

**LEWIS COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
SOLID WASTE UTILITY DIVISION**

**DISASTER DEBRIS MANAGEMENT PLAN
06/01/2022**

PURPOSE

The goal of this plan is to identify the roles and responsibilities of local officials and the Lewis County Solid Waste Utility in the event of a major disaster. Lewis County is located in a geographic region subject to natural disasters. As such, there is the potential for significant volumes of disaster-related debris to be generated. The removal and disposal of this debris needs to be coordinated and documented in a manner consistent with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Guidelines and the Lewis County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP).

TERMS USED IN THIS PLAN

Disaster Debris - Scattered items and materials that are broken, destroyed, or displaced by a natural disaster. Examples: trees and limbs, construction and demolition material, personal property, furniture, carpet, sheetrock, etc.

Disaster - As used in this plan, disaster shall mean an event or set of circumstances which: (a) Demands immediate action to preserve public health, protect life, protect public property, or to provide relief to any stricken community overtaken by such occurrences, or (b) Reaches such a dimension or degree of destructiveness as to warrant the Governor of Washington State or the President of the United States, declaring a state of emergency pursuant to RCW 43.06.010.

Damage Assessment - An initial report immediately following the disaster that defines the type of disaster, estimated cost and requirements for relief efforts. The damage assessment identifies and provides estimates for the type of debris, location of debris, volume of debris and land use. Such as residential, business or agriculture. The damage assessment also provides a specific record of the area(s) of damage within the County.

LEWIS COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Lewis County operates the solid waste system under the auspices of a Disposal District. The District is inclusive of all of the incorporated cities and the County. Representatives from each of the incorporated cities and the County act as an advisory committee to the Disposal District Commissioners who by statute are the Lewis County Commissioners.

Lewis County Solid Waste Utility Division operates two transfer stations and a Household Hazardous Waste Facility. Municipal solid waste is collected at these sites then loaded into long haul trailer for transport to the Wasco county landfill.

Curbside Solid Waste collection services are provided by contract and franchise hauling firms. Franchise areas are determined and managed by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission.

During a disaster, waste is directed to the transfer stations located within City of Centralia limits and on State Highway 12, approximately four miles east of the City of Morton. The addresses and phone numbers of the sites are as follows:

Central Transfer Station (CTS)	(360) 740-1481
1411 South Tower Ave	
Centralia, WA 98531	

East Lewis County Transfer Station (ELCTS)	(360) 496-5095
6745 US Highway 12	
Morton, WA 98356	

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) generated during a disaster will be collected and processed at the Lewis County HHW facility located at the Central Transfer Station in Centralia. Additional collection and processing may be handled directly by the Department of Ecology depending on the type and severity of the event.

ESTABLISHING DISASTER DISPOSAL RATES

Disposal rates are established by the Lewis County Board of County Commissioners. Acting in their capacity as the Lewis County Disposal District #1. In the event of a declared disaster, provisions have been established within the Department to provide service to the citizens of Lewis County.

In the event of a disaster, the Solid Waste Disposal District #1 (SWDD #1) can activate free or reduced rate disposal after damage assessments have been completed by Emergency Management officials or an entity designated by Lewis County Emergency Management. The damage assessments will provide the Commission with the information necessary to determine the extent of the damage and the need for free or reduced disposal opportunities.

Any customers disposing of disaster debris at either transfer station prior to the Solid Waste Disposal District #1 passing a Resolution approving free disposal for disaster debris disposal, will not be subject to a refund.

DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

Damage assessments occur immediately after a disaster to determine the extent and nature of the damage. The assessments are conducted by County officials, Emergency Management, by City officials, and other entities as identified by Lewis County Emergency Management.

Damage assessments of public property are the responsibility of the local government within whose jurisdiction the damage occurred. Lewis County Emergency Management is responsible for coordinating the preliminary assessment of private property damage in Lewis County. Other countywide “Windshield Surveys” and damage assessments may be completed by other agencies, coordinated by Lewis County Emergency Management.

The goal is to compile the assessments and forward them to the Washington State Department of Emergency Management within one week following the response phase of the event. The exact timeline will be determined based on the severity of the event. The Governor may declare the County, or a portion thereof, a disaster during the response phase of the assessment to assist with resource support. In the event of a major disaster, a Presidential Disaster declaration may follow the state review.

MANAGEMENT OF DISASTER DEBRIS

The Disposal District Commissioners may authorize free or reduced disposal of disaster debris at the transfer stations if damage assessments indicate significant damage. Solid waste personnel will open the transfer stations as soon as physically possible. Waste will be accepted from the public and commercial sources on a first-come first-served basis. Waste will be screened for unacceptable and hazardous waste as defined in the Transfer Station Operations Plan. The Disposal District Commissioners will be responsible for determining how many days of free disposal will be offered. A resolution authorizing free disposal must be signed by the Disposal District Commissioners before disposal can occur.

Free disposal of disaster debris will not be available to local jurisdictions and individuals not affected by the disaster. Information from the damage assessments will be utilized to identify the areas eligible to receive free disposal.

In the unincorporated areas of the County, businesses and residents affected by the disaster will be eligible for free or reduced disposal, if they meet the following criteria:

1. Residents and businesses requesting free or reduced disposal of disaster debris will be required to fill out and sign a Disaster Debris Voucher Form indicating that they are disposing of debris directly from the disaster. Disaster Debris Voucher Forms are available through Lewis County Emergency Management.
2. These residents or businesses will be required to provide proof of identity such as a driver’s license and/or business license, to show proof of residency in an area affected by the disaster.

