



Emergency Preparedness Services Department

## **What do you need to take with you if you are told to evacuate your home in an emergency?**

Prepare and pack ahead of time:

- A change of clothing including a light jacket, extra pair of glasses, extra socks and underwear.
- A First Aid Kit.
- Family emergency contact information (on paper in case power is out).
- Food. Include high nutrient foods such as protein bars, nuts, or seeds. Pack enough food for each person for three days. Include canned food (high protein like tuna, chili beans, peanut butter) and don't forget the manual can opener.
- Water: you will need 1 gallon of water, per day, per person. This should be used for drinking as well as bathing for hygiene. In some geographic locations the water pumps that bring water to your home are run by electricity. So even if asked to shelter in place, you will not have tap water available.
- Emergency blanket(s), at least one per person.
- A multi-purpose tool
- Sanitation and personal hygiene items (toilet paper, toothpaste/toothbrush, soap).
- Personal Protective Equipment: your evacuation destination may be undetermined at the time you leave home. Taking a few masks and hand sanitizer may come in handy.
- Medications. You may not be able to access your doctor or a pharmacy when you are evacuated, pack needed medications, remembering that they may have expiration dates and should be checked on a regular basis, as preparation for evacuation.
- Electronics for communication and awareness of the situation. Phone chargers and cube plugs, and, if possible, a hand crank radio and extra batteries.
- Flashlights with extra batteries. You may be evacuated to an area with electricity, but you may not, inexpensive flashlights are fine for this temporary use.
- Important papers: Scan all needed documents and create two flash drives. Place one in a waterproof Ziplock bag and keep with Emergency Supplies. Mail or email one to a trusted friend or relative who lives out of the area in case the primary one is lost. Include scans of *passports, birth certificates, driver's license, health insurance cards, Social Security and Medicare cards, marriage certificates, insurance cards or paperwork, credit/debit card information, home and car title information.*
- Maps of the area.
- Cash: If the power is out, ATMs won't be working, banks will be closed, but you may need to purchase unexpected items. If possible, pack a couple of hundred dollars, in small bills and place in a zip lock bag.