

CERT Backpack Checklist



Basic contents recommended by DHS CERT (national)

- CERT vest
- Cyalume sticks (12-hour omni-glow)
- Dehydrated foods
- Duct tape (2" wide)
- First aid supplies
 - 4"x4" gauze dressings (6)
 - Abdominal pads (4)
 - Triangular bandages (4)
 - Band-Aids
 - Roller bandage
 - Any personal medications you may need during deployment
- Filtration dusk mask (N95)
- Flashlight or miner's lamp with extra batteries & bulb
- Secondary flashlight
- Helmet (hard hat)
- Latex or nitrile gloves (at least 10 pairs)
- Leather work gloves
- Masking tape (2" wide)
- Notepad
- Pens
- Permanent markers, broad tip (for search & rescue) and thin tip
- Safety goggles/safety glasses
- Scissors (EMT shears)
- Utility knife
- Voltage detector ("tick meter")
- Water purification tablets*
- Whistle (pea-less)
- Crescent wrench, non-sparking

Recommended by experience of others

For operations:

- Binoculars
- Caution tape or surveyor's tape
- CERT Team Operations Guide
- Compass
- Cord (50 ft)
- Emergency blanket ("space blanket")
- Family Radio Service handheld radio, extra batteries
- Hand towel (small)
- Knife –pocket, Leatherman, Swiss Army
- Luggage tag
- Map
- Pry bar
- Rope (no larger than 7-9mm, to section off areas)
- Sheet (for victim transport)
- Snap link, small
- Splint materials
- Super absorbent disposable diapers and/or sanitary napkins (for soaking blood, padding around impaled objects)
- Trash bags, large, preferably high density
- Triage tape – green, red, yellow, black
- Ziploc bags (various sizes)

Recommended by experience of others

For your own health, safety, comfort or convenience:

- Back support belt
- Clipboard, small (6"x9", for example)
- CERT cap
- Ear plugs
- Hand sanitizer (for example, Purell or Purell Wipes)
- Insect repellent (SC Johnson makes Off! Towelettes)
- Knee pads
- Lamp for helmet (miner's lamp, visor light)
- Non-perishable food (energy bar, for example)
- Poncho – rain gear
- Painter/finisher utility belt/apron (organizer)
- Prescription glasses (spares)
- Rubber Gloves, HD (Industrial or Dishwashing)
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Water bottle with a wide mouth
- Water (bottles, pouches)
- *Water purification method (small bottle of bleach, Steripen)