

Select Online Resources for Forestry, Forest Products and Woody Biomass Operations Affected by Hurricane Sandy and Other Natural Disasters

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In response to Hurricane Sandy and other natural disasters, here is a quick list of select online resources for forest landowners, foresters, loggers, forest products business owners, woody biomass operators and utilization and marketing specialists. Refer to the URL addresses for more information.

Federal Woody Biomass Utilization Working Group

The Federal Woody Biomass Utilization Working Group is a consortium of several Federal agencies that promotes and supports the utilization of woody biomass and woody biomass products and residues from forest and woodland health, management and restoration treatments wherever environmentally and economically appropriate at: http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/Woody_Biomass/index.shtml

Woody Biomass Utilization Tools and Resources

Woody Biomass Utilization Desk Guide (PDF, 1.7 MB) is available online at: http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/Woody_Biomass/documents/biomass_deskguide.pdf

The purpose of the desk guide is to:

- Provide a quick reference guide and suggestions to local land managers regarding locating and collaborating with biomass stakeholders;
- Assess the viability of offsetting the costs of accomplishing hazardous fuels and ecosystem restoration treatments by utilizing marketable small-diameter trees and other biomass;
- Provide suggestions regarding how to use current National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) planning tools to start up quickly and then maintain a biomass-utilization program;
- Provide suggestions regarding how to use cost-effective sale preparation techniques and cost-effective timber sale/stewardship/service contract preparation techniques to provide increased supplies of biomass.

Woody Biomass Feedstock Yard Development Guide (PDF, 4.8 MB) is available online at: http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/Woody_Biomass/documents/feedstock_yard_guide.pdf

Woody Debris Utilization

Action Plan for Damaged Timber and Woody Debris Management (PDF, 260 KB) at: http://www.windwoodutilization.org/pdf/action_plan.pdf

Timber Recovery and Wood Utilization Response to Wind Events and Disturbances at: http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/Woody_Biomass/news_events/recovery_utilization_workshop_031908.shtml

Other Disaster Assistance Online Resources

Wind Wood Utilization from Mississippi State University is for preparing for, responding to and recovering from wind events and the utilization of downed and damaged timber and woody debris is available online at:

http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/Woody_Biomass/documents/feedstock_yard_guide.pdf

Storms Over the Urban Forest is a handbook to help communities plan, respond and regreen their town besieged by a natural disaster at: <http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/uf/sotuf/sotuf.htm>

State Foresters: Check your state government agencies for assistance. One potential source of assistance is your State Forestry office. Go to the National Association of State Foresters (NASF) for a listing of the State Foresters at: <http://www.stateforesters.org/>

General Information on Available Federal Assistance is available at:

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA): <http://www.fema.gov/>

USDA Farm Services Agency (FSA): <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/>

Small Business Administration (SBA): <http://www.sba.gov/>

Small Business Administration (SBA) offers several other types of disaster assistance:

Economic Injury Disaster Loans for businesses that suffer substantial economic injury at: <http://www.sba.gov/content/economic-injury-disaster-loans>

Physical Disaster Loans to repair or replace damaged real estate, equipment, inventory, and fixtures at: <http://www.sba.gov/content/business-physical-disaster-loans>

Procedures for applying for the Economic Injury or the Physical Disaster Loans are found at: <http://www.sba.gov/content/applying-disaster-loan>

Online Questionnaire and Application Assistance for Business Owners provides an online questionnaire and online application form to help you determine what types of business assistance your company might qualify for at: <http://www.disasterassistance.gov/>

Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides information on related hurricane issues:

Safety Precautions when returning to your office: <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/floods/after.asp>

Cleaning Up Your Office after a hurricane at: <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/floods/cleanupwater.asp>

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has tips on recovering from a hurricane at: http://www.epa.gov/hurricanes/#recover_hurricane

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