

Storm- Related Debris Removal FAQs
Revised October 2, 2022

1. When will my regular household collections resume?

Regular collections of garbage, recycling and yard waste have already resumed. Place your garbage and recycling waste in the carts. No loose bags will be collected.

2. When will storm-related debris collection occur?

Hurricane debris collection begins on Monday, Oct. 3.

Place debris generated by Hurricane Ian curbside, at least three feet apart, in separate piles of: yard waste, construction and demolition (furniture, carpet), household hazardous waste, electronic waste and appliances.

Do not mix waste piles. Debris will be collected by a separate hauler than the usual garbage hauler. When placing curbside, avoid blocking the road, driveways, sidewalks, mailboxes and fire hydrants.

Please be patient for collection of these piles and monitor colliercountyfl.gov/hurricaneprep for updates. It will take some time to collect hurricane debris and all areas will have more than one pick up, as needed. There will be a deadline posted for debris to be placed on the street for pick up.

Any vehicles or vessels blocking roadways will be moved to the side to allow an accessible path. Residents are encouraged to claim their vehicle or boat.

3. What is the difference between storm-related debris and household garbage?

Storm-related debris includes any trees, tree limbs and shrubs that were blown down. It also includes any fencing, flooring, furniture, carpet and wallboard that had to be removed from the home due to flooding or other structural damage. This will be picked up by the county's debris collection contractors. Items should be placed in front of your home. Storm-related yard waste must be kept separate from other items placed out for collection.

4. What is considered storm-related bulk pickup?

Storm-related bulk items are mattresses and furniture, sheds, fences and appliances damaged by the storm. Non-storm-related bulk items are the everyday items to normally dispose of, such as a chair, vacuum cleaner or patio umbrella.

5. Will storm-related bulky items be picked up?

Bulky items (appliances, electronics, furniture) will be picked up by the county's debris removal contractor. Hurricane-related bulky items should be placed curbside. Bulky items must be separated from yard debris.

6. Will non-storm-related bulky items be picked up?

Non-storm-related bulky items will be picked up by your normal collection hauler on your regularly scheduled collection day. Keep bulky items separated from yard debris.

7. What do I do with my storm-related yard debris?

Bundle pile the yard debris loosely (do not place in paper or plastic bags) in front of your home. Storm-related yard waste should be separated from construction and demolition debris and bulky items. Keep piles of yard waste away from mailboxes, water meters, backflow prevention devices, utility poles and other objects until collected by the county's debris collection contractors.

8. What is considered non-eligible yard waste?

Non-storm-related yard debris collected from land clearing or lawn maintenance is considered non-eligible. This debris must be prepared as per regular guidelines and set out for regularly scheduled pick up or taken to a yard waste processing facility for proper disposal. Disposal fees will apply. Any lawn service or landscape contractors that is land clearing or providing lawn maintenance on private property will not be allowed to dispose of the non-storm-related yard debris on the public right-of-way.

9. How should storm-related debris be sorted?

Storm debris should be separated into six categories: normal household garbage, yard waste, construction and demolition, appliances, electronics, and household hazardous waste. See the diagram shown on colliercountyfl.gov/hurricaneprep.

10. How many times will the trucks pick up on my street?

All areas will have more than one pick up if needed. There will eventually be a deadline posted for debris to be placed on the street for pickup. Please be patient and monitor colliercountyfl.gov/hurricaneprep for updates.

11. Debris collection contractors missed my pile?

If material was not sorted correctly, will result in non-collection. All areas will have more than one pick-up if needed. There will eventually be a deadline posted for debris to be placed on the street for pickup. Please be patient and monitor colliercountyfl.gov/hurricaneprep for updates.

12. What type of vehicle will collect storm debris in cul-de-sac communities?

The debris collection contractor has access to many types of debris collection trucks and equipment to accommodate the collection on small and narrow streets throughout the county.

13. Where do you place debris?

All debris must be placed curbside, without blocking the roadway or storm drains. Placing debris near or on trees, poles, utility boxes, mailboxes, fire hydrants or meters makes removal difficult. If you do not have a sidewalk, place debris at the edge of your property line.

14. Who will collect my storm debris?

The county will use a private contractor to collect storm debris that is placed at the curb. See ROE information below.

Homeowners, communities, etc. may elect to make arrangements for collecting storm debris and is responsible for requesting any reimbursements directly from their insurance company or directly from the State of Florida. It is recommended to check with your insurance company if you elect not to utilize County services.

15. What is required from private/gated communities to commence storm debris collection through the county?

Private/gated communities must submit a Right-of-Entry (ROE) form to Collier County prior to storm debris collections in their community. ROE requires the property manager or president's signature of authority for the community. The form can be requested by emailing hurricaneppdr@colliercountyfl.gov.

16. Where can we obtain the Right-of-Entry (ROE) form?

The ROE can be obtained by calling 239-252-7575, emailing hurricaneppdr@colliercountyfl.gov or by filling out survey on the colliercountyfl.gov/hurricaneprep website.

