



Town of Hay River Disaster Clean-up & Debris Management Plan

Natural disasters such as flooding precipitates a variety of debris including trees and other vegetative organic matter, construction material, appliances, personal property, mud, and sediment. The Town of Hay River encourages residents to be mindful of the proper separation and disposal of debris resulting from this year's flooding. The purpose of this document is to provide guidance for the clearance, removal, and disposal of debris resulting from a major debris-generating event.

Multiple passes from contactors and volunteer groups will occur over the next few weeks. It is very important for residents to separate debris by type to help expedite the collection process. There are several reasons why debris may not be removed during initial passes. These reasons include debris is mixed/unknown, debris has visible utility lines, debris is bagged, or debris is ineligible. Debris considered ineligible for pickup includes debris from a contacted demolition, debris from a restoration or construction effort, non-storm related debris, and debris from commercial sites. Commercial and industrial pickup are requested to develop a plan with the Town if they require assistance with curb side pickup. Food waste should be bagged and disposed of with normal garbage collection. However, large volumes of food waste from industrial/ commercial fridges and freezers should be disposed of in accordance with the Town on a case-to-case basis so that attracting insects and wildlife is avoided. Fridges and freezers must be emptied before accepted at landfill or by curbside pickup.

What can residents do?

As the community navigates through the aftermath of this year's flood, residents should sort all garbage, household chemicals, appliances/white goods, ruined electronics and flood related debris into separate and distinct piles. Separated piles should be placed as close as possible to the roadway without impeding ditches, drains, catch basins or hydrants. Vegetative debris should be separate from construction debris. White goods, specifically refrigerators and freezers, must be emptied before accepted at the landfill. Household hazardous waste should be sealed and secured to prevent contamination to the environment. Debris removal crews will not collect bagged garbage as this will be completed as part of normal operations on regularly scheduled pick up days.

The Town asks residents to separate waste into categories described below:

- Household garbage should be bagged and left for pickup on regularly scheduled collection days.
- Vegetative debris includes tree branches and limbs, logs, plants, and leaves.

- Construction and demolition debris includes materials that are an integral part of the structure such as drywall, plaster, lumber, plumbing, insulation, etc.
- White goods includes air conditioners, dishwashers, freezers, refrigerators, washers, dryers, stoves, heaters.
- Household hazardous waste includes cleaning supplies, batteries, lawn chemicals, oil, paint, pesticides and vehicle fluids.

Debris Management Definitions

- Animal carcasses – remains of animals killed by a disaster.
- Curbside segregation of debris – sorting of debris by the resident into piles of discrete waste streams being collected as the result of a disaster. This is the most efficient and cost-effective method of debris management. The segregated debris piles should be placed on the right-of-way and away from obstructions, such as, mailboxes, fire hydrants, gas meters, and telephone poles. Waste streams typically needing curbside separation in a disaster recovery effort are vegetative debris, construction and demolition debris, electronics, household hazardous materials, other special wastes and regular garbage. This will vary according to the extent of the disaster and the capabilities and decisions of local governments.
- Electronic debris – devices or components thereof that contain one or more circuit boards and are used primarily for data transfer or storage, communication, or entertainment purposes, including but not limited to, desktop and laptop computers, computer peripherals, monitors, scanners, printers, radios, televisions, camcorders, video cassette recorders (VCRs), compact disc players, digital video disc players, MP3 players, stereos, and telephones, including cellular and portable telephones.
- Emergency construction and demolition (C&D) debris – nonhazardous waste generally considered not water-soluble, including but not limited to, metal, concrete, brick, asphalt, roofing materials (shingles, sheet rock, plaster), or lumber from a construction, remodeling, repair, renovation, or demolition project that is authorized by the government to be necessary for a disaster. C & D debris does not include asbestos-containing materials.
- Eligible debris – debris must: be a direct result of a declared disaster; occur within the designated disaster area; and be the responsibility of the applicant at the time of the disaster. Debris removal work must be necessary to: eliminate an immediate threat to lives, public health and safety; eliminate immediate threats of significant damage to improved public or private property; or ensure the economic recovery of the affected community to the benefit of the community-at-large.
- Household hazardous waste (HHW) – waste that can catch fire, react, explode, is corrosive or toxic that is generated by individuals on the premises of a residence for individuals (a household) and composed primarily of materials found in the wastes generated from homes. These hazards include:
 - Mould contaminated wastes
 - Asbestos contaminated materials

