



# Disaster Debris Management

What to do for your community



# Presenter

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  - Previously
    - Michigan Air National Guard J4
    - Genesee County Emergency Management
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# Disaster Debris Management

- FEMA Definition
- According to the FEMA 325 Public Assistance Debris Management Guide, July 2007, eligible work is defined as “the removal and disposal of debris that was generated by a disaster and which presents an immediate threat to the public interest.”
- Pretty simple, right?

# Disaster Debris Management

- Michigan
- Provide an organizational and operational framework for the State of Michigan to assist affected local jurisdictions in managing a debris operation subsequent to a debris generating disaster. The efficient and rapid management of disaster debris will help to protect the health and safety of the affected population, minimize threats to the environment, and ensure that critical response and recovery activities can proceed in a timely and unencumbered manner.
- Again, Pretty simple, right?

# What is Needed

- A Plan
- MSP EMHSD has a fillable plan available on their website.
- Each local jurisdiction needs to have a plan for disaster debris management
- The plan should detail several things
  - Responsible Parties
  - Who is on the team?
  - What do we do with the debris?
- Somebody in charge
  - Trained
  - Staff

# The Team

- Emergency Management
- PIO
- Local Police
- Local Fire
- Local DPW (If there is one)
- Road Commission
- Health Department
- Purchasing
- VOADs
- People.....Lots of people



Genesee County  
Health Department



Midland County  
Road Commission



# The Place

- You will need a space to store debris
- Needs to be large enough to store all debris from the disaster
  - Government owned if possible
  - Seek volunteers to provide space, farmland, vacant parking lot, vacant city lots
  - Contract if neither are available
- Need equipment to move debris
  - Again, government owned if possible
  - Volunteers if available,
  - Contract if neither are available
- Elevated Platforms or ladders for monitoring

# Debris Removal





# Debris Removal

- Company for debris removal
  - Often, general household refuse company requires additional contract for disaster
  - May contract with a second refuse company for removal
  - Contracts should be secured before a disaster
- Separation of disaster Debris
  - PIO is integral
  - Messaging is key
  - Separation at the residence
  - Separation at the debris storage site



# Debris Removal

**NO PICKUP ZONE**  
Any debris placed from the sidewalk toward your property will not be picked up.

**UNSURE WHERE TO PLACE DEBRIS?**  
If you don't have a sidewalk, ditch, or utility line in front of your house, place debris at the edge of your property before the curb.

**Normal Household Trash**  
Normal household trash and bagged debris of any kind will not be picked up with disaster debris. You should continue to follow your normal garbage removal schedule.

**VEGETATIVE DEBRIS**

- Leaves (do not put in bags)
- Logs
- Plants
- Tree branches

**CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION DEBRIS**

- Building materials
- Carpet
- Drywall
- Furniture
- Lumber
- Mattresses
- Plumbing

**APPLIANCES & WHITE GOODS**

- Air conditioners
- Dishwashers
- Freezers
- Refrigerators
- Stoves
- Washers, dryers
- Water heaters

**ELECTRONICS**

- Computers
- Radios
- Stereos
- Televisions
- Other devices with a cord

**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE**

- Cleaning supplies
- Batteries
- Lawn chemicals
- Oils
- Oil-based paints and stains
- Pesticides

**For more information contact your local government.**

# What to do with the debris

- Vegetative debris
  - Shred
  - Burn
  - Compost
- Large Appliances / automobiles
  - Crush
  - Recycle
- Hazardous Materials
  - Properly dispose of: Hazmat Team
- Construction Debris
  - Shred/Burn wood
  - Landfill for most other debris

# What to do with the debris

- Household Waste
  - General refuse contractor
  - Normal refuse removal process
- Where does it all go?
  - Contracts with landfills
  - Landfill hours
- How does it get there?
  - Contract with refuse removal company
  - Contract with general trucking company



# Now what? What could possibly go wrong?



Everybody has a plan until they get punched in the mouth. Then, like a rat, they stop in fear and freeze.

— *Mike Tyson* —

AZ QUOTES

# .....and the real quote



No campaign plan survives first  
contact with the enemy

~ Carl von Clausewitz

AZ QUOTES

# What could go wrong?

- Trash removal company refuses to do disaster debris removal
  - Need to contract with another
- Contractor refuses to follow contract when it is activated
  - Try to find another contractor
- Too much debris for debris yard in plan
  - Find another place for the debris
- Community does not follow FEMA guidelines for debris
  - More PIO messaging
  - Staff to separate at each curb site
  - Separate at yard

# Questions

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COUNTY**  
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