



## Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security

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### For Immediate Release

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### **Beware of Fallen Tree Debris – See *Dangerous Debris?* Report It Immediately!**

With cleanup efforts underway after last week's severe thunderstorms, Grand Traverse County Emergency Management is asking citizens to be aware of hazards caused by fallen trees and debris.

"The storms left our communities with safety issues due to the extraordinary amount of fallen trees," said Gregg Bird, Grand Traverse County emergency management coordinator. "I strongly encourage our citizens to look up and around for any dangling limbs, trees or buckled sidewalks. If you see dangerous debris, don't hesitate to report it immediately."

Individuals who see storm-related safety issues are encouraged to email [gtrecovers@grandtraverse.org](mailto:gtrecovers@grandtraverse.org). Life-threatening situations should be immediately reported to 9-1-1.

#### **Organic Debris Drop-Off Sites Open**

County emergency management officials have opened two storm-related organic debris drop-off sites for the public to use. Drop-off locations can be found at:

- Whitewater Township , 7304 Skegemog Point Road
  - The Ashmore Gravel Pit
  - Open: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
  
- East Bay Township, 656 Rasho Road
  - Former East Bay Township Recycling Site
  - Open: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Use of these sites is **FREE** for Grand Traverse County citizens. Only organic debris—like trees, limbs and brush—will be accepted.

At this time, citizens are **NOT** allowed to collect or cut firewood for personal use at the debris drop-off sites.

Anyone needing help with clearing storm debris is asked to contact Team Rubicon at 616-841-5399 and leave a voicemail through Google Voice. The nonprofit voluntary organization will return calls for service.

#### **About the Disaster**

Gov. Rick Snyder declared a "state of disaster" on Aug. 10 for Grand Traverse County. By declaring a "state of disaster," the state of Michigan has made available all state resources in cooperation with local response and recovery efforts in the disaster area.