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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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Disaster Debris Preparedness/Aftermath



An Interdepartmental
Public Safety Approach

This presentation
highlights the role of the
**Department of Public
Works (DPW) Special
Operations Division** in
supporting **ATLDOT**, the
lead agency, and other
critical partners in storm
debris removal and public
safety response.

Storm Response Overview

Coordinated Storm Debris Response Efforts



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graph TD; A[Coordinated Storm Debris Response Efforts] --> B[ATL DOT designated as Lead Agency for citywide storm response.]; B --> C[DPW Special Operations activated to support cross-agency emergency efforts.]; C --> D[Unified approach focused on clearing rights-of-way, restoring access, and ensuring public safety.];
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The diagram is a vertical flowchart with four colored rectangular boxes connected by downward-pointing arrows. The boxes are orange, green, blue, and purple, arranged from top to bottom. The text in each box describes a step in the storm response process.

ATL DOT designated as **Lead Agency** for citywide storm response.

DPW Special Operations activated to support cross-agency emergency efforts.

Unified approach focused on **clearing rights-of-way, restoring access, and ensuring public safety.**

Agency Role Overlays

- **ATLDOT (Lead Agency):** Mark prioritized roads for debris clearance, such as roads leading to hospitals, fire stations, and essential facilities.
- **DPW Special Operations:** Show areas where they will actively remove debris and support emergency response.
- **Georgia Power:** Mark areas requiring clearance near power lines or downed electrical infrastructure.
- **Atlanta Fire Rescue (AFR):** Indicate zones requiring emergency access or rescue routes.
- **DPR Forestry:** Highlight areas with heavy tree debris or vegetation requiring clearing.



DPW Special Operations Role

**Public Works –
Special Operations
Division**

Rapid deployment of
personnel and
equipment for **debris
removal**

Priority on clearing
**roadways, sidewalks,
and critical access
points**

Support role in
collaboration with:

**Georgia Power –
powerline clearance**

**Atlanta Fire Rescue –
emergency access**


**DPR Forestry – tree
and vegetation
management**




NIMS/ICS Training



NIMS (National Incident Management System) is the comprehensive, nationwide approach to emergency management that sets standards for how multiple agencies and jurisdictions work together.



ICS (Incident Command System) is the on-scene, practical management tool used within NIMS to organize and direct incident-specific resources in a standardized, flexible, and common way.



In essence, NIMS provides the framework and doctrine for managing a large-scale incident, and ICS is the primary organizational structure for managing that incident at the tactical, field level

NIMS/ICS Training

All members of the Atlanta DPW Senior Leadership team must complete Incident Command System (ICS) training. The ICS framework is essential for ensuring effective management during emergencies, allowing for clear communication, coordination, and decision-making across all areas of DPW.

- The courses required are available on the FEMA site where they can be taken online.
- [IS-700: National Incident Management System, An Introduction](#)
- [IS-100.C: Introduction to the Incident Command System](#)
- [ICS-200: ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents](#)

Interdepartmental Coordination

- **Unified Public Safety Strategy**
- **Joint field assessments** with ATLDOT, AFRD, Forestry, and Georgia Power
- **Shared communication channels** for incident reporting and dispatching
- Real-time coordination for:
 - Electrical hazard clearance
 - Emergency rescue access
 - Tree and limb removal
 - Right-of-way restoration

Thank You



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