FEDERAL FUNDING FOR DEBRIS REMOVAL WORK

Disaster Debris Guidelines

To safeguard the potential of recovery funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), probable applicants are urged to follow proper procedures when conducting debris clearance and removal operations.

At a minimum:

- Photograph debris before clearance and removal activities begin
- Do not remove debris from private property
- Private property debris must be moved to roadside right-of-ways for pickup
- Debris may be removed from private properties only in extreme cases where public health, life, safety and the economic recovery of the community-at-large are at risk.
- Be sure to segregate debris for proper disposal
- Tornado-generated debris will contain hazardous materials – be sure workers are properly outfitted and trained for hazardous materials
- Keep track of all man hours associated with clearance and removal activities
- Track all equipment used in debris removal activities
- Track all equipment operators and associated hours
- Track all materials associated with debris operations
- When measuring the amount of debris disposed, weighing the debris is the preferred method - if applicants do not have the ability to weigh debris, the volume must be tracked in cubic yards.
- Monitor and track disposed amounts - maintain load and dumpsite tickets
- If debris staging sites are necessary, be sure to obtain the proper permits
- Contractors may be used for debris operations if:
  - Proper/normal procurement methods are used, or
  - Contractor is hired during a formal/written local state of emergency without following normal procurement practices (requesting bids) and the applicant is able to prove that the contractor selection was made in such a way to be reasonable in cost

Full and complete FEMA debris removal guidance may be accessed on the Kentucky Emergency Management website’s Recovery Branch section at:


If you have questions or need additional guidance please call:

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Stephanie Robey, Recovery Branch Manager: 1.502.607.5769