WHAT SHOULD BE IN A GO BAG?

A go bag holds what each person needs to leave quickly: water, non-perishable food, a flashlight, a battery or hand-crank radio, a first aid kit, medications, copies of key documents, cash and chargers. Ready.gov says to keep it where everyone knows, and to tell the household who is responsible for it.

THE STEPS

01 Choose a bag you can carry on foot, one for each person.

02 Pack water, non-perishable food, a flashlight, a battery or hand-crank radio, extra batteries and a whistle.

03 Add a first aid kit, medications, glasses, hygiene supplies and a dust mask.

04 Add copies of insurance, identification and bank records in a waterproof container, plus cash and a phone charger or backup battery.

05 Add a change of clothes, sturdy shoes and a blanket or sleeping bag.

06 Tell everyone in the household where the bag is and who is responsible for it.

THE CHECKLIST

- ☐ Water and food
- ☐ Flashlight, radio, batteries, whistle
- ☐ First aid kit and medications
- ☐ Document copies and cash
- ☐ Clothes, shoes, blanket
- ☐ Pet food and a leash if you have a pet

Sources: Ready.gov, Build a Kit; Ready.gov, Evacuation. Last reviewed November 17, 2026. General planning information, not medical, legal or financial advice.