

# CREATING YOUR DISASTER SUPPLY KIT

During an emergency situation, you may not have time to gather up supplies. This is why preparing a disaster kit in advance is important. This kit should contain all important items detailed below, and be able to easily be taken with you in the event of an evacuation. Plan for at least three days.

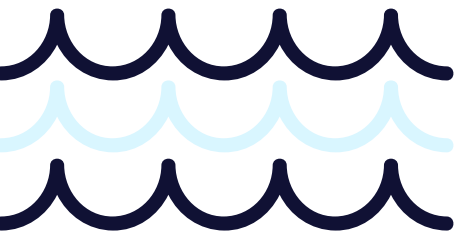
## CREATING YOUR KIT

The following checklist can be used to create your disaster supply kit for evacuation or sheltering in place, depending on the situation. It is a good idea to keep what supplies you can together in advance so that you do not have to scramble to prepare at the last minute. Keep in mind that some items, such as medication, might only be able to be added in later or may need to be updated regularly.

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> BATTERY POWERED RADIO      | <input type="checkbox"/> NON-PERISHABLE FOOD SUPPLIES | <input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL NEEDS ITEMS (INFANT FORMULA OR OTHER DIET NEEDS) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HAND SANITIZER             | <input type="checkbox"/> MANUAL CAN OPENER            | <input type="checkbox"/> TOILETRIES/HYGEINE ITEMS                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TWO-WEEK MEDICATION SUPPLY | <input type="checkbox"/> BOOKS AND ACTIVITIES         | <input type="checkbox"/> BUG SPRAY AND SUNSCREEN                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXTRA CLOTHING             | <input type="checkbox"/> FLASHLIGHTS                  | <input type="checkbox"/> PET SUPPLIES   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FIRST AID KIT              | <input type="checkbox"/> SAFE WATER SUPPLY            | <input type="checkbox"/> IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BLANKETS AND PILLOWS       | <input type="checkbox"/> CASH                         | <input type="checkbox"/> PORTABLE CELL PHONE CHARGERS                             |

## HOW MUCH WATER DO YOU NEED?

A good general rule of thumb is that you should store enough clean water to allow each person in the household to use 1 to 1.5 gallons per day. However, keep in mind that you will need to store an increased amount to accomodate for any children, nursing mothers, elderly or pets. Like with everything else, plan to have enough for at least three days.



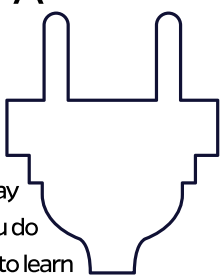
## DON'T FORGET FIDO

If your family has pets, it is important to include the necessary items for them in your disaster supply kit as well. This includes:

- Extra food in plastic containers
- Carrier and leash
- ID tags (2 sets, one on the animal and one extra) with name and your contact information.
- Have pets microchipped.
- Proof of ownership (e.g., registration papers and pictures)
- Medications and pet first aid supplies
- Medical and vaccination records
- Veterinarian's phone number and address

## SHOULD YOU GET A GENERATOR?

A portable generator can be a useful thing to have in a disaster situation when you don't plan on evacuating, and the power may be down for days or weeks. If you do decide to purchase one, be sure to learn how to properly use it before a disaster. Important safety tips include:



- Never use inside your home or attached garage.
- Use carbon monoxide alarms to alert you to dangerous levels within your home.
- Follow the directions that came with your generator.
- Contact an electrician or manufacturer for information regarding proper use and any questions.
- Do not place anywhere where people or animals gather.

1. "Preparing to Evacuate Your Home in Case of an Emergency" by Elizabeth B. Bolton, Muthusami Kumaran, and Angela B. Lindsey, <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/616>

2. "Preparing and Storing a Safe Drinking Water Supply" by Shuchi Shukla and Thomas Obreza, <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/616>

• Electrical Safety Foundation International, [esfi.org](http://esfi.org)