

Have a 72-hour emergency kit

City of Pismo Beach



No one usually thinks a disaster will happen to them. Your best strategy in dealing with a disaster is to be as prepared as possible. You should be able to take care of yourself, your family and your pet for 72 hours. Use this checklist to stock a basic 72-hour kit and add items depending on your family's needs. Ideally, your kit should be stored in a waterproof and wheeled container. You may have to stay in your home without electricity or water, or you may have to evacuate your home for a period of time so be sure your kit is movable if needed.

Food and water

- One gallon of water per person per day.
- Food that doesn't require cooking and won't spoil, such as granola and protein bars, trail mix, dried fruit and canned tuna (remember to check expiration dates and replace food and water once a year).

Equipment

- Manual can opener.
- Flashlight (wind-up or battery-operated) and batteries (replace batteries every year).
- Wind-up or battery-powered radio (replace batteries every year).
- Candles, lighter, waterproof/ strike-anywhere matches.
- Pens and paper.
- Duct tape.
- Pocket knife.
- Cooking and eating utensils.
- Clothes and blankets or sleeping bags.
- Garbage bags.
- Whistle and flares (to attract attention).

Toiletries

- Cleaning supplies (hand sanitizer, dry shampoo, etc.).
- First aid kit.
- Toilet paper.
- Dish soap.
- Feminine supplies.

Special needs items

- Infant needs (diapers, formula, bottles, etc.).
- Prescription medicines.
- Extra pair of prescription glasses or contact lenses.
- Pet items (food, leash, muzzle, medication, etc.).

Personal documents and items

- A list of your emergency contacts (names and contact numbers).
- An extra set of house and car keys.
- Some cash in smaller bills.
- Copies of important documents like passports, birth certificates and insurance policies.