

Annex 3 to Florence County EOP
ESF-3
Public Works and Engineering

PRIMARY: Florence County Public Works Department

SECONDARY: SC Department of Transportation
SC DHEC

I. Introduction

This ESF covers operations aimed at returning the county to normal as soon as possible following a disaster event. Because Florence County does not own or operate a water or sewer system, the major focus of this ESF is on debris removal and reopening of public right-of-ways.

II. Concept of Operations

A. General

ESF-3 (Public Works and Engineering) deals with damage assessment of county property following an event, as well as, all aspects of infrastructure and public property restoration. The nature of tasks assigned to ESF-3 requires extensive operations outside of the EOC and departments assigned to this ESF should plan accordingly. Items routinely provided to EOC workers, such as food and administrative supplies, will need to be coordinated for field workers.

The recovery aspect of ESF-3 tasks is a long-term operation and will last far into the recovery phase of a disaster. During this phase normal EOC operations will most likely be shut down and operational control will be shifted to the administrative offices of the Emergency Management Department or the Public Works Department.

B. Debris removal

ESF-3 (Public Works & Engineering) will be responsible for the overall coordination of county debris removal efforts to include securing necessary emergency environmental permits and legal clearances for debris clearance and disposal.

Debris removal efforts will focus on clearing major transportation routes to allow for the movement of emergency vehicles, traffic and emergency resources and supplies. After major transportation routes have been cleared, debris will then be removed from secondary roadways, local roadways, utility right-of-ways, public facilities and debris which have been moved to the public right of way.

To minimize the impacts on landfill capacity, alternative means of disposal will be used whenever possible. Vegetative debris should either be burned or chipped where possible. Burning provides the most expeditious means of disposal; however, the public health hazards resulting from large-scale burning of debris may require chipping either in addition to or in lieu of burning. If used, burn sites should be located in rural areas away from population concentrations where possible and must be appropriately permitted.

Construction debris should be separated and disposed of accordingly. Wood and other burnable materials should be chipped along with vegetative debris. To the extent possible, recycling should be pursued. Household garbage should be taken to landfills. Household hazardous waste must be segregated and disposed of by a licensed handler in a properly permitted landfill.

III. Specific Responsibilities

A. Florence County Public Works Department:

1. During activation of the EOC, officials from the County Public Works Department, due to personnel limitations, may not staff this ESF. County public works officials will be in touch with the EOC by radio and telephone during activation.
2. Monitor and coordinate the restoration of public utilities and roadways within the county. In coordination with the EM Director, establish priorities for road clearing and infrastructure repair.
3. Work with County EM to coordinate and supervise the county's plan for debris removal and disposal.
4. Conduct damage assessment of county roads, bridges, culverts and other related infrastructure as necessary.
5. Develop internal department guidelines to accomplish assigned and implied task.
6. Develop internal department guidelines to maintain an up to date public works resource list which includes operational equipment, personnel, supplies and capabilities.

7. Be prepared to provide assistance (within department capabilities) in the form of equipment and personnel during urban search and recovery operations.

8. Work with the county engineer to assess the structural safety of public buildings, roads and bridges following disasters.

B. SC Department of Transportation:

1. During activation of the EOC, provide a liaison to coordinate evacuation, road closure and debris removal operations with the EM Director and County Public Works Director.

C. SC DHEC

1. Coordinate post-disaster debris removal on public and private property with Florence County Public Works.

2. Provide guidance and assistance on debris disposal, burn sites, landfill requirements, etc., as requested by Florence County Public Works.

IV. State Interface

The interface for this ESF at the state and federal level is ESF-3 (Public Works and Engineering). At the state level the lead agency and point of contact for this ESF is Budget and Control Board, Division of Procurement Services, Materials Management Office. At the federal level the primary point of contact for ESF-3 (Public Works and Engineering) is the US Army Corps of Engineers.