

Solid Waste and Contamination Concerns — Guidelines for Communities after a Disaster

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If you notice hazardous waste, such as fuels, pesticides, cleaning solvents, or explosives around your home or community that may have surfaced from the storm, follow these steps.

1. Do not come in contact with unidentified waste and toxic substances.
2. Notify local emergency government officials. Depending upon the hazard potential of released materials, teams of trained hazardous materials specialists may be called on site immediately. Control and containment of hazardous materials will be the first priority.
3. Evacuate any areas where hazardous materials may cause harm. If necessary, rope off areas to keep people out and place warning signs signifying the danger.