



Help, Hope & Healing

SBDR FIRE RECOVERY MANUAL

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Mission Statement:

Southern Baptist Disaster Relief is a Christ-centered partnership of national, state and associational ministries serving through the local church to bring **help**, **healing** and **hope** to individuals affected by disasters.

Vision Statement:

Southern Baptist Disaster Relief will be a well-defined, unified disaster response organization, demonstrating the love of Christ by providing physical and spiritual help to those affected by disasters.



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Introduction

- Southern Baptist Disaster Relief (SBDR) is a Christ-centered partnership of national, state and associational ministries serving through the local church to bring **help, healing** and **hope** to individuals affected by disasters.
- SBDR began in Texas in 1967 and has grown to be one of the largest and most respected disaster organizations in the U.S. and around the world.
- Fire Recovery is a vital component of the Disaster Relief Recovery Ministry.

Bible Verses

Unless otherwise noted, all scriptures are taken from the Christian Standard Bible copyright 2017 by Holman Publishers (HCSB). Used by permission.

Galatians 6:9-10

⁹ So we must not get tired of doing good, for we will reap at the proper time if we don't give up. ¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, we must work for the good of all, especially for those who belong to the household of faith.

Philippians 2:13

¹³ For it is God who is working in you, enabling you both to desire and to work out His good purpose

Matthew 25:40

⁴⁰ "And the King will answer them, 'I assure you: Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me.'

Ephesians 4:2

² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, accepting^[a] one another in love

Section 1: General Information

Work Request Priorities

- Every work request is assigned a Priority by the Assessment team to aid the IMT in prioritizing the work. The priority is generally based on the people and circumstances and not necessarily the work. The work of the Fire Recovery team is the same regardless of the work request Priority. Remember, we are here to minister to hurting people which sometimes will override all other priority issues.

Fire Recovery

- Fire Recovery is more commonly known as Ashout which refers to the process of cleaning a property site after a fire.
- Fire Recovery units can be stand-alone or be included as part of a Flood and Fire combination unit.
- A "Hazardous Material Inspection" may be required prior to beginning work.
- Debris Types:
 - Metal
 - ✓ Steel
 - ✓ Aluminum
 - Appliances

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- Glass
- Ash
- Hazardous waste
- Dumpsters
 - Dumpsters may be required before work can begin (check with IMT for directions).
 - A covered dumpster may be required for debris. If required, it is the homeowner's responsibility to provide. A separate dumpster may be required for each "type" of debris.
 - ✓ Metal
 - ✓ Ash
 - ✓ Glass
 - ✓ Rock
 - ✓ Debris
 - ✓ Etc.
- If regulations allow and homeowner agrees, debris may be stacked on homeowner's property until dumpsters are available.
- Site may have to be sprayed with water to control dust.
- Work must conform to all rules and regulations. Contact the Incident Management team for a list of the rules and regulations.
- Fire Recovery can also include removing any trees that are in danger of:
 - Falling on a building
 - Falling on work team
 - Falling where new construction may occur
 - Preventing access to the site
- The purpose of the Fire Recovery ministry, in the process of meeting the physical needs of the homeowner, is having opportunities to share the Love of Jesus.

What We don't do

- Remove stem walls or concrete slabs
- Tear down rebar reinforced chimneys
- Tear out basement foundations.

Heavy Equipment

- Heavy Equipment including tractors and skid steers are an integral part of a Fire Recovery unit.
- Heavy Equipment are generally stand-alone units supporting the Fire Recovery unit.
- Skid Steers and tractors are used to pick up and move debris.
- The use of Heavy Equipment increases the efficiency of a chainsaw unit and allows the completion of additional work requests.

