

## State Emergency Operations Center

## Joint Information Center

CONTACT: (866) 920-MEMA (6362)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 3, 2014

Contact: Greg Flynn, MEMA External Affairs

601-933-6652

## **Debris Removal Information for Homeowners and Property Owners**

**PEARL** – As Mississippians begin the clean-up process around the state from the tornadoes and severe weather, there are a few things they need to know that will expedite debris removal.

- If a homeowner or property owner hires/contracts with a company to do storm debris removal, the contractor needs to be required to haul the debris to an appropriate disposal site and not just move it to the right of way.
- If homeowners or volunteers are working to clear storm debris, it can be moved to curbside or the right of way to be picked up by the local governments.

Debris should be sorted at the curbside in six separate piles or categories.

- O Vegetative debris: tree branches, leaves, logs, etc...
- o Construction debris: drywall, lumber, carpet, furniture, plumbing etc...
- o Household garbage: food, paper, packaging, bagged garbage.
- o Large Appliances: refrigerator, washer/dryer, air conditioner, stove, etc...
- o Electronics: televisions, computers, stereos, phones, DVD players.
- o Hazardous Waste: Oil, batteries, pesticide, paint, cleaning supplies, compressed gas.

Attached to this release is a graphic depicting the debris removal guidelines.

Please do not place debris on trees, poles or other structures like fire hydrants and meters. Debris should be within ten feet of the curb/right of way and please do not block the roadway.

If residents or local officials have questions or concerns relating to debris clean up from storm damage or other resulting environmental issues, please contact the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Solid Waste staff at 601-961-5171.

###