

**Legend:****X = Required (must have in kit at all times)****R = Recommended (likely useful on many assignments)****O = Optional (useful on some assignments)****2 to 6-Hour Go Kit**

**Purpose:** To be kept nearby at all times for immediate (within minutes) communication of damage reports during Net ops. Also used to remain in contact with while returning home to retrieve 24-hour Go-Kit.

**Items:**

- X 2m/70cm dual-band radio
  - HT recommended (min. 5W on 12V/2.5W on batt)
  - Mobile 25W optional (if vehicle will not be far away)
  - Programmed with Net frequencies
- X Charged batteries for 2-3 hours operation
- X 2m/70cm dual-band mobile antenna (mag mount, window mount or existing mobile antenna)
- X NWS Spotter Sheet 8.5" x 14"
- X Notepad / pens
- R Cigarette lighter adapter
- R Telephone book and Personal Emergency Contact list
- R Cell phone
- R Water (Two 16 oz. bottles) & non-melting snacks

**24-Hour Go Kit**

**Purpose:** For fully independent operation; unknown environment (heat, cold, wind, rain); unknown time (day, night, up to 24 hours). Return home to retrieve.

**Equipment****Portable Radio:**

- X 2m/70cm dual-band handy-talkie (HT)
  - minimum 5W on 12V/2.5W on batteries [Note 1]
  - dual-receive recommended
- X Radio user manual or cheat sheet
- X Ear bud or headphones minimum; headset, ear bud/mic, or speaker/mic/ear bud, or similar recommended
- R Small backpack, vest, chest harness or other similar method for carrying HT while operating portable

**Power Source:**

- X Charged batteries for 24 hours (min. 6000 mAH) [Note 2]
- X Power cord adapters – connect to various power sources:
  - Anderson Powerpoles (use RACES standard config.)
  - Cigarette lighter socket
  - Vehicle battery terminals
- X Spare fuses
- R Powerpole splitter or fused distribution panel

- R Extension cord, 3-wire, 3-6 ft., multi-outlet
- O Extension cord, 3-wire, 50-100 ft.
- O Power Inverter

**Antennas:**

- X Coax adapters: connect HT to coax, coax to the following:
  - BNC plug (male) & BNC socket (female)
  - UHF plug (PL-259) & UHF socket (SO-239)
  - N-type plug (male) and N-type socket (female)
- X Min. 25 feet of 50 ohm coaxial cable
- X 2m/70cm dual-band magnetic or window mount antenna
- R 2m/70cm high gain HT antenna
- R 2m/70cm dual-band portable base antenna (e.g. roll-up J-pole or other)
- R Portable mast (elevates antenna min. 10 ft.)
- R Tripod or self-supporting base for mast
- R Window clip antenna mount (for non-metallic vehicles)

**Other Communications Gear:**

- R Cell phone & charger and/or cigarette lighter adapt.
- O FRS/GMRS/CB Radio

**Tools:**

- R Duct tape
- R Electrical tape
- R Nylon Tie-Wraps/wire ties
- R Utility knife
- R Small multi-tool or tool kit
- O Volt-Ohm meter
- O SWR/Power meter

**Operating Position:**

- X Sign(s) for operating position
- R Lighting for operating position
- R Rope or Dacron cord (50')
- R Folding chair
- O Magnetic sign for car
- O Folding table
- O Pop-up Canopy
- O Tarp (8' by 8' or larger)
- O Folding cart
- O Safety strobes or flares
- O Caution/flagging tape (for marking cables, antennas, ...)

**Documentation****Identification:**

- X TX Driver's license or TX-issued ID card
- X Amateur Radio license
- X ARES & RACES ID cards

**Maps:**

- X Grayson County, Texas, Oklahoma, Lake Texoma
- X Compass or GPS

- R Maps of antenna & digipeater locations (if available)
- R City, county or other detail maps

**Forms and Documentation (for station kit):**

- X ICS 205 – Communications Plan (min. 5)
- X ICS 211A – Communications Check-In (min. 5)
- X ICS 213 – Message (min. 10)
- X ICS 214 – Unit Activity Log (min. 5)
- X ICS 309 – Communications Log (min. 5)
- X ICS 314 – Windshield Survey (min. 5)
- X Phone message pad (2-part style recommended)
- X ARRL message forms & ARL number list (welfare traffic)

**Logging / Note taking:**

- X Clipboard (covered type recommended)
- X Notepads (standard or waterproof)
- X At least 2 pens / pencils
- O Paperclips / binder clips
- O Highlighters / felt-tip pens

**Contact Lists:**

- X Voice and Packet Frequency Lists
- X EOC telephone contact list
- X Police/Fire direct dial phone numbers
- O Repeater directory

**Personal Gear****Vehicle:**

- X Reliable operating condition
- X Fueled – minimum ½ full at all times
- R Jumper cables

**General Items:**

- X Money (paper and coin) – in case ATMs are down
- X Watch or clock
- R Trash bags