Before You Go

- Have a humble servant spirit
- Prepare spiritually and mentally
- Recognize severity of situation
- Be prepared to work long, hard hours under difficult conditions
- Know your physical limits

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- Be prepared to share the Love of Jesus
- Be a Team Player
- Remember - God deserves all the credit

What to Bring

- Bible, devotional and reading material
- Keep a Journal
- Personal care items, towels, wash cloths etc.
- Full sleeping gear
- All medications and insurance card
- Good sturdy comfortable boots
- Insect repellent and sunscreen
- Flashlight
- Work clothes (seasonal)
- Comfortable clothes for after work hours
- Sleep wear
- Cell phone and charger

Section 2: Unit and Team Structure

Fire Recovery Unit

- It is recommended that any stand-alone Fire Recovery unit be a towable trailer. This will allow different vehicles to pull the unit. It also reduces the insurance requirements for the unit and increases the number of drivers available. The size of the trailer will depend on the amount and weight of equipment and the capabilities of the team.

Unit Leader (Blue Cap)

- The Unit Leader should be an experienced Fire Recovery volunteer who has completed the designated Unit Leader and Fire Recovery training and wears the Blue Cap for easy recognition of leadership of the team.
- The Unit Leader is responsible for all team activities during deployment and for the safety of all volunteers, homeowners, and homeowner's personal property at the work site.
- The Unit Leader should participate in a daily briefing with the IMT to receive the latest information related to the Fire Recovery operations and receive work requests.
- Review "Assessment – Fire Recovery", "Property Owner's Request", and "Assessment – Property Area", prior to beginning work.
- Confirm address and have owner sign the "Property Owner Request" if it has not been signed.
- Be an individual that knows that it is "All about Jesus" and has a positive Christian walk.



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Team Members (Yellow Cap)

- All team members should wear a yellow hat, no matter his/her training or qualifications.
- Yellow cap team members are an integral part of the overall safety and success of the team.
- When in doubt – ask the Blue Cap.
- Be an individual that knows that it is “All about Jesus” and has a positive Christian walk.

General

- Be flexible in the assigned tasks and ready to make adjustments. It is difficult to adequately list all tasks. Teams should be prepared to meet existing needs.
- Remember, “It is not about production, it is about your testimony.” Flexibility is the key to success. Remember also that every assignment could be an opportunity to share the love of Jesus Christ.
- Be informed. Deal with information in a positive way. Never be part of misinformation.
- Be responsive in an intelligent, careful, supportive and effective manner.

Daily Meetings

- Teams will meet for devotion and debrief each day. This leads to better team effectiveness and communication.
- Morning devotion (10 to 15 minutes) may be led by team chaplain or team member, or could be led by the Incident Commander (White Cap) for the entire operation.
- Evening debrief, may be led by the White Cap for the entire operation, if not debrief should be led by the Unit Leader and should include a time of devotion and prayer.
- Prayer time should include the disaster survivors, the Recovery Operation, and your individual team and team leaders.

Section 3: Site Evaluation and Set Up

Arrival

- Determine best location for trailer and supporting equipment.
- Pray over the site and with homeowner.
- Determine and discuss any onsite hazards and the overall plan for the site.
- Designate two (2) people to call for help if needed.
- Designate First Aid person
- Ensure the homeowner has signed the “Property Owners Request for Assistance”.
- With homeowner assistance, decide on placement of saved items and debris.
 - The IMT should provide any rules and regulations about debris placement.
 - Saved items, when possible, should be placed in a protected, secure location.
 - Debris will be placed in the appropriate stack.
- If a dumpster is required, it is the homeowner’s responsibility to obtain.

Set Up

- Set up wash station (use 1 oz bleach per gallon of water)

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- Set up break area.
- Determine First Aid location.
- Determine Satiation Station location.
- Ensure Fire Recovery team is at the right house.
- Explain to the homeowner the plan for his home.
- Have prayer with the homeowner and team

While You are There

- Be sensitive to those affected by the disaster.
- Be quick to listen.
- Remember all possessions are precious.
- Guard against careless remarks.
- It is all right to cry.
- Don't miss divine appointments
- Be prepared to share a testimony.
- Do not take anything from the site that you did not bring to the site.
- Never attempt to meet needs that you are not trained to meet.
- Be sensitive to homeowner's loss, which will most often be everything due to the fire. What you think of as trash, the homeowner may think of as treasure.
- You are representing the Lord and His church. Your attitudes and actions should always reflect God's Love.

