

Recommended Equipment for a Safety Professional Deployed in a Disaster



A Fact Sheet prepared by the National Telecommunications Safety Panel

INTRODUCTION

Safety Professionals responding to a disaster often are caught up in the moment and find when they get on site, they have forgotten many personal items.

*Keep in mind that this is not an all inclusive list, not everything here is required, and other items can be added. It is recommended to pack enough clothes for a 10 – 14 day deployment. **Bold items are highly recommended.***

Personal Gear: The quantity depends upon the length of deployment.

	Clothing – add one more day than anticipated
	Weather dependent: coats, jeans/long pants, long-sleeved shirts, t-shirts
	Sneakers / tennis shoes (for off time)
	Trouser belt
	Underwear
	Long underwear (weather dependent)
	Socks (bring plenty)
	Canteen - 1 quart water / canteen cover
	Rain gear
	Flashlight & 2 sets of batteries
	Notepad / pencil / pen / clipboard
	Company ID / Drivers License / Ample amount of cash money (\$100 minimum)/ credit card (keep in mind ATM's may be out of service for quite a while)
	Sunglasses
	Business cards (large number)
	Sun screen skin protection
	Insect repellent
	Soft hat
	Hard hat
	Digital camera (include batteries or battery charger)
	Wireless phone and extra battery (AC and DC car chargers)
	Medications - 2 weeks worth.
	Hand Sanitizer or Wet Wipes
	Binoculars
	Flashlight (2 sets of extra batteries)
	Utility items: rubber bands, safety pins, needle and thread, extra buttons
	Towels, Face cloth/Washcloth
	Toiletries: Bar and liquid soap for washing. Shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, razor.

	Roll of toilet paper
	Zip lock bags (assorted sizes)
	Garbage bags
	Dirty laundry bag
	Laundry soap
	Lip moisturizer / headache medication/ decongestants / etc.
	<i>Other Optional Personal Gear items:</i>
	Radio/ Batteries
	Reading materials / entertainment
	Shower shoes
	Bathing suit

Safety Equipment: Minimum PPE to be deployed and use them depending on site specific conditions:

	Work boots (ANSI – Class75 Safety toe and Puncture Resistant shank). Shoes must be fitted over the ankle and have a defined heel <i>and overshoes for wet areas</i> . Tennis shoes or sneakers <i>shall not</i> be worn while on duty because they will transfer contamination and will not prevent punctures, bites, or crush injuries. Hip waders may be appropriate to help prevent contact with flood waters while probing ahead of you for potholes.
	Work gloves. Leather, cold weather or special purpose gloves depending upon the environment.
	Goggles or safety glasses with side shields. Protection from blowing dust, debris, cutting, or flying objects. Sun/glare-protective lenses may be needed in some outside work settings.
	Hard hat & winter liner. Wear a hardhat if there is any danger of falling debris or electrical hazards.
	Hearing protection. When working in an environment with any noise that you must shout over to be heard for an extended period of time.
	Comfortable, form fitting, clothing appropriate for the climate. This always includes long pants and a sleeved shirt or coveralls (no shorts).
	Reflective safety vests. (Lime Class 2, level 2 for traffic)
	Foreign Voltage Detector (FVD)
	Shots/Vaccines. Response workers exposed to flood waters should have a Tetanus and Hepatitis A vaccine shot prior to deployment.

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Personal Equipment for a Safety Professional Deployed in a Disaster, continued

Considerations:	
	Airlines limit bag weight to 50 lbs per bag; some may charge for any bag weighing over 50 lbs.
	Try to keep the number of bags to a minimum. You should be able to carry them all at once for short distances.
	Luggage that has rollers on them may be a very good option. Military duffel bags, back packs, etc are also ideal.
	Label ALL your bags and equipment with your name, cell phone and address.
	It is possible that there will be not electrical outlets available. Electrically powered items are discouraged. Water and electricity may not be available.
	For any Health related issues that may impact your deployment, contact your supervisor.
	When packing, keep in mind current TSA rules about carry on items