

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

Who does it?

- Political Subdivisions, Special Districts, Local/Regional Authorities, Public Schools/Colleges/Universities, Certain Private Non-Profit Organizations (PNP)

What is it?

- Identification of immediate threats to the public's health and safety
- Identification of impact to public infrastructure through types of damages, costs and description of impact to the community.

Types of Damages

- **Category A - Debris Removal** - Trees and woody debris, sand, mud, silt, gravel, etc. Document only clearance from improved property and private property debris removal should not be claimed unless it is brought to the public right of way.
- **Category B - Emergency Protective Measures** - Includes fire, police, Emergency Operations Center (EOC) operations, applicant run shelters, evacuation, temporary relocation, mutual aid, etc. Also includes emergency work performed, i.e. to open up a road for travel prior to permanent repairs. For electrical utilities, document work to restore power under this Category.
- **Category C - Roads and Bridges** - Roads, bridges and associated facilities, lights, signage, drainage structures (culverts).
- **Category D - Water Control Facilities** - Levees, floodwalls, flood control channels, water control structures
- **Category E – Building, Equipment and Contents** - Buildings, structural components, interior systems such as electrical or mechanical work, equipment and contents, including furnishings. Debris removal from buildings should be claimed under this Category. Note any structures that are historic, within a historic district or are over 50 years old.
- **Category F – Utilities** - Water treatment plants and delivery systems, power generation and distribution systems, sewage collection systems and treatment plants, communications. For electrical distribution/transmission systems, any work performed after power restoration is captured in this Category
- **Category G – Parks, Recreational and Other** - Playground equipment, pools, tennis courts, boat docks, golf courses, mass transit facilities (such as railways), etc. and other facilities that do not fit in Categories C-F. Only costs associated with improved property should be captured, i.e. unmaintained trails are not eligible. School athletic fields are captured under Category E.

Capturing Costs

- *Actual* costs incurred to date and *estimated* costs to complete work. Actual costs and estimated costs can be determined using the following tools:

- Your own employees and equipment (force account) – Determine number of labor and equipment hours worked or anticipated to complete the work. For categories A and B, only overtime/comp time, call-in time or temporary employees should be claimed for labor hours. All labor hours can be claimed for Categories C-G. For all categories, all equipment hours should be claimed, regardless of the employee’s work status (regular or overtime). Use FEMA’s Schedule of Equipment Rates for the hourly rates on your equipment. Note FEMA’s rates include fuel so this is not accounted for separately.
- Materials – Purchased or used from stock
- Rented Equipment
- Contract – Actual contract costs and contractor quotes can be used.
- Insurance – Any anticipated insurance proceeds should be included in the damage assessment information.

How is it done?

- Use of personnel knowledgeable in assessing damages, repairing facilities, etc.
- Estimates should not be over or under stated
- Only include damage associated with the event – Capital improvement projects that could be completed with event related repairs must not be included in estimates (i.e. resurfacing an entire road when only patching is event related)

How is it reported?

- Overall impact to a community is summarized on the Damage and Needs Assessment Form. Include costs in each category of work *and requested budget information*. Make sure to include impact to the community in the General Comments section, i.e. roads closed to include length of time and amount of miles for detours, public services disrupted and for how long, etc.
- More detailed assessments are included on the Site Estimate Form. Each damaged site is listed as a separate site, except for Categories A and B which can each be one site.

If you have any questions regarding damage assessment or completion of the Damage and Needs Assessment Form or Site Estimate Form, please contact the Disaster Recovery Branch at 614-799-3665.

**PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
LOCAL DAMAGE ASSESSMENT AND JOINT PRELIMINARY DAMAGE
ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST**

Public Assistance Program (PA): Assists state and local governments, and certain private non-profit (PNP) entities with the response to and recovery from disasters. Specifically, the program provides assistance for debris removal, implementation of emergency protective measures, and permanent restoration of infrastructure.

Local Damage Assessment - Locals

- ___ Provide Incident Status Report form to Ohio EMA within 12 hours of event.
- ___ Provide detailed assessment on the Damage and Needs Assessment form to Ohio EMA within 36 hours of event. (Form AGN-0035).
- ___ Continue to provide the State with updated information from the jurisdictions. Detailed information should be recorded utilizing the Preliminary Damage Assessment Site Estimate form; *(or closeout incident)*.
- ___ Insurance information: It is imperative that the extent of insurance coverage be determined as soon as possible.

Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment – FEMA/State/Locals

- ___ An Ohio EMA representative will contact the county EMA director regarding the time and location of the Joint PDA Meeting. Please be flexible in scheduling.
- ___ County director preparations:
 - ___ Attendees: Invite representatives from governments, schools and universities, and certain private non-profit organizations who may have incurred costs/damages related to the event.
 - ___ Location and room configuration: Find a location for the Joint PDA Meeting. Ensure there is adequate space, tables and chairs and parking. At the front of the room a table should be set up with 4 chairs on each side for interview purposes.
- ___ A FEMA/State Team will conduct briefing. The county EMA or lead local official will provide introductions. The team will brief local representatives on the concept of the Joint PDA and describe the overall federal declaration process. Special considerations will be discussed and basics of eligibility will be outlined.

___ The team will interview each local representative to document damages.

Information the PDA team is expecting from local representatives:

- ___ *updated* Damage and Needs Assessment form or Site Estimate form.
- ___ breakdown of cost data detailing labor, equipment, material and contract costs by category and/or site. (*Site estimate form is okay for this.*)
- ___ budget impact
- ___ extent of insurance coverage
- ___ local map “marked up” to reflect damaged facilities/sites
- ___ special considerations (*i.e. historical, environmental, mitigation*)
- ___ photos (*optional*)
- ___ Tour damaged areas as determined by the team. (*Following interviews, the team may conduct limited site inspections. i.e. large concentrations of debris, road washouts, destroyed bridges and critical facilities.*)

For additional Public Assistance information, please reference FEMA’s on-line guidance at <http://www.fema.gov/rrr/pa/padocs.shtm>.

**PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
APPLICANT'S BRIEFING CHECKLIST**

An Applicant's Briefing is a meeting conducted by Ohio EMA for potential public assistance applicants. This meeting occurs after a Presidential declaration which includes a Public Assistance (PA) designation. The briefing addresses application procedures, administrative requirements, funding, and program eligibility criteria. All eligible categories of work (debris removal, emergency protective measures, road systems, water control facilities, buildings/ equipment, utilities, and parks and recreation) will be addressed.

County Director preparations:

- Administrative: Ohio EMA will provide a projector and laptop for the briefing.
 - Please have a table and screen (wall) available for the State's use.
 - Set up tables and chairs for attendees.

- Invite the following participants, who took part in the PDA and /or had costs associated with the severe storm event that began ***(Month Day Year)*** and ended ***(Month Date Year)***.
 - Local governments
 - townships
 - villages
 - cities
 - county departments
 - park districts
 - water/ sewer districts
 - other special districts

 - Public schools and universities

 - Private Non-Profit Organizations (*Eligible PNP's consist of any non-profit educational, irrigation, utility, emergency, medical or custodial care facility, including a facility for the aged or disabled, and other facilities providing essential governmental type services.*)
 - volunteer fire departments
 - emergency medical services
 - private educational institutions (i.e. parochial schools; charter schools; universities/colleges
 - other essential governmental services facilities which provide health and safety services, and are open to the general public, including:
 - community centers
 - libraries
 - homeless shelters
 - senior citizen centers
 - shelter workshops
 - other similar facilities

- Invite the clerk/treasurer of each political sub-division /PNP. (*The PA program has very specific funding and audit procedures, and it is imperative to have all individuals responsible for these matters on hand. You may also wish to invite the County Auditor.*)

Comparison of FEMA’s 404 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and 406 Public Assistance (PA) Mitigation Actions

Hazard mitigation is defined as action taken to lessen or eliminate future loss due to a disaster. There are two (2) potential sources for FEMA “mitigation” funding, FEMA 404 and/or 406. FEMA 404 is the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and is a separate program with criteria that differs from the FEMA Public Assistance (PA) Program. FEMA 404 HMGP may fund structural and non-structural actions. FEMA 406 mitigation is only available in conjunction with repair of a facility damaged by the declared disaster.

Eligible applicants for both FEMA 404 and 406 Mitigation are state and local governments and certain private, non-profit organizations. Both types of mitigation are considered post-event and are only available following a presidential disaster declaration; must be cost-effective; and must be approved by FEMA prior to funding.

