Removal must be necessary to eliminate immediate threats 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.

The debris must be the direct result of the disaster and located in the disaster area, and the sub-recipient must have the legal responsibility to remove the debris.

For Debris disposal, staging, processing and burning activities within the State of Texas, both the Texas Commission on Environmental quality (TCEQ) and Texas Historical Commission (THC) must approve the temporary storage of debris outside of a certified or properly licensed landfill.

Ensure site locations are located ¼ mile from any private or public water supply, caves, springs or streams and wetland.

Removal of debris from lakes, creeks and rivers or any waterway will require United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) (Section 504 permit) & Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) and Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP) involvement.

Burning site should be located at least 300ft from the nearest property line and other structures

Debris may include:
- Trees, brush and other vegetative matter
- Construction or demolition waste, such as drywall, lumber, roof shingles, treated wood, plastics, etc.
- Furnishings and appliances
- Other municipal solid waste, including putrescible waste (waste that can cause foul odors as it decomposes), and animal carcasses
- Hazardous waste, such as cleaning supplies, automotive products, paints and solvents, etc.

Staging/stockpiling sites: any hazardous materials, asbestos, batteries, used oil and oil filters, tires, appliances containing chlorofluorocarbons (such as refrigerators or air conditioners) bulk liquids, printed circuit boards, industrial hazardous wastes must get approval from TCEQ and be staged or stockpiled separate no larger than 4,000 cubic yards.

Below are the examples of required records keeping:
- Procurement Selection Process
- Contract
- Debris Monitoring
- Load tickets
- Truck Certifications
- Time Cards
- Payroll
- Work Records
- Direct Administrative Cost
- Proof of Payments

This handout is a summary of information provided to give a brief explanation for debris management. Please see TCEQ’s website for more detailed information.

Find the TCEQ regional office that serves you at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/region
For additional TCEQ hurricane information: https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/hurricanes