

Murray State University Amateur Radio Club



Go Bags

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Outline & References

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<https://www.ready.gov/kit>

<https://www.thespruce.com/emergency-go-bag-4165380>

What is the reason for the “Go Bag”

If an evacuation is a consideration, possible, or immanent, a “Go Bag” is a requirement for each family member and animal that is “Go-ing”.

Protecting your family, home, business, and friends is very important. Your reasons for a bag may not be my reasons. A bag is only as good as you make it, maintain it, and where you keep it. I consider a bag as important as the person that needs it. I have used it, I have loaned stuff out of it, and most certainly I have resupplied it. Notice I didn't say I have loaned the bag.

Don't lose the focus on the word “bag”. I have different sized containers that have different levels of essential “items”.

The difference between a Go Bag and travel bag

Go Bag: A bag that is essential when displaced from normal living conditions.

Travel bag: A bag that supplements your normal living conditions at other locations other than your home.



Chose the right Go Bag

The bag, or container should be of proper size for the person to carry it without issue. A backpack is of good choice so that it will leave your arms and hands free for other essential tasks. You can start out small and work your way up to a larger bag. Focus for a complete bag should be able to sustain yourself for 72hrs (3 days), this is bag per person for 3 days each.

A quality bag is important so that it will handle the environment and use that may be required. Color of the bag may be important if you want to be “Gray Man”.



What goes in the Bag

1. Personal Items (ID, health insurance card, SS card, Passport, and Medication).
2. Self Defense (your own preference), fixed blade knife.
3. Multi tool, signal whistle and/or mirror, N95 mask, 50ft 550 cord.
4. Water or ability to filter water.
5. Food source, spork, trash bag.
6. Temporary shelter.
7. Fire source (lighter, waterproof matches, feral rod).
8. Travel sized toiletries, Dawn dish soap, wet wipes, Small first aid kit, insect repellent, sun block.
9. Cellular telephone with charger.
10. Flashlight or lighting device other than your cellular phone.
11. Spare batteries for carried items.
12. Ham Radio programmed with more than basic channels. *
13. Money in small increments.
14. Spare keys, socks, seasonal long sleeve shirt.
15. Paper, pen, local map, electrical tape.
16. Gas valve wrench, water wrench, Channel lock style pliers.
17. SD Card / Thumb Drive ** see next page slide.

What goes on the SD Card / thumb drive

1. Birth Certificate, SS Card, Driver's License, Passport.
2. Health insurance card.
3. List of emergency contacts / family names and addresses / phone numbers.
4. Current family photographs, friend photographs.
5. Medical records and shot records.
6. Marriage license, adoption records, citizenship documents.
7. Home deed, car titles and registration.
8. Credit card information, banking information.
9. Power of attorney and will.
10. Pet information.

Where to keep the Go Bag

Consider when you may need the bag. Kept in the same location at home at all times. Don't let the children play with the bag or take things from the bag.

If you keep the bag in your vehicle, consider the outside temperature and the stuff kept inside. Extreme hot temperatures will melt or degrade things kept inside. Extreme cold will freeze things inside the bag and could cause the item container to rupture.

Take it with you to work, may stay in the vehicle or in your office or personal area of your work place. Consider items inside the bag due to temperatures. Also consider your work policies when carrying certain items to the work place.

Keeping the bag secure when not at home is very important.

Questions?