

**Hurricanes Katrina and Rita
FEMA-DR-1603/1607- LA
Information Sheet #008**

**Debris on Roads and Highways
Reimbursement for Removal**

Eligibility Clarification

General

The debris generated by the disaster that is on, or taken to, Federal Aid Highways will be completely removed with Federal Highway funding. Complete removal likely requires multiple passes. After a disengagement strategy is implemented, subsequent debris pick-ups may be funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Debris removal on other roads may be funded by FEMA.

FEMA will not reimburse for damages to federal or non-federal highways resulting from debris removal.

Federal Highway Program Roadways

DOTD will be responsible for complete initial clearance with Federal Highway funding. This includes multiple passes to pick up segregated debris.

FEMA will provide grant reimbursement for DOTD debris removal activities for subsequent debris deposited along the Right-of-Way (ROW) until disengagement strategy is implemented (see below).

If the State requests local jurisdictions to remove debris from DOTD roadways after DOTD completes its work, FEMA may provide grant reimbursement to local jurisdictions until disengagement strategy is implemented (see below).

If the State or local jurisdictions have exhausted resources to perform debris removal after the initial clearance, FEMA may consider Direct Federal Assistance requests until disengagement strategy is implemented (see below).

Non-Federal Highways

DOTD is responsible for debris removal for first and subsequent passes. FEMA will provide grant reimbursement until disengagement strategy is implemented (see below).

If the State requests local jurisdictions to remove debris from DOTD roadways, FEMA will provide grant reimbursement until disengagement strategy is implemented (see below).

If the State or local jurisdictions have exhausted resources to perform debris removal after the initial clearance, FEMA may consider Direct Federal Assistance requests until disengagement strategy is implemented (see below).

Disengagement Strategy

FEMA may provide grant support, or Direct Federal Assistance if the State or local jurisdictions have exhausted resources to perform debris removal.

The DOTD will work with Parish leadership to identify proposed cut-off dates for FEMA support. DOTD will advise Parishes to propose cut-off dates based on criteria above. The DOTD will provide to FEMA proposed cut-off dates for all Parishes. FEMA/DOTD may approve cut-off dates.

All responsibility - physical and financial - for debris removal from roadways after these dates will revert to DOTD and local jurisdictions.

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Because this document is not exhaustive, either in topics or in detail, information should be verified with FEMA Public Assistance Program officials before becoming the basis for decision making.