

## Car Kit for Emergencies

### Article 6

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Emergencies and disasters can occur at any time and usually when you least expect it. There is a very real chance that such an event will take place when you are away from home. For this reason, an emergency kit in your car or truck is an essential tool in your Emergency Preparedness Kit. While we cannot be prepared for every type of emergency, a properly supplied kit in each of your vehicles will help you survive until assistance arrives. Road closures from a major storm, earthquake or other disaster may leave you and your family stranded. The supplies you have in your vehicle may save your life and those that depend on you.

Much like your emergency kit at home, the supplies in your vehicle should include a three-day supply of food and water for each family member and pet. You will also want to keep a supply of emergency blankets. Wool blankets dry quickly and are very durable. These are available at any Army/Navy supply store or on line ([www.northwestwoolen.com](http://www.northwestwoolen.com)). Another option is compact emergency blankets, which are available at any camping supply outlet. A first aid kit, flashlight, flares, a compact shovel, jumper cables, work gloves, and snow chains are also essential for your survival. Remember to test out those snow chains each autumn to give yourself some practice putting them on before the winter storms.

Water (one gallon per day for each family member and pet) can be stored in large reusable containers or smaller plastic bottles. Your food supply should be long-lasting and nutritional such as canned meats, dried meat/fruits and sealed granola bars. Emergency supplies can be stored in plastic containers in a car's trunk or behind the seats of a small truck. Many SUVs have storage areas, as well. Don't forget to mark your calendar to rotate your food items and test your equipment every six months.

Unless your vehicle is in rising water or another dangerous situation, you should stay with your car or truck. Your vehicle can be your most reliable shelter and can be located more easily by rescue teams.