



# NEWS RELEASE

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

**BUILDING STRONG.**

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## **Debris removal: USACE exceeds schedule expectations**

**MOBILE, Ala.** – This morning the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile District contractor Phillips & Jordan, Inc. started debris removal operations along public rights of way/curbsides in the Forest Lake Community of Tuscaloosa, Ala.

“We initially anticipated debris removal would begin later in the week, but we exceeded our expectations because of increased efforts and teamwork from USACE employees and contractors,” said Lance Davis, a public affairs specialist for USACE Mobile District. “Currently there are 25 debris crews and eight separation crews working in the community. Additional crews will be added on a daily basis, pending safety and certification procedures.”

During the removal process, a total of three passes are made through the area (today being the first pass) to clear separated debris from curbsides.

The city of Tuscaloosa requested USACE assistance through the Alabama Emergency Management Agency Operations Center and FEMA. City officials are prioritizing areas cleared by Search and Rescue for debris removal activities to continue and will stay in coordination with USACE to schedule the next area.

Residents are asked to separate debris at the curbside into the following categories: household garbage; construction debris; vegetative debris; household hazardous waste; white goods (i.e. washing machines, water tanks, etc.); and electronics. The attachment includes additional details and illustrates specific guidelines for hauling debris.

Phillips & Jordan provides overall management for the debris removal effort. Local contractors who want to assist can find sign-up information for subcontract opportunities via the USACE Mobile District Homepage at [www.sam.usace.army.mil](http://www.sam.usace.army.mil).

“Currently, 100 percent of subcontracts have been awarded to local contractors and Phillips and Jordan will continue to employ local companies and labor to the maximum extent possible,” Davis said.

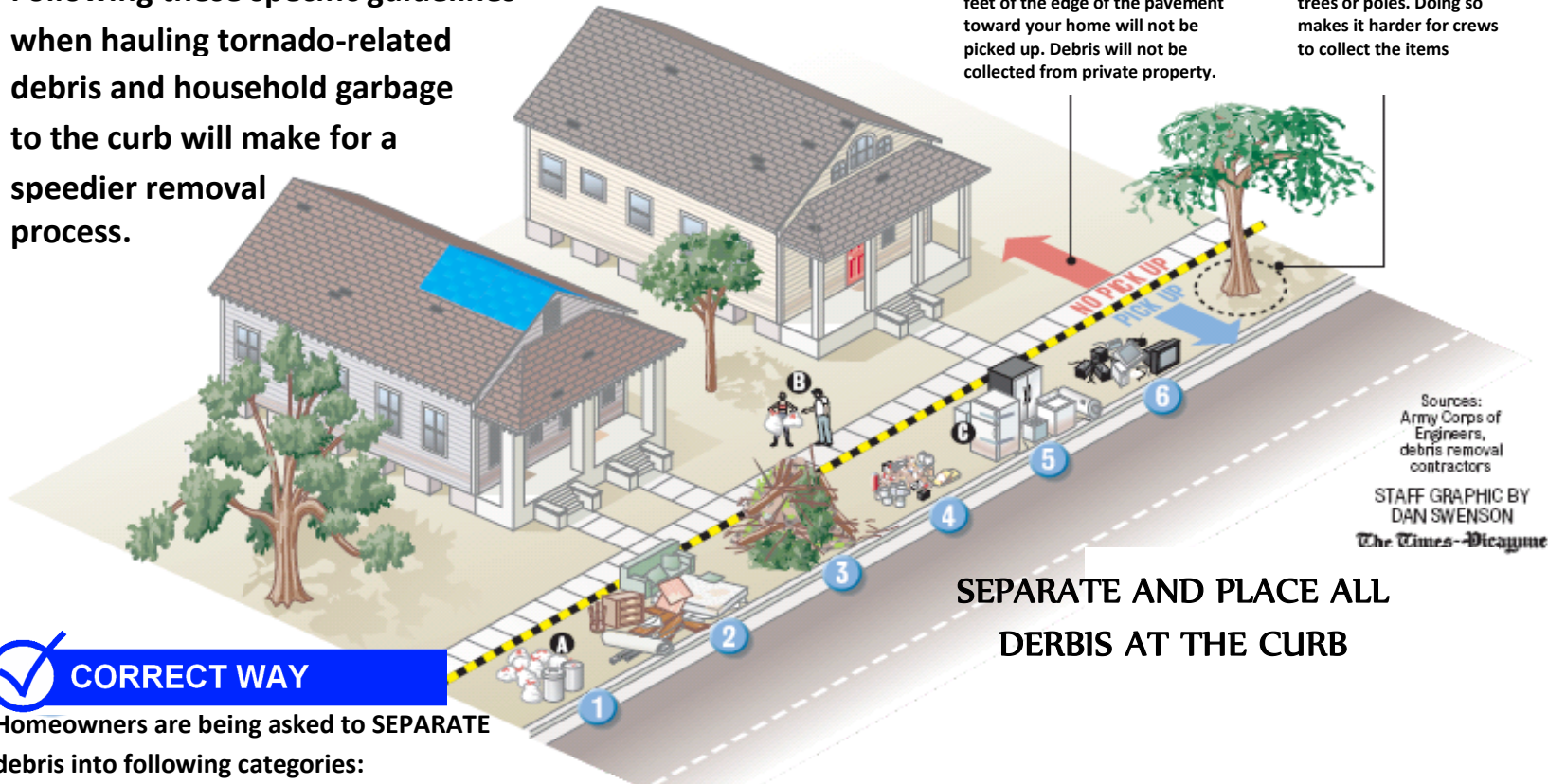
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## HELPFUL HINTS

