0:00
[Music]
0:08
Flood debris removal may be a time consuming and ongoing project.
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There are multiple factors to consider including, the types of waste you have,
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state and local regulations, and what to wear when handling different types of waste.
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First, find out how your community is handling pick-up of flood-damaged debris. Contact your
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local waste management or emergency management office on ways to wrap,
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bag, seal, label, and dispose of household hazardous waste. Look for waste management
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guidance from your local government. Check out our website for state contact information from FEMA.
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If your community waste management services cannot pick up the debris, there are different ways to
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remove it. You can rent a dumpster with your neighbors or have a contractor haul the waste.
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Household hazardous waste requires special disposal
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and should always be separated from other waste.
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This includes chemicals, pesticides, fuels, batteries, paints, fluorescent lights,
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and other debris containing lead and asbestos. Do not handle leaking containers of household
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hazardous material unless you are wearing proper protective gear and understand handling methods.
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Separate your waste into these 6 categories:
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1. Household Garbage like
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bagged trash, discarded food, packaging, and papers
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2. Construction Debris including building materials, drywall,
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lumber, carpet, furniture, mattresses, and plumbing
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3. Vegetation Debris like tree branches, leaves, and logs
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4. Household Hazardous Waste including oils, batteries,
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pesticides, paints, cleaning supplies, compressed gas
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5. “White goods” sealed with duct tape or appliances like refrigerators,
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washers, dryers, freezers, air conditioners, stoves, water heaters, dishwashers
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6. And Electronics including televisions, computers,
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radios, stereos, dvd players, and telephones
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Make sure the debris is placed between the sidewalk and the road. Putting it
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near or on trees, poles or other structures makes removal difficult for cleanup crews.
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Carry materials the shortest possible distance to
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their storage or disposal location to reduce cross-contamination.
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For more information about disaster cleanup visit epa.gov/flooded-homes