



DONATED RESOURCES CRITERIA FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Volunteer efforts are only beneficial if it is for work an **eligible** applicant is responsible for and would be reimbursed through the Public Assistance program. However, volunteers are a key component of the economic recovery of an affected community.

FEMA has determined that the value of "in-kind" **contributions by third parties** may be credited toward the calculation of the non-Federal share for **eligible emergency work** following declared disasters..." In order to provide consistency within the disaster operation, it is necessary to point out two items, (a) the work performed by the volunteer resources must be **eligible emergency work** that is the legal responsibility of the applicant wanting to use the value of the volunteer resources, and (b) volunteer resources must be **provided by a third party**. A "third party" is an organization and/or individuals that has no obligation (legal, financial, or otherwise) to the applicant which is consistent as stated in some dictionaries, "...any individual who does not have a direct connection with a legal transaction but who might be affected by it."

Donated resources used on eligible work that is essential to meeting immediate threats to life and property resulting in a major disaster may be credited toward the non-Federal share of grant costs under the PA program. Donated resources may include volunteer labor, donated equipment and donated materials.

The donated resources must apply to emergency work that has been organized by an **eligible** applicant and is **eligible** under the PA program.

Donated resources must be documented by a local public official or a person designated by a local public official.

Only materials donated by third party entities are eligible for credit. Typical donated materials include sand, dirt, and rocks and other materials associated with flood-fighting activities.

Eligible Activities

- Removing eligible debris for public property
- Filling and placing sandbags
- Donating equipment to raise or reinforce a levee
- Donated equipment to clear the city or county's right of way debris from their roads would be eligible.
- Donated chainsaws used to cut a fallen tree blocking a public hospital's driveway would be eligible.
- Donating materials, such as rocks and sand
- Search and rescue when part of an organized search and rescue operation
- Professional safety inspections

Ineligible Activities

- Debris removal on private property. Private Property Debris Removal (PPDR) is **eligible only if** PPDR has been approved by the Federal Coordinating Officer for the disaster in the designated area therefore donated resources for PPDR is **eligible only if** PPDR has been approved for the disaster
- Feeding volunteers that are doing ineligible work, i.e., private property debris removal when it hasn't been approved for PA
- Volunteer firefighters working within their own jurisdiction
- Emergency repairs to private property
- Unapproved donation warehouse and POD activities

Documentation Requirements:

- All volunteer hours, equipment, and materials must be documented. The following information must be included:
 - Hours – Volunteer's full name, date, hours worked, location, and detailed description of work performed (e.g. removing debris, serving food at a shelter, donating water or ice, etc.)
 - Equipment – Type of equipment (to include size, capacity, horsepower, and make and model as applicable), operator's name, date, hours, and miles (if applicable). The equipment time must match to an operator, location of work performed and time worked.
 - Materials – Vendor, description of material, usage of material, quantity, price, and date received.