FEMA 404 HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM (HMGP)	FEMA 406 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (PA) MITIGATION
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) is a separate program and not part of the FEMA Public Assistance (PA) Program	Eligible mitigation actions within the Public Assistance (PA) Program; separate from the HMGP
Eligible projects can be structural or non-structural	Structural measures only
HMGP is available statewide	Only available in conjunction with permanent repair to a facility damaged by the declared event
FEMA can fund 75% of the approved HMGP project	Maximum amount for a mitigation action is 15% of the total eligible cost for permanent repair to the damaged facility

DEBRIS FACT SHEET FOR LOCAL OFFICIALS



The information contained within this document is intended to assist local officials responsible for all or a portion of the issues relating to managing all types of waste (“debris”) resulting from a disaster or significant emergency. Removal, reduction, recycling, temporary sites, contracting and disposal data as well as points of contact are included in the following pages.

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Ohio Emergency Management Agency (EMA) are two state agencies that have primary responsibilities to respond to disasters. Disasters can generate a significant amount of debris and can disrupt local government operations in general. Their roles and day-to-day points of contact are detailed below.

Local Governments

Local health departments may be able to provide technical assistance regarding debris management and public health issues. Local health departments may also have primary responsibility during a disaster in the regulatory oversight for proper management of debris. Of particular concern for public health and safety is the management and proper disposal of debris created by a disaster or by demolition, yard waste, household hazardous waste, food stuffs, and spoiled food.

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (www.epa.state.oh.us/dmwm)

Division of Materials and Waste Management, Central Office
50 West Town Street, Suite 700, Columbus, OH 43215
Phone (614) 644-2621 Fax (614) 728-5315

Primary responsibility during a disaster is regulatory oversight for proper management of debris. This is accomplished by providing rule interpretations (regulatory requirements), technical assistance/coordination regarding temporary staging, collection, removal and disposal of debris, and resource lists.

Ohio Emergency Management Agency (www.ema.ohio.gov)

Disaster Recovery Branch
2855 West Dublin Granville Road, Columbus, OH 43235
Phone (614) 799-3665 Fax (614) 791-0018

Primary responsibility is coordination of state assistance, through County Emergency Management Agency offices, to support the efforts of local officials following disasters. The Disaster Recovery Branch administers reimbursement programs for costs associated with local response/recovery actions, including debris operations.

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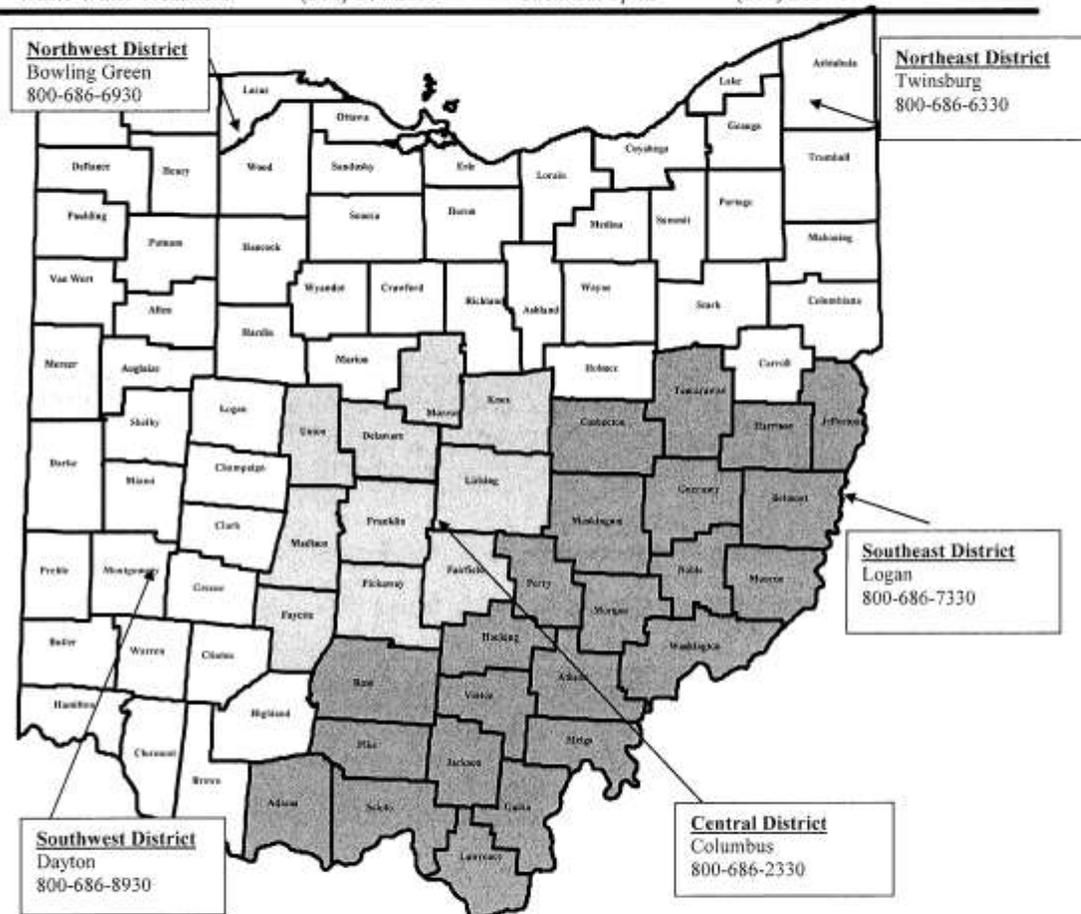
DEBRIS MANAGEMENT CONTACTS

OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Div. Materials & Waste Management (includes solid, infectious, & hazardous) (614) 644-2621

Public Drinking Water (614) 644-2752 Burn Permits (614) 644-2270

Waste Water Treatment (614) 644-2001 Chemical Spills (800) 282-9378



ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

Local Solid Waste Mgmt District (Recycling)	See Local Listing	Ohio EMA (Response and Recovery)	(877) 644-6362
Local Department of Health	See Local Listing	Ohio Historic Preservation Off (Environmental/Historic)	(614) 298-2000
Ohio Department of Health (Private Drinking Water)	(614) 466-1390	Attorney General (Consumer Protection)	(800) 282-0515
Ohio Department of Agriculture (Dead Animals)	(614) 728-6200	Ohio Dept. Natural Resources (Recycling, Floodplain Mgmt.)	(614) 265-6565
U.S. Corp of Engineer (Regulatory-Great Lakes Division)	(513) 684-3002		

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency – Management Options for Disaster Related Wastes

Type of Waste	Description of Waste	Management Options
General Solid Waste (aka Municipal Solid Waste)	Food, packaging, clothing, appliances, furniture, machinery, electronic equipment, garbage, plastic, paper, bottles, cans, loose carpeting, paper products, scrap tires, street dirt, dead animals, vehicles Sand Bag Note: Sand from sand bags used to control flooding may be emptied from the bags and reused. The empty bags, if not reused, are considered solid waste. Sand contaminated with other materials (hazardous, etc.) should be handled appropriately.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling: segregate / recycle as much as possible (preferred) • MSW Landfill Disposal • MSW Transfer Facility Disposal • Scrap Tires: licensed tire recovery / recycling facility • Appliances: remove refrigerants prior to disposal • Vehicles: auto salvage yards • Dead Animals: landfill, compost, burn / bury / render (per Ohio Dept. of Ag. Guidelines)
Agricultural Waste & Vegetative Waste (aka Solid Waste)	Vegetative or woody waste, tree limbs, brush, shrubs (does not include buildings, other structures, dead animals, or vehicles)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling: drying, chipping, grinding for use in landscaping, mulching, and as a fuel supplement (preferred) • MSW Landfills Disposal • MSW Transfer Facility Disposal • Appropriate Composting Facilities • Controlled Burning – for use in declared disaster areas only; air curtain destructor use and Ohio EPA approval required
Construction & Demolition Debris (CDD)	Brick, stone, mortar, asphalt, lumber, wallboard, glass, roofing, metal, piping, fixtures, electrical wiring, heating equipment, insulation, carpeting attached to structures, railroad ties, utility poles, mobile homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling: segregate and reuse as much materials as possible • CDD Landfill Disposal • MSW Landfill Disposal • MSW Transfer Facility Disposal • Mobile Homes: take to salvage company or CDD landfill
Clean Hard Fill (a subset of CDD)	CDD which consists only of reinforced or non-reinforced concrete, asphalt concrete, brick, block, tile, and stone which can be reused as construction or fill material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Segregate and reuse materials as appropriate. Notify local health district of intent to use clean hard fill in filling operations
Infectious Waste	Needles and medical related glass ("sharps"), syringes, blood containing or saturated items including tubing, clothing, bandages, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact local health district or Ohio EPA District Office for guidance
Hazardous Wastes & Household Hazardous Wastes	Flammable materials (fuels, gasoline, kerosene, propane tanks, oxygen bottles, etc.), explosives, batteries, common household chemicals, industrial and agricultural chemicals, cleaners, solvents, fertilizers, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Segregate materials as practical and dispose of at an approved hazardous waste facility. Contact appropriate Ohio EPA District Office for guidance. • Household hazardous waste disposal is permitted at MSW facilities. However, strongly consider segregation from waste stream, where practical, and dispose of with other hazardous materials.
Radiological Wastes	Nuclear medicine materials and associated patient wastes, certain monitoring equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact Ohio Department of Health for regulatory requirements and management options. Not regulated by Ohio EPA.

Variances / Exemptions: All regulated disposal facilities in Ohio have operational requirements / restrictions regarding the types and volume of waste that can be accepted for disposal. During emergency events, a facility may seek authorization from the Director of Ohio EPA to temporarily accept different waste streams or an increased volume of waste. Before taking disaster-related debris to a disposal facility, please make sure that the facility is willing and properly authorized to accept the material.

Stream Cleanup Activities: Prior to removing debris from streams and waterways, please make sure you have the appropriate authorizations, if necessary (permits from COE and/or Ohio EPA, property owner permission, etc.). Once debris is removed from the streams / waterways, segregate the debris as much as possible and manage according to the above outlined options.

Temporary Debris Sites

Things to Consider

- Site Ownership – Use public lands whenever possible to avoid potentially costly and complicated leasing arrangements, and to lessen potential trespassing allegations. Use privately owned land only if no public sites are available. If using private lands, be sure to obtain proper, detailed usage agreements with all parties having an ownership interest.
- Site Location
 - Consider impact of noise, dust, traffic
 - Consider pre-existing site conditions
 - Look for good ingress/egress at site
 - Consider paved versus unpaved areas
 - Consider potential impact on ground water
 - Determine whether any existing drains need to be sealed
 - Consider site size based on:
 - Expected volume of debris to be collected
 - Planned volume reduction and debris processing activities
 - Avoid environmentally sensitive areas, such as:
 - Wetlands
 - Rare and critical animals or plant species
 - Well fields and surface water supplies
 - Historical / archaeological sites
 - Sites near residential areas, schools, churches, hospitals, and other sensitive areas
 - Record detailed conditions of chosen site (pictures, video, etc.)
- Site Operations
 - Use portable containers
 - Ensure portable containers are emptied/replaced when necessary
 - Separate types of waste as operations continue
 - Monitor site at all times
 - Perform on-going volume reduction (on site or removal for disposal / reduction)
 - Provide nuisance management (dust, noise, etc.)
 - Provide vector controls (rats, insects, etc.)
 - Provide special handling for regulated hazardous materials
 - If household hazardous waste is segregated, ensure disposal options exist
 - Provide security (limit access to site)
 - Ensure appropriate equipment is available for site operations
- Site Closeout
 - Remove all remaining debris to authorized locations
 - Restore site to pre-use conditions
 - Record detailed conditions of site after closeout is complete (pictures, video, etc.)

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Resources

The following documents are available for download from the Ohio EPA Website or by contacting the appropriate Ohio EPA division.

- Ohio EPA Registered and/or Licensed Debris Disposal Facility and Company Listings - DMWM
 - Composting Facilities
 - Construction and Demolition Debris Landfills
 - Infectious Waste Transporters
 - Municipal Solid Waste Landfills
 - Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Facilities
 - Scrap Tire Storage and Disposal Facilities
 - Scrap Tire Transporters
 - Solid Waste Management District Contacts
- Emergency Response Contractors - DERR
- Orphan Drum Program – DERR
- Open Burning Regulations – DAPC
- Ohio EPA District Office Map and Contact Numbers (included with this fact sheet)

Ohio EPA Division of Materials & Waste Management (DMWM)

www.epa.state.oh.us/dmwm
(614) 644-2621

Ohio EPA Division of Emergency & Remedial Response (DERR)

www.epa.state.oh.us/derr
(614) 644-2924

Ohio EPA Division of Air Pollution Control

www.epa.state.oh.us/dapc
(614) 644-2270

CONTRACTING AND FEMA ELIGIBILITY

GENERAL WORK ELIGIBILITY

Under a presidential disaster declaration for the state of Ohio, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) may provide assistance to state and local governments for costs associated with debris removal operations. Debris removal operations include collection; pick up, hauling, and storage at a temporary site, segregation, reduction, and final disposal. This document provides information on the eligibility of debris removal operations for Public Assistance (PA) funding.

Determination of eligibility is a FEMA responsibility. Removal and disposal of debris that is a result of the disaster, is within a declared county and is on public property, is eligible for federal assistance. Public property includes roads and publicly-owned facilities. Removal of debris from parks and recreation areas is eligible when it affects improved facilities (i.e. trails), affects public health and safety or limits the use of those facilities.

Debris Removal from Private Property: Costs incurred by local governments to remove debris from private property may be reimbursed by FEMA if it is pre-approved by the Federal Disaster Recovery Manager, is a public health and safety hazard, and if the work is performed by an eligible PA applicant, such as a municipal or county government. The cost of debris removal by private individuals is not eligible under the Public Assistance Program; however, during a specific time period, a private property owner may move disaster-related debris to the curbside for pick up by an eligible PA applicant. Applicants should set the specific period of time to ensure curbside debris does not include non-event related or reconstruction debris (ineligible).

Eligible Costs: If an applicant uses force account (their own) personnel and equipment, the cost of the equipment and overtime costs for personnel are eligible for federal funding. If an applicant chooses to award a contract(s) for debris operations, the costs of the contracts are also eligible for federal funding, as long as the contract is reasonable.

Documentation: To ensure that processing of federal funding is done as quickly as possible, applicants should maintain the following information: debris estimates, procurement information (bid requests, bid tabulations, etc.), contracts, invoices, and monitoring information (load tickets, scale records, etc). If an applicant performs debris removal, the payroll and equipment hours must be kept. All records should be maintained in the manner prescribed by the local government with consideration of state and federal record retention guidelines.

CONTRACTING FOR DEBRIS REMOVAL

Procurement

- Determine the type of contracting needed to satisfy specific debris clearance, removal and disposal requirements of an unusual and compelling urgency;
- Ensure adherence to state and local procurement guidance;
- Determine if any purchasing and contracting requirements are waived as a result of the disaster and subsequent declarations of emergency (see Ohio Revised Code 125.023 and/or 44 CFR 13.36(d)(4));

- To ensure federal reimbursement, applicants should follow FEMA requirements for procurement, 44 CFR Part 13.36. FEMA requires that the procurement process allow for competition and reasonable cost. To show competition, applicants should at a minimum solicit three quotes (projects under \$100,000) or formally bid (advertise) the work. Reasonable costs are those that are fair and equitable for the type of work performed in the affected area. To show reasonable cost, the applicants should be able to document a base amount to which they compared the awarded bid;
- Solicit bids, evaluate offers, award contracts, and issue notices to proceed with all contract assignments. (See pg 8 of this document for debarred/suspended contractor information);
- Supervise the full acquisition process for service and supply contracts and the oversight of contract actions to ensure conformance to regulatory requirements;
- Coordinate with the local Department of Public Works and Department of Solid Waste Management staffs and consult with legal counsel. The contracting office must take care to avoid the solicitation of assistance from the general public and giving the impression that compensation will be provided for such assistance. In general, this would be considered as volunteer actions. In addition, there are a number of other issues involved with such a solicitation, including licensing, bonding, insurance, the potential for the communities to incur liability in the event of injury or fatality, supervision and certification of work done;
- Please see the Ohio Revised Code, Sections 125.023, 307.86.92, 153.54, 153.57, 2921.01, and 2921.42 and supplementary rules and local ordinances for additional information pertaining to competitive bidding.
- FEMA recommends use of pre-drafted contracts or pre-event contracts so long as they follow procurements requirements as outlined in 44 CFR Part 13.36 and also recommends pre-qualifying contractors to expedite the bid process.