- Place all garbage carts and bags containing household garbage at the curbside away from all tornado-related debris for collection
- Refrigerator and freezer doors must be secured with duct tape
- Make sure that no debris blocks or protrudes into the road way
- Share piles with neighbors
- Do not place debris on top of water meters, gas meters or fire hydrants
- Do not place debris directly around mail boxes, power poles, or other inanimate objects
- Do not place debris under power lines

# PICKING UP THE PIECES

Following these specific guidelines when hauling tornado-related debris and household garbage to the curb will make for a speedier removal process.



## CORRECT WAY

Homeowners are being asked to SEPARATE debris into following categories:

- |   |  |   |  |  |  |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| <p><b>1 HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Bagged Garbage</li> <li>▶ Discard Food (bagged)</li> <li>▶ Packaging, papers, etc...(bagged)</li> <li>▶ All garbage should be placed curbside the night before your scheduled pick-up day</li> </ul> | <p><b>2 CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Building materials</li> <li>▶ Drywall</li> <li>▶ Lumber</li> <li>▶ Carpet</li> <li>▶ Furniture</li> <li>▶ Mattresses</li> <li>▶ Plumbing</li> </ul> | <p><b>3 VEGETATIVE DEBRIS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Tree branches</li> <li>▶ Leaves</li> <li>▶ Logs</li> </ul> | <p><b>4 HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Oils</li> <li>▶ Batteries</li> <li>▶ Pesticides</li> <li>▶ Paints</li> <li>▶ Cleaning Supplies</li> <li>▶ Compressed gas</li> </ul> | <p><b>5 WHITE GOODS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Refrigerators</li> <li>▶ Washers, Dryers</li> <li>▶ Freezers</li> <li>▶ Air Conditioners</li> <li>▶ Stoves</li> <li>▶ Water heater</li> <li>▶ Dishwasher</li> </ul> | <p><b>6 ELECTRONICS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Television</li> <li>▶ Computer</li> <li>▶ Radios</li> <li>▶ Stereos</li> <li>▶ DVD players</li> <li>▶ Telephones</li> </ul> |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|

K1-C-010606-FL-picking-up-the-pieces - Reprinted with permission from the Times-Picayune

## REPORT ALL TORNADO-RELATED STORM DAMAGE TO FEMA AND YOUR INSURANCE COMPANY.

Register with FEMA one of the following ways

- 1) Call 1-800-621-FEMA (3362)
- 2) [www.FEMA.gov](http://www.FEMA.gov)
- 3) Visit a FEMA Disaster Recovery Center
  - American Legion Post: 3120 University Blvd, Tuscaloosa, AL 35404
  - Coaling Town Hall: 11281 Stephens Loop Rd, Coaling, AL 35023

### OTHER ASSISTANCE OPTIONS

Internet access is available at all [Tuscaloosa Public Library](#) locations - (205)345-5820

MAIN: 1801 Jack Warner Parkway, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 (assistance available)

BROWN: 300 Bobby Miller Parkway, Tuscaloosa, AL 35405

WEAVER BOLDEN: 2252 Lanier Avenue, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

For assistance separating and moving debris to the curb call – (205) 248- 5045

Visit [www.GiveTuscaloosa.com](http://www.GiveTuscaloosa.com)

