NJDEP Prepares for any Emergency

- Established a central e-mail address for all correspondence related to any debris event
  - solidwasteemergencies@dep.nj.gov
- Established an emergency contact list for all solid waste facilities and recycling centers
  - Will be updated annually (prior to every hurricane season)
- Created a Temporary Debris Management Area Approval Request Form, which reduces review time
Relaxing Solid Waste Rules for Sandy

- Executive Order ➔ Administrative Order ➔ **Limited and Very Specific** Solid Waste Rule relaxation

- Issued blanket approval allowing **all** solid waste facilities and recycling centers to operate 24 hours per day, 7 days a week.
  - Extended in hardest hit counties as needed
  - Issued prior to Sandy making landfall

Relaxing Solid Waste Rules (cont.)

- Transportation Rules Relaxed:
  - Temporary A-901 and CPCN Approvals
  - Temporary Vehicle Registrations for licensed haulers
  - Allowed use of public entity vehicles for solid waste collection (if displayed public entity’s name)

- Waste Flow suspended in Monmouth, Essex, and Union Counties
And then we waited...

Post Sandy Challenges

- Communication issues (regulated community, municipalities, our staff)
- Limited staffing due to 3-day state shutdown
- Power outages/phone outages/internet issues
- Extent of the damage unknown
- 2 Resource Recovery Facilities out of service
- Diesel fuel shortages at landfills and transfer stations
Post Sandy DSHW Actions

• Some DSHW staff worked during state shutdown
  – Evaluated status of solid waste facilities
• Approved requests for capacity increases at solid waste and recycling facilities
• Maintained and communicated information on operating status of solid waste facilities
• Evaluated available capacity of solid waste facilities

Post Sandy DSHW Actions (cont.)

• Issued temporary approvals for transporters
• Gathered information on amount of debris generated
  – Reviewed and evaluated data submitted by debris contractors and monitors
• Worked with FEMA regarding debris cleanup standards and regional TDMA
• Approved Temporary Debris Management Areas for municipalities and counties
Estimated Tons of C&D Disposed Each Week From November 3 - June 15 From Monmouth, Middlesex, Ocean, Atlantic and Cape May Counties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VOLUME HANDLED (Million cubic yards)</th>
<th>C&amp;D</th>
<th>Veg</th>
<th>Sand</th>
<th>Demolition</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FEMA Initial Estimate</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposed/Recycled/Reused</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>~2.1</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>*~.49</td>
<td>~6.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FEMA estimated 1.9 million cubic yards of Sand was washed ashore.

Route 36, Sea Bright
Waterway Debris Removal

• 8 houses considered waterway debris
• 1,600 vessels were sunk or abandoned
  – 236 managed under waterway debris contract
• Debris recovered: over 97,000 cubic yards
• Acres of side sonar surveys to date: 194,750
• Total marinas cleared of debris: 275
Temporary Debris Management Areas

• All temporary debris management areas (TDMAs) must have DEP approval

• Site where debris is temporarily stored until it can be sent to a final destination (disposal or recycling)
Sandy Temporary Debris Management Areas

- 326 approved TDMA sites for a total approved storage capacity of 5,328,545 cy
  - 239 Vegetative Only – 3,235,904 cy
  - 30 C&D Only – 518,943 cy
  - 55 Mixed Debris – 1,573,698 cy
Department Oversight in the Field

• Conducted 1,118 inspections of solid waste sites and TDMAs between November 1st and March 31st

• Borrowed 29 “inspectors” from other DEP programs to inspect TDMAs
Vegetative Debris vs C&D Debris

• Vegetative debris generated throughout a larger geographic area (inland)
  – Limited end markets

• C&D debris generated in a relatively centralized area (coastal)
  – Higher disposal capacity
Sandy Vegetative Debris Issues

• Shear volume
• Time of year – no market until Spring
• Supply vs Demand – not enough experienced contractors to meet the need
• Location of recycling centers vs location of debris – South Jersey vs North Jersey
• Producing a marketable end product
  – First grind vs second grind
  – Cost

First Grind – Limited Uses
Second Grind Mulch – marketable

Lessons Learned

• Centralized e-mail account was most helpful
• Relaxing some rules in advance very helpful
• State debris management contracts in place prior to event is a must
• Training, Training, Training
  – Train your counties and towns
  – Train your staff (all of your staff)
• Planning, Planning, Planning
  – Internal Procedures and templates of documents
Planning for Future Events

- Drafting a New Jersey State Debris Management Plan (Annex to ESF 3)
- Preparing new state debris management contracts
- Issued Municipal Debris Management Planning Tool Kit to assist municipalities with debris planning

Planning for Future Events (cont.)

- Putting TDMA pre-approval procedure in place
- Educating municipalities and counties on debris planning
- Developed a draft debris management plan template for counties
- Developed flyer for public outreach on debris management
Going Forward

- DSHW still dealing with Sandy waste
  - Last of TDMAs are closing
  - Waterway debris – Round 2
  - Demolition/Blue Acres
- Rolling out pre-approval process for TDMAs
- Revising Internal Procedures
- Creating “Emergency Action Teams” so all staff know their role in response to an emergency
Going Forward (cont.)

- Working to improve communications with municipalities
  - Clarify information we need to collect
  - Determine best method for collecting the data
  - Eliminate duplication of efforts

Contacts

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