

Butte County ARES Basic Go-Kit

A basic go kit can vary upon type of deployment. None-the-less there are basic items that you will need in a deployment that you should have in your vehicle or ready to go at a moment's notice. This kit should be able to support your needs for a minimum of 72 hours.

Basic Items include:

- 2-meter hand-held
- 2 meter mag-mount antenna and coax
- 2 meter mobile radio with connectors and external power supply
- Scanner HT or mobile
- Earphones/headset
- Paper and pencils
- Message forms
- Log forms/log book
- ARES ID card(s)
- Extra batteries
- Appropriate clothing
- Food & water

The majority of these should be kept in a **"Ready to Go-Kit"**; grab it and go.

Additional items you might consider for your deployment are as follows. Always consider the weather and nature of the deployment, location and the possibility you will be redeployed to an area where basic services are not available for the first 72 hours or more.

3 days of clothing	First aid kit	Extra coaxial cables
Foul weather gear	Throat lozenges	RF Connectors and adapters
Toiletries	Prescriptions	Power, audio connectors, etc.
Shelter (tent, sleeping bag)	Pain reliever tables	Batteries(AA, AAA, D, 12VDC..)
Portable stove, mess kit, fuel	additional radios, packet gear	tool kit
Lighter and matches	power supplies and chargers	Soldering iron and supplies
Flashlights/solar lights	Microphones	VOM
Alarm clock	patch chords	Electrical tape/duct tape
3 days' supply of water, food	Antennas, masts and mounts	safety glasses
Canopy	HF/VHF/UHF analyzer	Generator (recommended)

Power- Never underestimate what you may need for power nor for how long you may have to operate multiple radios for periods longer than 72 hours. You may need to supply someone else with a radio & power for short periods until such can be provided for them by their own supply sources. Set up a maintenance routine where you service and charge your 12 V DC battery packs at least once a month during non-deployed periods. This insures that larger battery packs AGM, GEL-Cell or Deep Cycle marine, are top charged and ready to go. Thus eliminating bad batteries or low charged batteries when they are needed the most. It is always wise to have a portable 700 Watts continuous or higher rated generator and fuel for 72 hours or more with you. AC-DC and DC-AC converters are also a wise item to have in your arsenal. Having an easily setup router for packet operations allows for email distribution. Have multiple ways of connecting different radios to batteries and generators; various fuses for each radio in your kit. Solar is also a great means of power when conditions permit it. The combination of both can provide continuous power theoretically indefinitely.

Gain Antennas – be able to adapt & build on the fly. J poles can be built from TV twin leads, copper tubing, old TV antenna radials, etc. Always have extra hand-held HT antennas, mag mounts 1/4 wave or 5/8 wave. Have extra coaxial in your kit totaling 50 Feet at a minimum; barrel connector, PL 259 connectors SO-239 connectors, power cable repair connectors, etc.

Personal - Include staples: water, or a reliable water filtration and purification system, enough food for three days or more, eating utensils, drinking cup(s), if need means to cook your food. A means of shelter from the elements. Size and type depends on your wallet suggestions (tent, RV's when possible lean two's, canopies, etc). Light is psychologically important during an emergency. Have various types of light sources is valuable.

In conclusion your kit will reflect your level of commitment to ARES, the size of your wallet, the type of deployment and its needs for equipment.

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