17. What is the purpose of the Right-of-Entry (ROE) and Hold Harmless Agreement (HHA)?

The ROE grants right of property access and entry to the County, its agencies, contractors, and subcontractors for inspecting, removing, and clearing eligible storm-generated debris. The HHA releases the County, State, their agencies, contractors, and subcontractors for damage of any type, whatsoever, either to the property or persons situated thereon and releases, discharges, and waives any action, either legal or equitable which might arise out of activities on the property during property inspection, debris removal and/or demolition.

18. Why is an ROE needed?

Gaining legal access to private property is an important aspect of a remediation project from start to finish. Multiple facets of a project may require access to a property even before the actual debris removal or demolition begins.

19. Can private/gated communities that paid to have storm-related debris removed from the community get reimbursement from FEMA?

Homeowners, communities, etc. that elect not to utilize County services is responsible for requesting any reimbursements directly from their insurance company or directly from the State of Florida. It is recommended to check with your insurance company if you elect not to utilize County services. The County will not reimburse for debris collected.

20. How soon will the work be done for private/gated communities?

Eligible private property debris removal or structural demolition is a long process with multiple approvals. Approval and scheduling of structural demolition on properties will take even longer and undergo additional reviews and approvals.

21. What are the criteria for Right of Private Property Debris Removal?

The County's request to FEMA must demonstrate legal authority to remove debris, indemnify the government from any claims arising from debris removal, and demonstrate that debris removal is a public interest.

- **Legal Authority:** State the County's legal authority and responsibility to remove debris from private property. The applicable law, ordinance, or code should be referenced.
- **Indemnification:** State that Right-of-Entry and hold harmless agreements will be established with each property owner to indemnify the government from claims arising from debris removal.
- **Public Interest:** A determination from the County's public health officer that debris on private property constitutes an immediate threat to life, public health, or safety.

FEMA will evaluate the County's submission and determine if they agree private property debris removal is in the public interest and will provide a written response providing the guidelines of their approval

22. Does agreeing to an ROE mean I am agreeing to the whole project?

In most cases, no. Signing the ROE does not mean you are agreeing to having the project implemented. Agreeing to allow access to your property will allow the County and its contractors to access your property to perform a site inspection and collect the information necessary to submit to FEMA for review and approval

23. What is typically eligible under Private Property debris removal?

Debris Removal -Hazardous limbs, trees, stumps, or other debris caused by a disaster that is near a commonly used area or maintained space of a property.

The eligible areas on a property are determined on an individual basis following a field survey. Demolition-The demolition and debris removal of a structure that is a health hazard and not recoverable or in threat of collapse.

24. What is NOT typically eligible in the private property debris removal program?

Debris removal from vacant lots, unimproved property, commercial property and unused or unmaintained areas. Debris on agricultural lands used for crops or livestock. Concrete slabs or foundations-on-grade.

25. Do I have to pay for these services?

With ROE, you must submit a copy of your homeowner's insurance policy. If your insurance policy covers disaster related debris removal or demolition, there may be an equitable charge to prevent duplication of benefits for services. This program was designed to help individual homeowners without the means to remove disaster debris or demolish unrecoverable structures on their property following a major disaster.

26. How can I help?

Public announcements will be issued on local news, social media and county website colliercountyfl.gov/hurricaneprep. Please be patient. Schedules may be disrupted.

Regular Curbside Collection After A Storm

1. Will my garbage be picked up today?

Franchise contracted haulers are picking up trash and recycling items on your regularly scheduled collection day.

2. My garbage was not picked up today.

Please contact customer service at 239-252-2380 to report missed pickups.

For safety reasons, franchise contracted haulers will not make collection in areas where debris blocks the road or where there is lowhanging or downed lines.

3. What do I do with my extra garbage?

Place your garbage and recycling waste in the carts. No loose bags will be collected.

4. When will recycling be picked up?

Recycling will be picked up on your regularly scheduled day.

5. My recycling was not picked up today.

Please contact customer service at 239-252-2380 to report missed pickups.

For safety reasons, franchise contracted haulers will not make collection in areas where debris blocks the road or where there is low hanging or downed lines.

6. What is the difference between storm-related debris and household trash?

Storm debris includes any trees, tree limbs and shrubs that were blown down by the hurricane. It also includes any fencing, flooring, furniture, carpet, or wallboard that had to be removed from the home due to health and safety, and/or flooding or other structural damage. This will be picked up by the county's debris collection contractors. Items should be placed on the right-of-way in front of your home. Storm-related yard waste must be kept separate from other items placed out for collection. Refer to county's website colliercountyfl.gov/hurricaneprep for updates and more details.

SEPARATING STORM DEBRIS

Separate storm debris into the **SIX CATEGORIES** shown here.



AFTER THE STORM, CHECK FOR UPDATES AT COLLIERCOUNTYFL.GOV/HURRICANEPREPAREDNESS OR CALL 311