

IS YOUR YARD READY FOR HURRICANE SEASON?

Regarding the cutting of vegetation, garbage and storm debris there are steps that should be taken **Before, During and After** a storm. Please clip and save this information so that you can be prepared.

PRE-HURRICANE MAINTENANCE

- Cut back all trees and weak branches that contact buildings.
- Thin your foliage so wind can flow freely through branches, decreasing the chance that trees/plants will be uprooted.
- Place tree trimmings at the curb on your regular scheduled collection day and follow the 6/40 rule (i.e., each piece cannot exceed 6 feet in length or 40 lbs. in weight and must be bundled or containerized.
- Containerize your tree trimmings such as pine needles, leaves, twigs, etc. in paper bags or cans that weigh less than 40 lbs. (no lawn trimmings in plastic bags please).
- Clean your yard of any items that could become missiles in a storm such as old lumber, broken lawn furniture, etc. and place items curbside on your regular collection day.

ONCE A STORM HAS BEEN NAMED

- Do not cut down trees or do any major yard work.
- Do not begin construction projects that produce debris.
- Once a Hurricane Watch or Warning is issued, do not trim vegetation of any kind. Mass cutting places a tremendous burden on the normal collection process and there is not enough equipment or manpower to collect the additional material once the storm makes landfall.
- Do not place materials at the curb or take materials to the landfill during a Watch or Warning period. Services may be suspended and facilities closed early to prepare for the storm.
- For information on the status of our facilities, residents should consult the City's website at www.cityoflongbeachms.com or monitor local radio stations or the local television station for service updates.

AFTER THE STORM HAS PASSED

- Keep household garbage, recycling and vegetation/storm debris separate. This is extremely important!
- Securely containerize all household garbage in plastic bags or cans and place at the curb on your scheduled collection day.
- Please Be Patient! Following a storm, our # 1 priority is the collection of household garbage. Uncollected garbage attracts pests and contributes to the spread of disease. Garbage should never be mixed with storm debris/vegetation, which can wait.

STORM DEBRIS

- Never place any debris near or on a fence, mailbox, power line equipment, water hydrants, poles, transformers, downed wires, water meters, or storm drains. Hidden electrical hazards can injure or kill collection personnel.
- There is no reimbursement provided to any individual resident or homeowner association who hires a private contractor to remove and dispose of storm related debris.
- All residential debris generated from storm events, construction and re-modeling or demolition activity is NOT INCLUDED as part of residential sanitation district curbside services.

Brought to you by the City of Long Beach and the Department of Public Works

228-863-1556 or 228-863-0440 www.cityoflongbeachms.com

Please visit the City Ordinance section of our website to get more information about Ordinance #600 – Hurricane Debris Protection which provides restrictions on the placement of yard waste/debris at curbside in advance of meteorological conditions.