

Preparing to Leave for Disaster Response

What to Pack

You will be living in confined quarters, so you will want to minimize taking any items that you will definitely not need while on assignment. Try not to bring items of large value such as expensive cameras or other electronics. You may not be able to guard your belongings at all times and they may be vulnerable. Purchasing luggage locks is encouraged in order to lock bags to deter theft. Each deployment is different. You will be told where you are staying before deployment and that will change your packing slightly. Example hotel vs campground will affect whether you pack sleeping bag or not.

Check-list of Items to pack:

- Duffle bag or suitcase with zipper locks
- Daypack – Backpack, CamelBak, etc...
- Personal Toiletries (soap/shampoo/toothbrush/Q-tips/nail clippers/razor and shave cream/menstrual supplies/deodorant/medication/etc)
- Towel
- Sunglasses
- Cell phone and charger (car and outlet adapters)
- Camera
- Water bottle
- Pillow
- Sleeping bag
- Camp pad (You will be sleeping on cots most likely but pads add comfort)
- Leisure time materials (Book/games/music/etc.)
- Ample clothing for 7 days to accommodate potential weather conditions including sets of work clothes, camp clothes, and sleeping clothes. (before deployment you will be told your potential station, but it is helpful to be prepared to move around)
 - Pants – Work and Office (3-5)
 - Shirts (7-10)
 - Underwear and socks (up to 10 pair)
 - Handkerchief, bandana, or baseball cap
 - Sleepwear (1 set)
 - Bathing Suit (for both recreation and communal showers)
 - Warm Jacket/Rain Gear/hat/gloves
 - Shower shoes
- AmeriCorps t-shirts (*Acquire extra t-shirts if necessary*)
- Identification, cash, debit and credit cards – for personal spending
- Extra Things to Consider:**
 - Watch/alarm clock
 - Headlamp/flashlight w/extra batteries
 - Swiss army knife/Leatherman
 - Camera
 - Ear Plugs (never know who snores)

All rules for use of PPE apply during deployment:

(PPE will be supplied to you, but it is helpful to bring items you might already have and like using if applicable. Be certain that you acquire necessary personal items from your cache for your use)

- Work boots
- pair leather gloves
- Ear protection
- Rubber boots

Group items such as laundry detergent, insect repellent, sunscreen, etc will be purchased and made available by the ADRT team. A couple computers will accompany the Team Leaders and may be available occasionally for personal use.

What do to do before leaving on disaster?

- Complete Just in time disaster trainings
- Fill prescriptions
- Pay any bills
- Tell landlord of extended leave so you are not “abandoning” the property
- Tell anyone else you need to.
- Consider a stop in mail at the post office
- Ensure pets have a care plan
- Clean out fridge of any food that would go bad (MILK!!!!)