



# North Carolina Emergency Management

## Debris Removal Quick Guide

Review guidelines below for reimbursement of debris removal costs you may incur as a result of Hurricane Matthew occurring from October-ongoing. North Carolina Emergency Management Public Assistance Section is providing this information to inform applicants on requirements for removing debris and reimbursement.

**The FEMA Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide** (January 2016, pg. 43) states:

**Debris Removal** may be eligible for PA Program assistance in the disaster area when there is a serious threat to lives, public health and safety, it eliminates the immediate threat of damage to improved property, or it assists the economic recovery of the community-at-large.

FEMA may reimburse reasonable costs associated with debris removal, such as labor, disposal fees, monitoring costs, equipment costs, material costs, or contract costs. Contracts must comply with Federal (2 CFR Part 200.317-326), State, and local procurement standards.

### FEMA Eligibility Requirements

You must be an **Eligible Applicant** as defined in the Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide, pg. 9, and have the legal responsibility, pg. 20, to be reimbursed for debris removal. <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/111781>

Debris was generated by the disaster event and is located on improved property or right-of-ways of an eligible Public Assistance applicant.

### Permitting and Documentation Requirements

1. Debris **volume** or **weight** and **pickup location**
2. **Source documentation** (e.g. timesheets, work logs, equipment use logs, receipts, load tickets, monitoring logs, contracts, mutual aid agreements)
3. Final **disposal location** of debris (e.g. permitted landfill, recycling, etc)
4. **Temporary disaster debris staging areas:**

To **obtain approval for a new site** or to **activate a site pre-approved** by the NC Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ), Division of Waste Management, Solid Waste Section, contact the Solid Waste Section Regional Representative for your county. Contact information for regional staff may be found here: <http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/waste-management/quick-links/emergency-disaster-debris-management>

5. If **burning** (vegetative debris only):

**Burn permit** from North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (NCDA&CS), Division of Forestry. For information on obtaining a burn permit, go to [http://ncforestservice.gov/burn\\_permits/burn\\_permits\\_main.htm](http://ncforestservice.gov/burn_permits/burn_permits_main.htm).

**Letter of approval** or **permit** from NCDEQ Division of Air Quality, <http://deq.nc.gov/document/burn-permit-open-burning-permit-high-hazard-counties>

<http://deq.nc.gov/document/burn-permit-open-burning-permit-non-high-hazard-counties>

An **air curtain burner** must be utilized for burning vegetative debris.

Burning may only occur on **green or yellow air quality action** days between **8 am to 6 pm**. For info on air quality forecast go to <https://xapps.ncdenr.org/aq/ForecastCenter>

Record **daily quantity** of debris burned.

Ashes must be disposed of in a **permitted location**. Do not bury on-site.



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## Handling Debris

1. Segregate waste types (e.g. vegetative, C&D, white goods, household hazardous waste, electronic waste, animal carcasses, sand and mud, etc)
2. Grinding, chipping, recycling, or disposals within permitted landfills are preferred methods of disposal over burning.
3. For questions regarding animal mortality waste disposal, please contact Dr. R. Douglas Meckes (general questions), Dr. Sarah Mason (poultry), or Dr. Tom Rayd (livestock) of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) Veterinary Division at 919-733-7601. For statute and rules governing disposal, see: Statute GS 106-403

<http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/statutes/statutelookup.pl?statute=106-403>

The Veterinary Division may be found online at <http://www.ncagr.gov/vet/>.

## Point of Contact

To coordinate your debris removal operations or for more information please contact Andy Innis, State Public Assistance Officer, at 919-218-3191 or [andy.innis@ncdps.gov](mailto:andy.innis@ncdps.gov)

## Other Federal Agencies Debris Removal Programs

### USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

The Emergency Watershed Program (EWP) may be available to assist state agencies, county governments, towns and other subdivisions of state government to relieve storm caused impairments and imminent threats to watershed function. EWP may support removal of storm debris that poses a threat to health, life, or property. Not all storm debris in water is eligible for EWP. For more information, visit

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/nc/programs/financial/ewp/> or contact Matt Flint, Assistant State Conservationist at (919) 873-2124.

### USDA Farm Service Agency

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) may provide assistance with debris removal from farming or ranching operations through the Emergency Conservation Program, animal mortality thru the Livestock Indemnity Program, and assistance to eligible non-industrial private forest owners thru the Emergency Forest Restoration Program. For more information contact your county FSA office. A listing of NC FSA county offices is available at: <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=nc&agency=fsa>

## More Information Online

[Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide](#) (January 2016) has replaced all previous PA information:

[NCDEQ Solid Waste Section homepage](#)

[NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services](#) -Division of Forestry burn permits information

[NCDEQ Division of Air Quality](#)

[NCDEQ Division of Air Quality open burning information](#)

[NCDEQ Division of Air Quality rules on open burning](#)

[NCDEQ Division of Air Quality regional offices](#)

[U.S. Army Corps of Engineers](#) - debris management guidance, sample contracts and job aids