90-Day Emergency Medical Supplies

Civic Resilience

2025-09-24

Introduction: Why a 90-Day Emergency Medical Supply Kit Matters

Natural disasters and civil emergencies can unfold suddenly, leaving communities isolated for days or even weeks. In Washington State, where rugged geography, dense population centers, and diverse hazards intersect, the ability to care for your own health during a crisis is more than a convenience—it can be lifesaving. A well-stocked 90-day medical supply kit ensures that you and your family can respond to injuries, treat common illnesses, and maintain essential health needs when professional medical help may be delayed or overwhelmed.

Hazards Unique to Washington State

Washington's natural landscape brings a variety of serious threats:

Major Earthquakes and Tsunamis – The Cascadia Subduction Zone and local faults pose a high risk of a large earthquake that could cut off access to hospitals and pharmacies for weeks.

Volcanic Activity – Mount Rainier and Mount St. Helens remain active; ash fall or lahars could disrupt transportation and utilities.

Severe Storms and Flooding – Atmospheric river events and seasonal flooding can isolate communities, damage infrastructure, and contaminate drinking water.

Wildfires and Smoke Events – Increasingly intense wildfire seasons lead to poor air quality and respiratory distress far from the flames.

Extended Power Outages – Ice storms or windstorms can down power lines, making it difficult to refrigerate medications or access electronic medical records.

Electromagnetic Pulse Events - Long-duration power outages can also result from less common but high-impact events such as severe geomagnetic storms or an electromagnetic pulse (EMP). While rare, these scenarios are included in federal preparedness planning because they can disable large portions of the

electrical grid. The loss of power and communications would quickly overwhelm medical infrastructure and disrupt the delivery of medications—making a 90-day personal medical supply a critical layer of resilience.

The Current Climate of Political and Civil Unrest

Beyond natural hazards, today's environment of political polarization and occasional civil unrest can strain emergency services. Protests, localized violence, or sudden disruptions to supply chains may cause pharmacies and clinics to close without warning. Access to routine prescriptions or urgent care could be limited just when they are most needed.

Why Your Kit Should Be This Extensive

A 90-day kit is not simply about stocking a few first-aid basics; it is a deliberate buffer against uncertainty. The items listed—ranging from common pain relievers and antihistamines to trauma gear and medical reference guides—address three key needs:

Continuity of Care: If regular prescriptions or over-the-counter medications become scarce, you can manage chronic conditions and minor illnesses.

Immediate Response to Injury: Trauma supplies, splints, and hemostatic dressings give you the ability to stabilize injuries until professional help arrives.

Self-Reliance in Prolonged Disruptions: Printed medical guides and diagnostic tools support safe decision-making when medical professionals are unavailable.

Preparing such a comprehensive medical supply kit is an act of resilience. By anticipating the unique hazards of Washington State and acknowledging the uncertainties of our current social climate, you ensure that your household remains safe, healthy, and ready—no matter what unfolds.

90-Day Emergency Medical Supply Checklist

Medications (Over-the-Counter & Natural):

Acetaminophen (Tylenol)
Aspirin
Bismuth Subsalicylate (Pepto-Bismol)
Clotrimazole or Miconazole Cream
Cough Drops / Throat Lozenges
Diphenhydramine (Benadryl)
Electrolyte Powder Packets
Honey
Hydrocortisone 1% Cream
Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin)

 □ Loperamide (Imodium) □ Loratadine (Claritin) □ Meclizine or Dramamine □ Neosporin (Antibiotic Ointment) □ Saline Nasal Spray 		
Diagnostics & Monitoring:		
□ Alcohol Prep Pads or Wipes □ Dermabond (Skin Adhesive) □ Digital Thermometer □ IV Tubing □ Manual Blood Pressure Cuff □ Normal Saline (IV bags) □ Occlusive Dressings □ Penlight □ Pregnancy Tests □ Pulse Oximeter □ Sterile Water □ Urinalysis Test Strips		
Additional Emergency & Trauma Gear:		
□ Ace Wrap □ Betadine (Povidone-iodine) □ Burn Cream (Aloe Vera, Silver Sulfadiazine) □ Butterfly Bandages / Steri-Strips □ CPR Face Shield or Mask □ Coban Wrap □ Cold Packs □ Elbow Brace □ Gauze (various sizes) □ Hemostatic Gauze (e.g., QuikClot) □ Hydrocolloid Bandages □ Israeli Bandages □ Knee Brace □ Medical Tape □ Moleskin □ Reusable Hot Packs □ SAM Splints □ Shoulder Brace □ Sutures (various sizes) □ Telfa Pads □ Tourniquets □ Trauma Shears □ Vaseline Gauze □ Wound Wash Spray		

Hygiene & Preventive Supplies:		
☐ Anti-Lice Shampoo and Comb		
☐ Antibacterial Soap		
☐ Feminine Hygiene Products		
☐ Foot Powder		
☐ Gloves (Nitrile or Latex)		
☐ Hand Sanitizer (Alcohol-Based)		
☐ Masks (Surgical or N95)		
□ Nail Clippers		
\square Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Floss		
\square Tweezers		
\Box Zinc Oxide Cream		
Medical References & Guides:		
☐ Laminated CPR / First Aid Guides		
☐ Offline / Printed Medical Manuals (PDFs)		
☐ Printed Dosage Charts		
☐ "Where There Is No Doctor" Book		
☐ "Where There Is No Dentist" Book		