Unit Price Contracts

- Based on weights (tons) or volume (cubic yards) of debris hauled, and should be used when the scope of work is not well defined;
- They require close monitoring of pick up, hauling and dumping to ensure that quantities are accurate;
- Unit price contracts may be complicated by the need to segregate debris for disposal.

Lump Sum Contracts

- Establishes the total contract price using a one-item bid from the contractor;
- Should only be used when the scope of work is clearly defined, with areas of work and quantities of material clearly identified;
- These contracts can be defined in one of two ways: Area Method where the scope of work is based on a one-time clearance of a specified area and Pass Method where the scope of work is based on a certain number of passes through a specified area, such as a given distance along a right-of-way.

Time and Materials Contracts (T/M)

- This is an administratively labor intensive type of contract and should only be used if the applicant has the administrative resources to successfully accomplish and document the monitoring aspect;
- May be used for short periods of time immediately after the disaster to mobilize contractors for emergency removal efforts (generally FEMA accepts these contracts for the first 70 hours).

Applicants should move towards either Unit Price or Lump Sum contract as soon as possible after the beginning of debris removal operations;

- If T/M contracts are determined by the applicant to be the most cost-effective and well-suited to the type of work, they may be continued beyond the initial 70 hour period if the following applies:
 - A determination was made and documented that no other contract was suitable and a ceiling price was included;
 - The applicant can document monitoring of contractor activities. This includes but is not limited to monitoring load tickets or completion of daily reporting forms and requesting backup to contractor invoices (i.e. time cards, etc.).
- T/M contracts must have a dollar ceiling or a not-to-exceed limit for hours (or both), and should be terminated immediately when this limit is reached;
- The contract should (a) detail labor costs to include job classification, skill level and hourly rate, (b) the price for labor and equipment applies only when in operation, (c) cost for equipment includes fuel and maintenance, (d) the community reserves the right to terminate the contract at its convenience, and (e) the community does not guarantee a minimum number of hours.

Contract Monitoring

An employee or contractor should monitor the contractor's activities to ensure satisfactory performance. Monitoring includes: verification that all debris picked up is a direct result of the disaster; measurement and inspection of trucks to ensure they are fully loaded; on-site inspection of pick up areas, debris traffic routes, temporary storage sites, and disposal areas; verification that the contractor is working in its assigned contract areas; verification that all debris reduction and disposal sites have access control and security.

Contracting Do-Nots: FEMA does not recommend, pre-approve, or certify any debris contractor. FEMA does not certify or credential personnel other than official employees and Technical Assistance Contract personnel assigned to the disaster by FEMA. Additionally, only FEMA has the authority to make eligibility determinations, not contractors. Finally, do not accept contractor-provided contracts without close review. FEMA /Ohio EMA can provide technical assistance on contracts and contract procedures, if requested to do so by local officials.

Ineligible Contracts: FEMA will not provide funding for cost-plus-percentage of cost contracts (including markups), contracts contingent upon receipt of state or federal disaster assistance funding, or contracts awarded to debarred or suspended contractors.

See www.epls.gov (federal-list) and <http://www.sos.state.oh.us/SOS/recordsindexes.aspx> (state-list) for debarred contractor information. A second site for suspended contractors is <http://www.auditor.state.oh.us/resources/findings/default.htm>.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

Federal, State and local regulations, laws and ordinances need to be addressed and followed for all environmental and historic preservation issues. Examples of how these considerations could affect reimbursement for debris removal operations:

- Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management: Temporary storage sites should not be in the floodplain;

- Executive Order 12898, Environmental Justice: Do not purposefully choose routes to disposal sites that avoid more affluent neighborhoods over minority or low-income neighborhoods;
- Clean Water Act: Temporary storage sites not located within ¼ mile from ground or surface water supply.
- Ohio EPA: There was no burning of debris unless expressly authorized by the Director of Ohio EPA.

OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES

Debris removal on federal highways is not eligible under the FEMA Public Assistance Program except in very limited circumstances.

DEBRIS REMOVAL FROM WATERWAYS

If an applicant has debris (obstructions to include sunken vessels) generated by an event within waterways, FEMA has very specific eligibility criteria. Please see FEMA policy http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/pa/9523_5.shtm for additional information or contact Ohio EMA directly.