

## FEMA Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide

# DEBRIS

### Limb, tree, and stump activities eligible for FEMA reimbursement

**Limb Removal ( $\geq 2''$  at Break)** – There is at least one broken limb in the crown of the damaged tree that is greater than two inches in diameter at the break and was caused by the natural disaster.

**Tree Removal (Canopy Broken)** – Lost a significant\* amount of crown volume due to the storm.

**Tree Removal (Trunk Split)** – Exposure of heartwood in the stem or major, structural branches.

**Tree Removal (Lean  $>30$ )** – Storm-related lean is at least 30 degrees, been uprooted, or has fallen.

**Windthrow Removal (Roots  $\geq 50\%$ )** – The fallen tree and root ball are recommended for removal as a single unit and the remaining hole is to be filled if at least 50% of the roots are exposed.

**Stump Removal (Roots  $\geq 50\%$ ,  $\geq 24''$  at 2')** – This is a stump that is greater than 24" diameter at 2' above ground line and has at least 50% of the root ball exposed.

**Stump Flush Cut ( $<50\%$  roots,  $\geq 6''$  at 2')** – This is a stump that is greater than 6" diameter at 2' above ground line and has less than 50% of the root ball exposed.

**Stumps Picked Up (Out of Ground)** – A stump that is laying on top of the ground; not to be confused with a windthrown tree which would include: root ball, stump, trunk, and crown (or portions).

**Tree Bracing or Staking** – The use of any means necessary to prevent the tree from falling as long as that means is less costly than removing the tree. The tree is not eligible for removal later if it dies.

\*Define what percent of canopy loss or other characteristics will determine which trees to remove under the category of "broken canopy" (e.g.,  $>50\%$  canopy loss, ash with  $>25\%$  canopy loss).

\*\*This list includes UNATTACHED stumps remaining following initial disaster response (i.e., tree removal to facilitate rescue during first 70 hours and clearing streets for access).