

### From Backpacker's Magazine, Oct 2008: Ultimate Emergency Kit.

Jeff Webb, a SAR ranger at Yosemite National Park, has worked on more than 200 rescue missions. This is the emergency kit he crams into the lid of his pack whenever he heads out into the wilderness.

**Bic lighter** "Cheap and small," says Webb. \$2; widely available



**Brunton 15TDCL compass** Webb doesn't cut corners here. This compass has a signal mirror and a built-in sighting line. \$81.20; [brunton.com](http://brunton.com)

### CamelBak Omega Reservoir

This convenient water carrier comes in four different sizes. Webb likes the 35-ouncer. \$20; [camelbak.com](http://camelbak.com)



**Cell phone** Webb says cell phones are "pretty much mandatory" as survival items today. Just don't rely on a cell alone to save you, he cautions. You might not get a signal.



**Coghlan's Emergency Tinder** It burns readily, is easily portable in an empty pill bottle, and so light and small there's no excuse not to carry a few. \$3.50; [coghlan.com](http://coghlan.com)

**Coghlan's Magnesium Starter** A cheap, widely available backup for the Bic lighter. Webb recommends having redundancy in firestarters. \$9; [coghlan.com](http://coghlan.com)

**GU Energy Gel and Clif bars** Together they have enough punch to aid in muscle recovery and deliver a nice energy jolt. \$1, [guenergy.com](http://guenergy.com); \$1.50, [clifbar.com](http://clifbar.com)

**Homemade first-aid kit** Webb's includes an aspirin- and ibuprofen-filled pill bottle wrapped in duct tape and medical tape, a couple of gauze pads bound in a rubber band, and a standard gauze roll and a Kerlix gauze roll. It's enough gear to "stop a bleed and wrap it tight with the tape, or wrap a sprain and take the pain meds," he says. Webb packs it all in a Norelco shaver case.

**Klean Kanteen** Indestructible stainless steel 27-ounce water bottle. Webb brings an empty one along as a backup. \$33; [kleankanteen.com](http://kleankanteen.com)



**Nike Lance 4 wristwatch** Webb recommends a watch with altimeter, barometer, and compass. The readings give you a good reference point, he says. \$259; [nike.com/timing](http://nike.com/timing)



**Patagonia Houdini** Webb calls this 4-ounce shell "a good all-around windbreaker that's also ultralight." \$125; [patagonia.com](http://patagonia.com)

**Petzl Tikka Plus compact LED headlamp** has four settings, including strobe. It's great for emergency use, he says, but not bright enough for bushwhacking at night. \$35; [petzl.com](http://petzl.com)



**Potable Aqua iodine tablets** Lighter than a filter, and if you're really thirsty, you won't mind the taste. \$6; [potableaqua.com](http://potableaqua.com)

**Small tea light candle** Set one up under wet wood to speed drying, Webb says. \$1

### SmartWool Trekking Heavy Crew sock

Webb carries an extra pair of wool socks because they stay warm when wet. \$18; [smartwool.com](http://smartwool.com)



### Smith and Wesson Baby SWAT knife

Sharp 2.5-inch half-serrated blade locks open to prevent accidents. \$30; [knivesplus.com](http://knivesplus.com)

**Heatsheets Emergency Bivvy** Having spent several uncomfortable nights in space blankets, Webb opts for this one, which is preformed into a sleeping-bag shape. The wind can't catch the edges and you don't come unwrapped. \$15; [adventuremedicalkits.com](http://adventuremedicalkits.com)