



6. The Bid package provides some estimates in volume but the bid is to be provided in weight. Why is that?
  1. We have not had to deal with anything like this before. Our initial efforts were focused on clearing the debris quickly and we did not measure volume or weight.
  2. Now that we have a large pile of debris it is not feasible to reload it and weigh it. We can estimate volume based on size but we cannot directly estimate weight.
  3. Contracting by volume requires each truck to be measured and its capacity verified. It also requires a call of XX% full. Since this debris can be compacted no load would be 100% of capacity by volume. FEMA also requires closed tailgates on all loads by volume so going by weight is much less onerous. The weights are much easier to objectively measure.
  
7. How do I convert between weight and volume of debris?
  1. You can use any conversion method you want. The Corps of Engineers conversion factors are provided in 3.2 above.
  2. Your bid will be submitted by cost per ton so if the estimates turn out to be high or low you will still receive that amount of dollars per ton that is actually deposited at the dump site.
  
8. How many crews can we have working at one time?
  1. The only limitation on this is that we have enough monitors to have one at each site. We will work with the Contractor to accommodate as many simultaneous sites as are reasonable.
  
9. What are the maximum dimensions of debris I can deliver? Do I have to cut trees into smaller sections?
  1. We are not limiting the size of debris. You must comply with DOT regulations.
  
10. What does the contractor do if a pile on the right of way is suspected of being ineligible debris?
  1. First, notify the monitor. If they agree you will bypass that pile and the County will work to resolve the issue with the property owner.
  2. Second, if there is still an issue after notifying the Monitor then contact the Project Manager.
  
11. Do we pick up stumps?
  1. Loose stumps are considered part of the vegetative debris that should be picked up.
  2. Stumps that are still in the ground or partially out of the ground should be bypassed.
  
12. Do we have to sort metal and recyclables from the other debris?
  1. We do not anticipate the Contractor sorting any piles.
  2. If a pile contains mixed debris it may be ineligible for pick up. Notify the Monitor.
  3. Metal is the only material treated as recyclable at the Landfill. We do not anticipate any metal being piled on the right of way. Other materials are most likely vegetative or C&D
  
13. Who provides traffic control?
  1. The County will provide traffic control.
  2. Note that the Contractor is expected to operate without blocking traffic if at all possible.

14. Can we use tracked vehicles?
  1. Yes, with some limitations
  2. Any damage to the road surface is the responsibility of the Contractor.
  3. The County will have to plow ditches after debris is removed if they are damaged. We will also re-seed where necessary.
  4. Tracked vehicles that do excessive damage to the right of way will not be tolerated. Some damage is incidental but there should not be ruts or pits.
  5. Dirt should not be mixed in the loads. If a load contains excessive dirt it may be rejected. This is a call for the monitors at the pick up site and/or the dump site.
  6. The right of way does not have to be pristine after the debris is removed. We do need to ensure any remaining debris will not clog culverts and will be safe to mow over when we begin mowing operations.
  
15. What do we do with a pile that has fencing and barbed wire in it?
  1. This type of mixed debris is not eligible for removal. Notify the Monitor and bypass it.
  
16. How do we handle C&D debris compared to vegetative debris?
  1. Pick up and hauling are very similar whether it is C&D or Vegetative debris. The major difference is that the amount of C&D material is much less than the amount of Vegetative debris.
  2. Dumping of C&D debris will be at the working face of the landfill. You will be charged a tipping fee for C&D debris. This fee will be reimbursed by the County.
  3. There will not be a charge for dumping vegetative debris at the landfill.
  
17. What hours will the disposal site be open?
  1. Normal Landfill hours – 7:30 am to 5pm Monday to Friday, 8 am to 1 pm on Saturday.
  
18. What do we do about rain or inclement weather?
  1. Rain will cause more damage to the right of way and wet debris is overly heavy.
  2. The County will issue a cease work order for the days of inclement weather.
  3. The County reserves the right to reject a load deemed wet with moisture, whether from rain or other sources.
  4. Inclement weather delays will be added on to the 150 allowable days for completion.
  
19. How much dirt is allowable in a load?
  1. Dirt should not be mixed in the loads. If a load contains excessive dirt it may be rejected. This is a call for the monitors at the pick up site and/or the dump site.
  2. The County anticipates grinding the vegetative debris. Dirt will adversely impact that operation.
  
20. Who provides Load Tickets?
  1. The contractor must provide the load ticket forms. The pick up site monitor will complete a portion of the ticket, keep one copy and give at least two copies to the driver. The driver will have the monitor and scales operator complete the remaining portions of the ticket. At least one copy will be returned to the driver. The Contractor will submit completed tickets as evidence of performance for payment.

21. How often will we be paid? Once at the end or periodically during the performance?
  1. The County Code (2-2-115(2)) specifies payments twice a month. Payments will be based on evidence of performance (Load Tickets) and invoices for debris delivered to the disposal site, tipping fees, mobilization fee, etc.
22. Will the contract go to “Lowest Bidder” even if that is an unreasonable bid?
  1. The RFB states that the contract will be awarded to the bidder that submits the bid deemed “most advantageous to the County.” The lowest bid may not be the one that works out to be the most advantageous to the County.
  2. The Lamar County Code specifies considering all relevant factors, not just price. It also mentions service, durability, quality, delivery, and other pertinent factors. (See 2-2-114(10) in the Lamar County Code Administrative section).
23. What are the minimum insurance requirements.?
  1. The winning bidder must provide proof of insurance before the County will issue the Notice to Proceed.
  2. General Liability Insurance with a \$1,000,000 minimum is required.
  3. Worker's Compensation of at least \$250,000 is required.
  4. If the contractor wishes to request a waiver for lower amounts they must submit, in writing, their rationale and supporting evidence to the Program Manager.
24. When will the “Leaners, Hangers, and Stumps” RFB and the Grinding RFB be released?
  1. We are evaluating the time frame that those services will be needed. The RFBs will probably be released after this contract is initiated.
25. What is the Mobilization fee?
  1. The mobilization fee is the Contractor's price for moving their equipment from one job site to another. It should also address the initial inspection of the hauling vehicles that will be required before work begins. This inspection will take place at Cedar Grove Landfill at a time agreeable to the Contractor and the County.
26. Who provides the truck placards?
  1. The Contractor is responsible for ensuring the placards are on each truck and they include the identification elements specified in the RFB.
27. Do we have to weigh every load as we go in and again on the way out after dumping?
  1. Yes, this is a FEMA requirement that is non-negotiable.
28. Where can I find out more about the FEMA approved Debris Removal procedures?
  1. On-line at [http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/pa/debris\\_main.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/pa/debris_main.shtm)
  2. Consult FEMA 325 – PA Debris management Guide
  3. Consult the Corps of Engineers Debris Management information [http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/pa/debris\\_main.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/pa/debris_main.shtm)