**Personal Safety Gear:**

- X Flashlight or headlamp and spare batteries for 24 hours
- X Safety vest, ANSI standard (lime yellow recommended)
- R First Aid kit
- R Whistle
- R Work gloves
- R Sunglasses
- R Sunscreen lotion
- R Insect Repellent
- R Safety glasses
- R Mask (NIOSH-certified N95 or better)
- O Hearing protection (e.g. foam ear plugs)
- O Hard hat (lime yellow recommended)
- O Chemical light sticks

**Clothing:**

- X Sturdy, closed-toe shoes (no sandals)
- X Long pants (no shorts)
- X Hat (broad brim recommended)
- X Seasonal jacket / rain gear

**Food & Water:**

- X Food for 24 hours (make your own list)
- X Water for 24 hours (2-3 gallons recommended)
- R Small cooler or ice chest

**Toiletries:**

- R Hand soap and/or sanitizer
- R Toilet paper
- O Tylenol
- O Antacid tablets

**As Needed / Appropriate:**

- Prescription medication
- List of medication used
- Eyeglasses & spare

**Miscellaneous (as needed)**

- Portable AM radio and spare batteries
- Binoculars
- Baggies to seal/protect items
- Shovel
- Fire extinguisher
- Disposable camera

**Mobile Radio Kit (as needed)**

- 2m/70cm mobile radio
  - 25W minimum
  - Dual-receive, cross-band repeat recommended
- Radio user manual or cheat sheet
- Headset (stereo recommended for VFO per ear)
- Battery for 24-hours operation (20 AH min.; 26 AH rec.)
- Battery charger
- Power cord adapters – connect to various power sources:
  - Powerpoles
  - Cigarette lighter socket
  - Vehicle battery terminals
- Coax adapters: connect mobile to coax, coax to following:
  - BNC plug (male) & BNC socket (female)
  - UHF plug (PL-259) & UHF socket (SO-239)
  - N-type plug (male) and N-type socket (female)

**Packet/BBHN Equipment (as needed)**

- Laptop with RMS Express & RMS Packet installed
- USB flash drive (i.e. USB key)
- TNC (may be hardware, software or built into radio)
- Cables: TNC to radio; TNC to PC
- Shade cover for display/laptop screen
- Portable printer
- Entire station can operate for min. 1 hr on battery
- Broadband Hamnet nodes
- VOIP phone (for use with Broadband Hamnet node)

## **Extended Go Kit (72 or 120 hours)**

**Purpose:** Additional items for fully independent operation over an extended period of time. Used in situations where returning home after shift is not possible or not ideal.

### **As Needed**

#### **Power Source:**

- Regulated DC power supply
- Battery charger
- Spare batteries (for charging while operating)
- Portable generator and fuel
- DC distribution panel & cables (Powerpoles recommended)

#### **Clothing:**

- Rain gear
- Jacket
- Warm clothing (preferably in layers)
- Under garments (72 hour-3 sets)(120 hour-5 sets)
- Socks (72 hour-3 sets)(120 hour-5 sets)
- Pants (72 hour-3 sets)(120 hour-5 sets)
- Belt
- Shirts (72 hour-3 sets)(120 hour-5 sets)
- Alternate boots or shoes
- Sleepwear
- Cold water laundry soap (e.g. Woolite)

#### **Food and Water:**

- MREs (self heating) or other non-perishable meals
- Water (1.5 gallons/day recommended, depending on conditions)
- Sanitizing towelettes / baby wipes / similar (no scent)
- Water purification tablets or devices
- Can opener
- Cooler or ice chest
- Bowl and eating utensils
- Coffee cup

#### **Shower Items:**

- Washcloth and towel
- Soap and shampoo
- Razor and shaving cream
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Comb and/or brush
- Deodorant/antiperspirant
- Wash basin (in case of no sink)

#### **Shelter:**

- Sleeping pad
- Sleeping bag/blanket
- Pillow
- Blanket

- Tent
- Ground Cloth
- Alarm clock (battery powered)
- Cot

## **Personal Go Kit Items/Notes:**

**Notes:**

1. Most recently manufactured hand held radios ARE capable of 5W output when 12-13.8 VDC is connected to the DC-IN jack and at least 2.5W output power using rechargeable battery packs. Check your radio's user manual to be sure your radio outputs at least 2.5W on rechargeable batteries. However, most hand held radios are NOT capable of producing a minimum of 2.5W output power using AA batteries. Some known exceptions are the Kenwood TH-D7 and the Yaesu FT-60. For all other radios, rechargeable battery packs will be needed unless the radio can be shown to have a minimum of 2.5W output on AA batteries (check user manual or test with power meter).
2. A review of the most popular handheld radios was conducted. Receive current, transmit current and rechargeable battery pack capacity were reviewed. 6000 mAH was determined to be the minimum capacity needed for 24 hours of operation. (Some radios may require a little more). Depending on the make and model, this translates to 4 to 6 rechargeable battery packs. This minimum requirement correlates well with real-world experience in drills and real incidents such as Katrina.
3. Special thanks to the Santa Clara County (CA) ARES and the *Boy Scout Handbook* for help in developing this list.