

# November 9, 2020 LeeCARES Net Training: Go Bags

Presented by Jason Korb, KI5ABB

## Go-Bag Contents

### Personal Equipment

Each ARES member is expected to be prepared to respond as effectively as possible to a callout. No one is expected to ignore personal responsibilities to your family or employer, nor unnecessary risk to themselves! However, personal inconvenience or lack of preparation is an insufficient reason for not supporting a callout!

By creating a "go-bag" of the items you need to function, you will be able to respond quickly and without hesitation to events. Please understand that you are not expected to stuff your entire ham shack, closet, and pantry into a bag in support of ARES. Rather that you think about the items you need to function normally and acquire them while there is time and no urgency.

The bag should include almost everything you will need to be helpful in an ARES event. We suggest you maintain one "go-bag" with the personal items that you would need to survive and be comfortable for several days and possibly a second (or it could be just a list) of the items that, when added to the first, will provide you with the radio equipment and supplies to make you much more effective and comfortable during an event. To summarize, do not wait until you are called, to assemble your "go-bag". Do it in advance at your leisure.

A "Go-Bag" can also be known as a "bug out bag" or "get home bag." It will come in handy to have around for more than just ARES events. We never know when we may have a family emergency, an unexpected business trip, a weather event, or any other craziness that may arise. Emergencies do not happen every day, but a "go-bag" is still good to have ready. It could be that it is just convenient to have a change of clothes available after spilling your coffee, or an opportunity for an impromptu vacation or overnight stay somewhere.

Having the items we need ready to go can make a huge difference and give us peace of mind when things get hectic.

The items shown in UPPER CASE are the ones most likely to be needed.

### Equipment:

ARES/ECOMM/RACES/SERVED-AGENCY IDENTIFICATION CARD(S)  
COPY OF AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE  
HANDHELD RADIO (dual band if possible)  
SPARE BATTERY PACKS (CHARGED nicad and AA) /w CHARGER  
HEADSET, SPEAKER-MIC.

--

The most usable headset in high noise areas will have noise cancellation in the -20db to -30db to be effective.

**\*\*DO NOT USE THE VOX OPTION\*\*** on any headset.

--

19IN. MAG. MOUNT/GROUND PLANE ANTENNA (will function on 70cm)  
COAX JUMPERS AND CONNECTORS  
CONNECTOR ADAPTERS (BNC/PL259, BNC/SO239, some radios require SMA)  
DUCT TAPE  
SHORTHAND NOTEBOOK, PEN & CLIP BOARD  
WATCH or DIGITAL CLOCK  
MAPS OF THE AREA (Topo and street)!!!  
COPIES OF MESSAGE FORMS ARRL and ICS-213  
Compass and/or GPS  
Copy of District & Unit Operations Manual  
List of served agency phone numbers in your area (not just your district)  
Boundary-Marking Tape  
Insect Repellent (summer)

# November 9, 2020 LeeCARES Net Training:

## Go Bags

Presented by Jason Korb, KI5ABB

### Survival Items:

3 DAY SUPPLY OF PERSONAL MEDICATION!  
WARM CLOTHING & BOOTS (bright colors for shirts and jackets)  
HAT - (this is IMPORTANT for everyone)  
GLOVES  
SPARE GLASSES (spare contact solutions if you wear them)  
FIRST AID KIT  
SUPPLY OF WATER (the warmer your region, the more you need but EVERYONE needs water with them)  
TOILET PAPER/KLEENEX  
Moist Towelette Packets  
SUNSCREEN (winter or summer)  
RAIN SUIT/PONCHO  
ORANGE VEST (for use if your clothing is drab colored)  
Space Blanket  
Plastic ground cover tarp  
Spare shoelaces and some twine  
Wool blanket  
Fanny-pack/Back-Pack  
Sports/Bicycle water bottle  
High energy snacks  
Large trash bags  
Flashlight W/extra batteries  
Whistle

### Tools:

SWISS ARMY - type - KNIFE  
SCREWDRIVER (phillips and flat)  
PLIERS  
SIDE CUTTER  
CRESENT WRENCH  
ELECTRICAL TAPE  
VOM  
Fence Pliers (includes hammer)  
Crimp Tool (includes wire stripper)  
Assortment of crimp connectors, nails, brads, tacks  
4 or more each of the 4", 8" and 12" plastic cable ties

### For public service events:

COOLER with FOOD & DRINK  
Lawn chair  
Umbrella (sun or rain)

### Optional items:

3 Wire AC Extension Cord w/2-3 pin adaptor  
AC to 12V power supply  
Soldering Iron w/solder  
2M Beam Antenna w/Tripod, mast & guy rope  
Nut Driver set  
Folding set of Allen/Torx wrenches  
Zip Cord  
Cash (for pay phones & if power is out)  
Transistor radio  
Binoculars  
HF Unique:  
HF rig (12V dc preferred) with:

Microphone  
Key  
Headphones, external speaker  
Tuner  
50+ ft. of RG8X or better  
NVIS antenna: which is NOT a mobile vertical  
75m dipole or 130 ft of wire  
Insulators  
3 Masts, 8ft or more, preferably non-conductive  
Guy rope  
Tent pegs for guys  
Lead weight & 50 ft light line for tossing over branches  
"Loud" marking tape to warn passers-by of guys, lines.  
Power source (one or more):  
12V gel cell 75 A/H w/ charger  
Vehicle w/ 12V battery & gas  
Portable shack:  
Shelter tent  
Table & chair