

Municipal Hurricane and Severe Weather Event Prepared Reminder 2021

Please distribute to your municipal (CEO's, Public Works Directors/Foreman, Emergency Management Directors, Municipal Arborist) tribal nation, and local contacts.

Thank you.

Interagency Debris Management Task Force

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Dear Municipal Official:

June 1st was the start of the 2021 hurricane season. However, as we begin to approach peak season for storm events here in the northeast, it is time to evaluate our readiness and review the resources available to assist in cleanup and recovery should the need arise. The Interagency Debris Management Task Force (IDMTF) offers the following update and reminders for municipalities in the event of a major storm event:

- **Disaster Debris Management Preparedness** - The updated [State of Connecticut Disaster Debris Management Plan, revised November 2018](#) and the updated [State Concept of Operations Plan \(ConOps\) for Disaster Debris Management, State Concept of Operations Plan \(ConOps\) for Disaster Debris Management, Activation and Use of the State Debris Removal and Monitoring Contracts, renewed through June 30, 2023](#) (see below) are posted on the State of Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) web site. These documents, as well as other information for municipalities, may be obtained at the following link: www.ct.gov/deep/disasterdebrismanagement
- **Emergency Authorization** - An Emergency Authorization will likely be issued by DEEP for the management of storm debris at temporary sites operated by or for municipalities at municipal facilities, municipally owned properties and properties under lease agreement to the municipality. It typically authorizes storage locations for 90 days. This is intended to provide time for municipalities to identify permanent locations that can receive storm-generated debris for recycling or disposal. The use of authorized temporary Debris Management Sites is a critical component when pursuing FEMA Public Assistance reimbursement.

Once the Emergency Authorization is issued, the Authorization holder **must notify** by any means possible:

- o **Frank Gagliardo, DEEP** (at any of the following: Frank.P.Gagliardo@ct.gov, or deep.debris@ct.gov or (860) 424-3130);
- o **Joseph Schiavone, DEEP** (at any of the following: Joseph.Schiavone@ct.gov, or deep.debris@ct.gov or (860) 424-3206);
- o **Robert Isner of DEEP** (at any of the following: Robert.Isner@ct.gov; deep.debris@ct.gov or 860-424-3264

of the name(s) and address(es) of all the sites at which the authorized activities will take place within **forty eight (48) hours** of selection or initial placement of waste at the site(s). Within **five (5) calendar days** of the subject event, the Authorization Holder must submit the list of sites including names and addresses to DEEP in writing via electronic mail or traditional mail. DEEP will acknowledge the notification in writing and enter the location into a data base which is shared with FEMA. This written acknowledgment from DEEP of your debris management site selection provides the municipality with the documentation needed to establish FEMA reimbursement eligibility. Examples of previous Emergency Authorizations issued for

Hurricane Irene, Storm Alfred, and Storm Sandy can be found at: www.ct.gov/deep/disasterdebrismanagement.

To assist municipalities with debris management site selection and the Emergency Authorization process, DEEP has developed two fact sheets:

- **Emergency Authorization Fact Sheet for Managing Storm Generated Debris**
- **Site Selection Guide for Debris Management Sites (DMS)**

Please note, to be eligible for FEMA reimbursement it is imperative that a municipality manage storm debris only at locations authorized and acknowledged by DEEP. Several Connecticut municipalities have not received full FEMA reimbursement for debris work solely due to the use of unauthorized (and unacknowledged) and/or unpermitted sites.

Also, documenting municipal activities during storm events is extremely important and required. Documentation should provide the "who, what, when, where, why, and how much" for each item claimed. It is the Applicant's (the municipality) responsibility to substantiate its claim as eligible. If the Applicant does not provide sufficient documentation to support its claim as eligible, FEMA cannot provide public assistance funding for the work.

