

Emergency Radio Communications Go-Bag Contents

Essential Radio Gear

- Primary handheld transceiver (HAM/GMRS radio) and charger
- Backup handheld transceiver or secondary radio
- High-capacity batteries and spares
- Portable power sources (e.g., power banks, solar chargers, or battery packs)
- Antennas:
 - Portable (e.g., whip, roll-up, or telescopic antenna)
 - Backup and extended-range antennas
 - Coaxial cable and adapters
- Speaker microphone or headset for hands-free use
- Programming cable and software for radio frequencies
- Frequency charts or laminated band plans

Power Supplies

- Battery eliminator for connecting radios directly to external power sources
- Small solar panel or foldable solar charger
- DC power cables with Anderson Powerpole connectors
- Power inverters for charging devices from vehicles

Documentation and Guides

- Copies of your FCC license and local HAM club contact list
- Emergency communication protocols and frequency lists
- Quick-reference guides for your radio(s)
- Maps (paper versions) of your area with marked repeater locations
- ICS forms (e.g., ICS-213 for message traffic)
- Notebook and pens (weatherproof if possible)

Tools and Accessories

- Multi-tool (e.g., Leatherman or Swiss Army knife)
- Electrical tape and zip ties
- Small toolkit (screwdrivers, pliers, wire strippers)
- Roll of paracord or rope
- Compact flashlight and extra batteries
- Headlamp

Emergency and Survival Essentials

- First-aid kit
- Flint
- Fire Starters (commercial or toilet roll stuffed w/cotton balls covered in Vaseline)
- Emergency blanket (wool or space)
- Poncho

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- Water Purification (Tablets or LifeStraw)
- Tarp (at least 8'x8')
- Stainless steel water bottles or hydration system
- Non-perishable snacks
- Portable stove or fire-starting kit (if relevant to your region and needs)

Personal Comfort and Safety

- Protective gloves and safety glasses
- N95 masks or respirators
- Handkerchiefs
- Toilet paper
- Hat, gloves, helmet, and other weather-appropriate clothing
- Insect repellent and sunscreen

Miscellaneous Items

- Smartphone or tablet preloaded with emergency apps and offline maps
- Portable Wi-Fi hotspot (if cell networks are functional)
- Starlink Mini
- Laptop
- Notebook with contact numbers for local agencies and emergency services
- Identification and a small amount of cash