In the incorporated cities, City officials will be responsible for providing a means for identifying areas that qualify for free disposal of disaster debris. City officials are responsible for forwarding information on areas affected by the disaster to Lewis County Emergency Management.

City officials have the option of sending qualified individual residents and businesses to Lewis County Emergency Management to receive Disposal Debris Voucher Forms. However, City officials are encouraged to utilize city forces or contracted haulers to remove waste from city streets and residential neighborhoods within the affected area.

Transfer station personnel will track the inbound eligible waste with a computerized scale system.

Solid waste brought to the transfer station from outside the eligible area(s) will be charged full price. Waste from inside the eligible area(s), but not directly generated as a result of the disaster will be charged full price.

DISASTER DEBRIS DISPOSAL- INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

The Emergency Management Division of the Lewis County Public Works Department is the lead agency for gathering and maintaining information related to disasters and emergencies. Following a disaster declaration by the Board of County Commissioners, Emergency Management will determine areas qualified to participate in the Disaster Debris Management Program, and coordinate the distribution of disaster debris vouchers.

The identification and location of residents and businesses requesting disaster debris vouchers will be verified by Emergency Management Officials. Residents and authorized representatives of the businesses will be required to provide valid identification. Only qualified residents and businesses in the affected areas will be issued a Disaster Debris Voucher. Questionable or fraudulent requests for Disaster Debris Vouchers will be forwarded by Emergency Management to the Lewis County Sheriff's Office for investigation.

The Disaster Debris Voucher is a two-part, numbered form. Once verification has occurred, the voucher shall be given to the resident asking for free or reduced disposal. The resident must present both white and yellow copies of the voucher upon hauling waste to either transfer station for disposal. The white cover sheet shall be signed by the Solid Waste scale attendant and forwarded to the Solid Waste Utility, along with a scale receipt for contractual record keeping purposes. The yellow copy shall be given to the resident or business, and may be used for multiple trips in one day during the period designated by a resolution.

The Solid Waste Utility utilizes a computerized scale system that allows the Utility to identify waste through a commodity code. A commodity code has been dedicated to track waste generated through the Disaster Debris Management Program. Computer cards are programmed with the commodity code. These cards will be presented to the residents or businesses at the scale house. The system also allows the scale attendant to insert information

on the disposal charge ticket in a comment line. When a resident or business presents a Disaster Debris Voucher, the event number, voucher number, and name of the business or resident will be entered into the comment line.

The Solid Waste Utility will file the white copy of the disposal receipt with the white copy of the Disaster Debris Voucher, which also provides the event number, voucher number, and name of resident or business. This will allow the Solid Waste Division to generate reports on debris collected from the affected areas within Lewis County.

EMERGENCY CONTINGENCY PLAN

Lewis County's solid waste system is dependent upon the availability of over the road transportation for the movement of long haul trailers to and from the landfill service provider. In the event of a major disaster that closes all transportation routes, the long haul and disposal contractor will activate the emergency response procedures established in the Emergency Response Plan (ERP). The procedures in the ERP are as follows:

1. Provide the CTS and ELCTS with as many empty containers as feasible.
2. Up to 50 full containers can be stockpiled at the intermodal yard in Centralia.
3. If necessary, additional full and empty containers can be stored at the CTS
4. Re-establish transportation routes as soon as possible.

The Utility will respond as follows:

1. Utilize all available empty containers
2. If empty containers are unavailable, 500+ tons of waste can be stockpiled on the tip floor.
3. If the tip floor reaches capacity, waste can be stored on the paved area adjacent to the tip floor.
4. In an extreme emergency situation, the yard waste collection area at the base of the transfer station can be utilized for over flow. In this event, the culvert which provides drainage for the swale will be plugged to prevent leachate from escaping off site.

Emergency dump site locations only:

1. If necessary, emergency storage sites can be permitted by the Lewis County Health Officer. Additional emergency storage sites are as follows:

Meskill Drop Box, 3547 State Highway 6, Chehalis WA
Spooner Rock Pit, 307 Spooner Rd, Chehalis WA
Meskill Rock Pit, 0 Meskill Rd, Chehalis WA
Winlock Drop Box, 1105 Winlock-Vader Road, Winlock WA
Randle Drop Box, 9392 U.S. Highway 12, Randle WA.

EMERGENCY CONTACT LIST - LEWIS COUNTY

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT	740-1123
Public Works Director	740-2762
County Engineer	740-2711
Road Maintenance Supervisor	740-3381
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	740-1151
Emergency Management Deputy Director	740-1157
Emergency Management Planner	740-1153
DEM Information Line	740-3352
SOLID WASTE UTILITY DIVISION	
Solid Waste Utility Manager	740-1403
Transfer Station Operations Supervisor	520-0694
INCORPORATED CITIES	
CENTRALIA	
Public Works Director	330-7512
CHEHALIS	
Public Works Director	748-0238
MORTON	
City Clerk	496-6881
MOSSYROCK	
City Clerk	983-3300
NAPAVINE	
City Clerk	262-3547
PE ELL	
City Clerk	291-3543
TOLEDO	
City Clerk	864-4564
VADER	
City Clerk	295-3222
WINLOCK	
City Clerk	785-3811
SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING CURBSIDE COLLECTION COMPANIES	
LeMay Enterprises	736-4769
Waste Connections Inc	800-525-4167
COMMUNITY REFUSE	748-7387