- **Prepositioned Contracts** - Towns are reminded that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requires competitive bidding procedures for procurement of disaster debris management and monitoring services. In order to receive FEMA reimbursement, towns should utilize a competitive bidding/request for proposal

process. The State has pre-positioned disaster debris management and monitoring contractors in place (if the towns choose to use them), and they are as follows:

- o **Disaster Debris Response and Management Services** DAS Contract Award [14PSX0060](#) "AshBritt" provides for clearing, collecting and transporting debris, establishing and operating temporary debris management sites, and ensuring ultimate recycling or disposal of debris.
 - Direct contact: Dilia Camacho, (239) 248-8664, dcamacho@ashbritt.com
 - Link: A copy of the contract may be accessed through the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) website: [DAS Contract 14PSX0060-- Disaster Debris Response and Management Services](#) or [http://www.biznet.ct.gov/SCP Search/ContractDetail.aspx?ID=14028](http://www.biznet.ct.gov/SCP_Search/ContractDetail.aspx?ID=14028)
- o **Debris Monitoring** (Reimbursement Documentation) DAS Contract Award [14PSX0059](#) "TetraTech" provides for monitoring of debris removal operations and debris site management. The monitoring contract also provides comprehensive oversight, guidance and documentation services. This monitoring is required to receive potential federal reimbursement for disaster debris management expenditures under FEMA Public Assistance programs, as applicable. Direct contacts:
 - Betty Kamara, (407) 803-2551, email at TDR.Contracts@tetrattech.com
 - Simon Carlyle, (407) 803-2525, simon.carlyle@tetrattech.com
 - Frank Guthman, III, (774) 329-4409, frank.guthman@tetrattech.com
 - A copy of the contract may be accessed through the DAS website:
 - o DAS Contract 14PSX0059 – Debris Monitoring and Documentation or [http://www.biznet.ct.gov/SCP Search/ContractDetail.aspx?ID=13930](http://www.biznet.ct.gov/SCP_Search/ContractDetail.aspx?ID=13930)
- **Open Burning** - Open burning of brush (shrubs, vegetation or prunings, the diameter of which is not greater than 3 inches at the widest point) by municipalities is typically not authorized in an Emergency Authorization and FEMA will not reimburse for illegal openburning. A municipality may only burn brush if it has been issued a permit by DEEP before burning is conducted. Open burning of brush by a municipality can only occur on municipally owned land that has been approved as a solid waste disposal and or recycling location, i.e., a transfer station, recycling center, or landfill. Requests for permit applications may be sent to: deep.ctopenburning@ct.gov. Consult the web page on open burning at this link: http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2684&q=531274&deepNav_GID=1619.

- **Guidance and Information** - Please take some time and review DEEP's Disaster Debris Management Preparedness web page at the links above and below. This is a useful resource page for topics pertaining to FEMA guidance, site selection for temporary debris management sites, contracts, beach sand clean-up and replacement, and much more.
- **Public Assistance (PA) Forms** - For PA forms, go to DESPP/DEMHS web site at www.ct.gov/demhs. Click on Disaster Recovery in the left-hand column. Then click on Public Assistance (PA) in the middle of the page. The PA forms page is: [FEMA Public Assistance--General Guidance and Forms \(ct.gov\)](#) additional FEMA guidance on Debris Operations is located under the “Public Assistance (PA) Guidance section of this page.
- **Requests for Assistance** - During the storm event, stay in contact with your DEMHS Regional Coordinator and tell your Regional Coordinator what services you are requesting and your Regional Coordinator will forward your request to the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) with a copy to the State's Interagency Debris Management Task Force [DEEP.Debris@ct.gov].
- **Contact Information** - Additional questions can be directed to:
 - Interagency Debris Management Task Force (IDMTF) at DEEP.debris@ct.gov
 - Frank Gagliardo (Team Co-Leader) at frank.p.gagliardo@ct.gov
 - Joseph Schiavone (Team Co-Leader) at joseph.schiavone@ct.gov
 - Ian Alexander (Team Co-Leader) at ian.alexander@ct.gov