## **PERSONAL DOCUMENTS CHECKLIST**

Collecting, copying, and safeguarding important information now could help you respond and recover faster after a disaster. Use this checklist now to choose which documents are most important to you and those you live with. Then gather them together to keep with your Go Bag so you will never leave them behind.

IDENTIFICATION &	FINANCIAL &	MEDICAL
VITAL RECORDS	LEGAL PAPERS	INFORMATION
Few people need all	It may help you receive aid	Medical records may be needed
of these, but most need	faster after a disaster if you	after a disaster to keep you &
at least one.	have copies of these papers.	your loved ones healthy.
<ul> <li>Driver's license, passport, or military ID card</li> <li>Birth certificates &amp; Social Security cards</li> <li>Green card, naturalization paperwork, immigration papers</li> <li>Adoption or child custody papers</li> <li>Marriage or divorce certificates</li> <li>Pet ownership papers &amp; proof of vaccinations (to enter shelters)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Housing records, such as property leases, rental agreements, mortgages, deeds</li> <li>Vehicle records, such as title, registration, VIN, loan papers</li> <li>All insurance policies you have (life, auto, homeowners, renters, flood)</li> <li>Account numbers for your bank, debit card, retirement accounts</li> <li>Important bills, such as credit cards, utility bills, loans, alimony, child support</li> <li>Proof of income—pay stubs, tax records, government benefits, alimony, child support</li> <li>Wills, powers of attorney</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Health insurance cards &amp; health history records (major diagnoses, treatments)</li> <li>A medications list with all prescriptions your family members take</li> <li>List of all medical, communication &amp; mobility devices, with model numbers</li> <li>Names &amp; numbers of your health care providers &amp; your pharmacies</li> <li>Medical power of attorney</li> <li>Details on your wishes for medical care, such a living will</li> </ul>

TIPS

- You don't have to collect all these papers at once. Just start and do a little at a time.
- Keep your documents in some kind of holder, to protect them inside your Go Bag.
- Keep backup photos on your phone of your prescription labels and most valued papers.
- Save a list of usernames and passwords for online accounts. Keep it safe.
- Have a list of important contacts in case you cannot access your phone or the internet.
- Recent photos of family members and pets can help you find each other if you get separated during a disaster.
- Add a paper map of your area. GPS services may not work during a disaster. Cellular coverage may not be available to help guide you out of your area.

