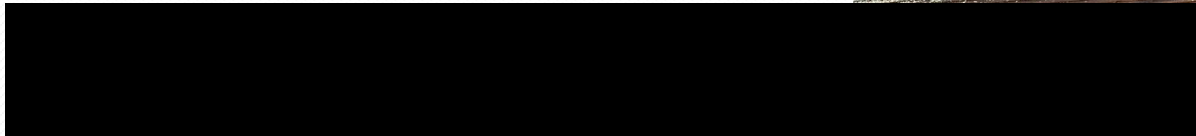


Safety Comes First when Cleaning up After a Hurricane!



Safety Comes First!



Most Injuries In A Natural Disaster Occur During Cleanup!



Every Year
Workers Are
Seriously
Injured Or
Killed Trying
To Do Tree
Clearing
Work

Storm Damage Cleanup Is Extremely Dangerous, Even For Professionals!



Safety Comes First!

- Personal Protective Equipment
- Clearing And Removing Debris
- Overexertion
- Electrical Lines And Utilities
- Work Zone Safety
- Chain Saws



Personal Protective Equipment



Hard Hat



Eye Protection



Hearing Protection

Wearing The
Appropriate Gear Is
The Best Way To
Reduce The
Possibility Of
Serious Injury

Just wear it!

Personal Protective Equipment



Chaps



Gloves



Safety Footwear
(no flip flops)

General Safety Guide

- Do Not Work Alone
- Establish Good Communication Before You Start
- During Clean-up Operations Be Aware Of Where Others Are



General Safety Guide

Keep A Well-stocked First-aid Kit Nearby

- Have The Capability To Contact Emergency Personnel



Photo courtesy of Kevin Eckert



General Safety Guide

- Wear Appropriate Safety Clothing/Gear
 - Wear Light Colored Clothing
 - Wear Waterproof Boots & Gloves When Floodwater Present
- Use Sun Screen
- Use Insect Repellant
- Drink Water Regularly
 - Avoid Carbonated, Caffeinated & Alcoholic Beverages
- Eat Lightly

Avoid Overexertion

- Take Frequent Rest Breaks – Most Injuries Occur Where Workers Are Fatigued
- Schedule The More Strenuous Work For The Coolest Part Of The Day
- Avoid Lifting More Than You Are Capable:
 - Remember: Wet Debris is Heavier!



Survey The Site

- Assess The Area For Damages
- Assess The Area For Hazards And Potential Hazards
- Take Pictures Of The Damage Prior To Any Cleanup



Survey The Site:

Look Up, Down And Around

- Use A Wooden Stick To Check Flooded Areas For Pits, Holes, Or Protruding Objects
- Be Aware Of Hazards That Can Lead To Slips, Trips Or Falls
- Be Alert For Dogs, Rats And Insects
- Be Alert For Sharp Or Jagged Debris:
 - Use Heavy Work Gloves When Handling Debris

Look Up, Down And Around: Trees And Branches



- Watch For Broken, Hanging Limbs And Leaning Trees That May Be Ready To Fall
- Watch For Attached Vines
- Watch For Trees Or Branches That Are Bent, Twisted, Hung Up Or Caught Under Another Branch Or Object

Look Up, Down And Around: Power Lines



Do not touch!

- Stay Away From Downed Power Lines, Wires, Cables And Other Utilities
- Watch For Electric Wires Dangling In Trees
- Assume All Power Lines Are Energized

Be Aware Of Electrocution!

- Power Lines Can Energize Fences Or Any Metal Buildings They Come In Contact With
- Use Caution When Moving Metal Objects (E.G. Ladders) In The Vicinity Of Power Lines



**Treat any power line
as 'live'!**

Chain Saw

- One Of The Most Dangerous Hand Tools Available!
- 80% Of Injuries Are To Hands, Legs And Feet
- Risk Of Injury Increases After Storms



Can You Spot All The Unsafe Practices

Remember: Safety First!

