

**OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**

**LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**2021**

**LAKE OPERATIONAL AREA**

**Emergency Debris Management**

**Contingency Plan**

**Prepared by:**

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## **1. Hazard**

Natural and man-made disasters precipitate a variety of debris that includes, but is not limited to, such things as trees, sand, gravel, building/construction materials, vehicles, personal property, etc. Potential disasters that may precipitate in a large accumulation of debris in Lake County include but are not limited to:

- Fire
- Flood
- Earthquake
- Wind storm
- Manmade disaster

## **2. Notification & Communications**

A Debris Management Planning Team, made up of staff from Lake County Public Services Department, Lake County Environmental Health, State/County/City Public Works Departments, and other appropriate agencies, will create the Lake County Emergency Debris Management Plan, and will administer the Plan pre-incident. In the event of an incident, the EOC will assign a Debris Manager, generally the Operations Section Chief. The Debris Manager will supervise and coordinate debris management operations as outlined in this Plan, and will report to the Incident Commander/Unified Command if established for the incident. The Debris Management Planning Team will support the Debris Manager and the debris management operations as needed, utilizing the Emergency Operations Center as necessary.

## **3. Potential Impacts**

The quantity and type of debris generated from any particular disaster is a function of the location and kind of event experienced, as well as its magnitude, duration, and intensity. The quantity and type of debris generated, its location, and the size of the area over which it is dispersed directly impacts the type of collection and disposal methods used to address the debris problem, associated costs incurred, and the speed with which the problem can be addressed. In a major or catastrophic disaster, government agencies may have difficulty locating staff, equipment, and funds to devote to debris removal, in the short as well as long term. Private contractors play a significant role in the debris removal, collection, reduction, and disposal process.

The Emergency Operations Plan Debris Management Plan implemented by Lake County will be based on the waste management approach of reduction, reuse, recycle, recovery, and landfilling.

## **4. Response Priorities**

- A. Debris Removal

During and immediately following an emergency or disaster, field forces (police, fire, medical, road department and utilities workers) will advise of debris accumulations that may hamper the provision of life safety or emergency services throughout the areas impacted by the emergency.

Debris is typically pushed to the shoulders of the roadway during the emergency opening of key routes, as there is little time or concern for sorting debris at that time. The objective is to provide for the safe movement of emergency and support vehicles into and out of the disaster area.

Any material that is found to be classified as hazardous or toxic waste shall be reported immediately to the designated coordinating agency representative. At the coordinating agency representative's direction, this material shall be segregated from the remaining debris in such a way as to allow the remaining debris to be loaded and transported.

#### B. Temporary Debris Storage

Initially, debris will be placed in temporary holding areas, locations for which should be determined as quickly as possible following the onset of the disaster to match the needs of the debris, until such time as a detailed plan of debris collection and disposal is prepared. This is not anticipated until after the local traffic has been restored. Temporary debris collection sites should be readily accessible by recovery equipment and should not require extensive preparation or coordination for use. Criteria for selecting these temporary sites will include such factors as ownership of property, size of parcel, surrounding land uses and environmental conditions, and transportation facilities that serve the site.

Collection sites will be on public property when feasible to facilitate the implementation of the mission and mitigate potential liability requirements. Activation of sites will be under the control of the involved jurisdiction, and will be coordinated with other recovery efforts through the emergency operations center.

#### C. Debris Disposal

To the greatest degree possible, local resources for debris collection and disposal will be used. Emphasis will be placed on actions that the public can perform to expedite the cleanup process, such as separating vegetative and non-vegetative debris; segregating Household Hazardous Waste; placing debris at curbside; keeping debris piles away from fire hydrants and valves; reporting locations of illegal dump sites or incidents of illegal dumping; and segregating recyclable materials.

The Lake County Debris Management Planning Team will map out collection zones and consolidation points. Copies of the grid map will be distributed to contracted clean-up crews and volunteers. The Debris Management Planning Team will assist the local government agencies to identify priority areas to begin the road clearance process.

Clean fill material may be stockpiled on-site or hauled to the nearest approved clean fill site. Clean woody debris will be hauled to the nearest designated temporary debris storage and reduction site for eventual burning or grinding. Mixed debris will be collected and hauled to a designated landfill.

Authorized or approved curbside solid waste contractors will continue to collect refuse in accordance with current procedures, routes, and removal schedules. They will not haul disaster debris unless expressly authorized by the involved jurisdiction.

#### D. Debris Monitoring

Debris activities require monitoring in order to ensure reimbursement for State or Federally funded debris removal efforts. Furthermore, debris monitoring assists in identifying, evaluating, and resolving debris issues.

There are a number of monitoring considerations that are critical to effective monitoring of debris activities. These include:

- Responsibilities
- Staff to perform tasks
- Documentation and reporting requirements
- Monitoring activities and techniques

A debris field monitor (or multiple monitors if necessary) will monitor specific activities at loading sites, debris management site inspection sites or landfills, as well as prepare a quantitative report of activities completed. For State/Presidentially declared disasters, it is necessary to provide sufficient documentation to support that the scope of the work performed meets eligibility criteria. Quantities (cubic yards of debris, hours of operation, etc.) must be adequately verified and will serve as the basis of this documentation.

#### 5. Resources & Shortfalls

The local government agencies will utilize local resources for debris collection and disposal to the greatest degree possible, primarily through franchise hauling contractors. The Emergency Debris Management Plan lists known disposal removal and disposal companies, as well as disposal site locations. Local government offices and municipalities shall supply information regarding government owned and privately owned debris removal resources in the area. Government resources (including facilities and property) will be utilized to the greatest extent possible before using those belonging to the private sector.