



MEMA

Important Information Regarding Cleanup of Damaged Structures within the Floodplain.

ATTENTION RESIDENTS AND BUSINESS OWNERS OF FLOOD-AFFECTED COUNTIES:

****IT IS IMPORTANT TO DOCUMENT ALL DAMAGE TO YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS BEFORE YOU BEGIN ANY CLEANUP OR REPAIR ACTIVITIES. TAKE PICTURES OF THE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF ALL DAMAGED AREAS.****

Before You Begin Repairs or Reconstruction:

If your home or business is located within a Special Flood Hazard area or is in a flood zone that begins with the letter 'A,' you must have a permit before you begin certain repair or reconstruction work. If you begin work without a permit, you may be fined. If you are not sure of your flood zone, contact your community's floodplain administrator. You can find a list of floodplain administrators listed by county and community at msdisasterinfo.com.

You must have a permit to remove, alter or replace any of the following items:

- **Roof.**
- **Walls.**
- **Siding.**
- **Plaster.**
- **Cabinets.**
- **Flooring.**
- **Electrical systems.**
- **Plumbing.**
- **Heating and air conditioning units.**

To obtain a permit, contact your community's building department or floodplain administrator. You can find a list of floodplain administrators listed by county and community at msdisasterinfo.com.

When you contact your community's building department or floodplain administrator, the office will schedule an inspection of your home or business. This inspection must be completed before you are issued a permit. The inspection will determine what parts of your building need repair or reconstruction work. The inspection will also determine if your building meets your community's base flood elevation requirements.

You do not need a permit to proceed with cleanup activities or temporary emergency repairs that prevent further damage. These types of activities include:

- **Removing and disposing of damaged furniture, personal items, carpeting, wallboard (not plaster) and insulation.**
- **Cleaning and scrubbing floors, walls and air conditioning ductwork.**
- **Covering holes in roofs or walls and covering windows to prevent rain and other weather from entering your home or business and causing further damage.**
- **Removing sagging ceilings (not plaster), shoring up broken foundations and other temporary repairs that make the building safe to enter.**

REMEMBER THAT YOU MUST HAVE A PERMIT TO MAKE STRUCTURAL REPAIRS SUCH AS REMOVING FLOORS OR STUDS. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR COMMUNITY'S FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR.