liquid detergent
Sugar, salt, pepper

## Food and Water That You Need With You

SUPPLIES	HOME	VEHICLE	WORK
3-day supply of non-perishable foods			
Canned or boxed juices, milk, and soup			
Cereals			
Cookies, hard candy			
High-energy foods such as peanut butter, jelly, low-sodium crackers, granola bars, and trail mix			
Instant coffee			
Powdered milk			
Ready-to-eat meats, fruits, and vegetables			
Special foods for infants or persons on special diets			
Water (3 gallons per person) in any clean containers—bathtubs, bottles, pots, etc. as the water supply may become contaminated			

### Emergency and First Aid Kit Locations

Since you do not know where you will be when an emergency occurs, prepare supplies for home, work, and vehicles. A disaster supply kit is a collection of basic items that members of a household may need in the event of a disaster. Your disaster supplies kit should contain essential food, water, and supplies for at least three days.

HOME	WORK	CAR
<p>Keep your disaster supply kit and a completely stocked first aid kit in a designated place and have it ready in case you have to leave your home quickly. Make sure all family members know where the kits are kept.</p> <p>Additionally, you may want to consider having supplies for sheltering for up to two weeks.</p>	<p>This kit should be in one container, and ready to “grab and go” in case you are evacuated from your home or workplace.</p> <p>Make sure you have food and water in the kit. Also, be sure to have comfortable walking shoes at your workplace in case an evacuation requires walking long distances.</p> <p>This kit should contain food, water, first aid supplies, flares, jumper cables, and seasonal supplies.</p>	<p>In case you are stranded, keep a kit of emergency supplies in your car.</p> <p>This kit should contain food, water, first aid supplies, flares, jumper cables, and seasonal supplies.</p>

### Maintaining Emergency Food Kits

Once you put your disaster kits together, it is important that you maintain them. You want them to be safe to use by the time you need them. FEMA has tips to keep your supplies ready and in good condition:

- Keep canned foods in a dry place where the temperature is cool.
- Store boxed food in tightly closed plastic or metal containers to protect from pests and to extend its shelf life.
- Throw out any canned good that becomes swollen, dented, or corroded.
- Use foods before they go bad, and replace them with fresh supplies.
- Place new items at the back of the storage area and older ones in the front.
- Change stored food and water supplies every six months. Be sure to write the date you store it on all containers.
- Keep items in airtight plastic bags and put your entire disaster supplies kit in one or two easy-to-carry containers, such as an unused trashcan, camping backpack, or duffel bag.