



STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

TO: Potential Public Assistance Applicants for Debris Hauling

FROM: Kevin Guthrie
Executive Director
Florida Division of Emergency Management

DATE: October 6, 2024

SUBJECT: Policy Based Clarification on Category A Debris Hauling and Final Disposal

This policy-based clarification is intended for all potential applicants engaged in, or preparing to begin, debris removal operations and seeking FEMA Public Assistance reimbursement. Please be advised that these activities should be classified as Category A debris removal operations, and not Category B emergency protective measures.

Category A operations for debris typically include the collection, transportation to a Disaster Debris Management Site (DDMS), reduction, and transport to final disposal. However, considering potential concerns related to Hurricane Milton, FDEM urges all potential applicants to proceed directly from debris collection to final disposal. These activities are eligible Category A activities, as per FEMA's Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide Version 4, pg. 99, "Debris removal activities, such as clearance, removal, and disposal, are eligible as Category A if the removal is in the public interest ..."

If this is the case, as a potential applicant, your entity are legally permitted to work with your contracted parties and clarify your current contracts to allow for this process. Should you choose to make such modifications/amendments, ensure that they are properly documented and compliant with FEMA guidelines to support your request for reimbursement.

If you have any questions pertaining to your current contract and would like clarification for suggested line items to allow for a direct haul to final disposition or need further clarification, please contact us at Recoverydebris@em.myflorida.com.