- Household paint, paint stripping chemicals, cleaners, waste oil & fuel, medicines, pesticides, etc.
 - Biomedical and/or health care wastes
 - Sewage-contaminated waste
 - Materials contaminated by industrial hazardous waste resulting from a spill
- Metals – bits and pieces of metal parts (e.g., bars, turnings, rods, sheets, wire) or metal pieces that may be combined together with bolts or soldering (e.g., radiators, scrap automobiles, railroad box cars), which when worn or superfluous can be recycled. Materials not covered by the definition of scrap metal include “residues generated from smelting and refining operations (e.g., drosses, slags, and sludges), liquid wastes containing metals (e.g., spent acids, caustics, or other liquid wastes with metals in solution), liquid metals wastes (e.g., liquid mercury), or metal-containing wastes with a significant liquid component, such as spent batteries.
 - Municipal waste – Residential and/or commercial solid waste.
 - Orphan drums (and tanks) – abandoned or lost containers that may contain hazardous substances, such as propane, industrial chemicals, and unknown substances.
 - Putrescible waste- waste susceptible to rapid decomposition by bacteria, fungi, or oxidation, creating noxious odors.
 - Tires – whole tires (i.e., the continuous solid or pneumatic rubber covering encircling the wheel of a motor vehicle or off-road vehicle) that are no longer suitable for their original purpose because of wear, damage, or defect. These do not include any tire weighing over 500 pounds and/or a solid tire.
 - Vegetative Debris – vegetative matter resulting from landscaping, landscape maintenance, right of-way or land-clearing operations, including trees and shrubbery, leaves and limbs, stumps, grass clippings, and flowers.
 - Vehicles – an automobile, motorcycle, truck, trailer, semitrailer, truck-tractor-semitrailer combination, or any other vehicle used to transport persons or property and propelled by power.
 - Vessels – any type of watercraft used, or capable of being used, as a means of transportation on the water.
 - White goods – discarded domestic appliances including, but not limited to, refrigerators, ranges, washers, freezers, dryers, air conditioning and heating units, freestanding ice

makers, built-in stove surface units and oven units, and water heaters. White goods do not include small household appliances, such as, stand mixers, toasters, blenders, etc.

- Wood waste – types of waste generated by sawmills, plywood mills and woodyards associated with the lumber and paper industry, such as wood residue, cutoffs, wood chips, sawdust, wood shaving, bark, wood refuse, wood-fired boiler ash, wood ash, and plywood or other bonded materials that contain only polyurethane, phenolic-based glues, or other glues that are approved specifically by the administrative authority. Uncontaminated, un-treated, or un-painted lumber, board road lumber, or wooden pallets are considered wood waste under this definition.

Additional Resources

Manitoba's Fact Sheet on securing hazardous materials containers before and after flooding
https://www.gov.mb.ca/asset_library/en/spring_outlook/securing_petroleum_storage_tanks.pdf

MOE Management of Waste Asbestos by Homeowners in BC
https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/waste-management/hazardous-waste/hazardous-waste/resources/asbestos_homeowners_guide.pdf

Hidden Danger – Hazardous Materials in your Flood-Damaged Building, 2013, Alberta Government
<http://www.humanservices.alberta.ca/documents/factsheet-OHS-hazardous-materials-in-flood.pdf>

Cleaning Up After Sewage Backup
<https://docplayer.net/4315112-Cleaning-up-after-sewage-backup.html>

A Guideline for Cleaning Up After Flood or Sewer Back-up
<https://docplayer.net/4314812-A-guideline-for-cleaning-up-after-flood-or-sewer-back-up.html>

Fact Sheet: Hazardous Materials Accidents
<https://docplayer.net/14730562-Fact-sheet-hazardous-materials-accidents.html>

Emergency Restoration Specialists. Water Damage Tip Sheet for Homeowners
<https://docplayer.net/591667-Emergency-restoration-specialists-water-damage-tip-sheet-for-homeowners.html>

Steps for Cleaning Mold
<https://docplayer.net/940379-Steps-for-cleaning-mold.html>