



STORM RESPONSE: MANAGING DEBRIS

DEP has implemented various procedures to facilitate the management of debris resulting from a major storm or flood.

Processing and Disposal Facilities:

At the request of a municipal waste processing or disposal facility (landfills, resource recovery facilities, transfer facilities), DEP Regional Offices may authorize the following, on a temporary basis, to expedite the disposal of flood and storm debris:

- Extension of operating hours to accept and process flood and storm debris;
- Increases to the daily volume of waste that may be received, processed or disposed at the facility;
- Acceptance by facility operators of flood and storm debris from vehicles that do not have Act 90 authorizations. For vehicles hauling other municipal or residual waste, Act 90 requirements continue to apply;
- The waiver of tipping fees (25 cents, \$2 and \$4 per ton) for the processing or disposal of flood and storm debris. For all other municipal or residual waste that is received, processed or disposed at the facility, tipping fees continue to apply and payment must be made to the Commonwealth in accordance with standard procedures; and
- The acceptance of flood and storm debris from counties that have not designated that processing or disposal facility in their particular County Plan. This action does not, however, preclude the county from enforcing its plan. Facility owners and operators are encouraged to coordinate their proposed emergency response action with the host municipality and county.

Facility operators must maintain records of the amount of flood and storm debris accepted and shall distinguish the difference between the flood and storm debris from other wastes accepted at the facility. Wastes other than flood and storm debris shall continue to be reported in the usual manner.

Special-handling Waste:

Debris received at processing or disposal facilities may contain household hazardous waste or special-handling waste, such as propane tanks, heating oil tanks, paint cans, refrigerators and electronic equipment. The condition of these wastes will determine whether proper management would include segregation of these wastes. A facility may conduct segregation of wastes, provided it is being done in a DEP-approved manner. For case-by-case guidance on special-handling waste, please contact the nearest DEP Regional Office.

Temporary Debris Staging Areas:

At the request of a processing or disposal facility or a local government, DEP’s Regional Offices may approve temporary flood and storm debris staging areas. These requests should be directed to the nearest Regional Office.

Leachate Treatment:

In areas affected by storm events, DEP Regional Offices may approve alternative leachate storage and treatment management options until normal conditions return.

Questions?

For information about the handling and disposal of storm and flood debris, contact your nearest DEP Regional Office:

South-central (Harrisburg) 717-705-4700
Southwest (Pittsburgh) 412-442-4000
North-central (Williamsport) 570-327-3636

Southeast (Norristown) 484-250-5900
Northwest (Meadville) 814-332-6945
Northeast (Wilkes-Barre) 570-826-2511

For more information, visit www.dep.state.pa.us.