Start of Work

- Start assigned task.
- Watch out for each other, safety is key.
- Take breaks as needed.

Completion of Work

- Review completed work with homeowner
- Clean tools and reload unit
- Pray and present Bible to Homeowner

Section 4: Fire Recovery Process

General

- Use caution on steps (concrete may crumble) walking on ash (dangers may be hidden) or near other structures damaged by fire.
- Remove large debris items such as appliances, furniture, furnaces, AC units, etc.
 - Large item may require Heavy Equipment
- Sift as requested by homeowner
 - Place wire mesh over wheelbarrow or bucket.
 - Shovel several scoops of ash and shake frame until all debris has "sifted" through the screen.
 - Search remaining debris for salvageable items.
- Clean site
 - Move all items and debris to the appropriate pile or dumpster.



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- Depending on local regulations and amount of ash, the site may need to be sprayed with water to control dust.
- Be alert for possible salvageable items throughout the cleanup process.
- When in doubt about saving or discarding, ask the homeowner to decide.
- Present Bible

Mobile Homes/Trailers

- Ashout includes cutting up and removing frames.
- Activity may require a chop saw and/or cutting torch.
- Heavy Equipment is required to pick up and move the metal.

Section 5: Safety Information

General

- In assessing your own situation and making decisions about safety, crews must be the primary concern. Know your limitations. Many well-intentioned volunteers have been injured during operations simply because they did not pay attention to their own physical and mental limitations. You must know your limits and monitor your condition. Fatigue leads to injury.
- Work in coordination with others on site
- Be aware of where other volunteers are and be concerned for their safety.
- Wear gloves and N95 mask
- Take regular work breaks. If someone looks overly hot or tired, call for a site break
- Take a day off when needed
- Sterilize hands before eating or drinking
- Be Careful where you step, avoid nails, broken glass, protruding sharp metal corners, exposed wire and other sharp objects.
- Maintain hydration
 - **DRINK LOTS of WATER!**
- Do not work alone
- **MAKE SAFETY A PRIORITY!**
 - Project Safety
 - First Aid Kits on all jobs
 - Report ALL accidents ASAP (minor or serious) to Crew Leader and Unit Leader.

Safety Equipment

- Use appropriate personal protection equipment (PPE).
 - Hard hat
 - Goggles/Safety glasses
 - Appropriate mask (N95) or respirator
 - Work gloves
 - Long pants (no shorts or cut-offs)
 - Shoes/boots
 - ✓ Must be solid sole, preferably with a steel or puncture resistant shank and toe.
 - ✓ No Tennis or deck shoes.

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Safety Rules

- Only trained volunteers are to operate heavy equipment, chainsaws, chop saws, and cutting torches.
- Designate a first aid coordinator.
- Make safety and hygiene a priority. Get adequate rest, fluids, and nourishment so you can achieve maximum effectiveness.
- Personal cleansing
 - Take boots and gloves to assigned area to be cleaned. Also, clean equipment (tools, shovels, etc.).
 - Keep clean clothes in a plastic bag at housing site.
 - Take regular showers and dress in clean clothes.
 - Place contaminated clothes in a plastic bag and return clothes to designated location to be laundered in disinfectant.
- Lifting should always be done in a way that protects the back from strain or other injury. To lift safely:
 - Bend your knees and squat.
 - Keep the load close to your body.
 - Keep your back straight.
 - Push up with your legs.

**Don't be part of the
problem,
Be part of the solution.**

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Appendices

FIRE RECOVERY UNIT

EQUIPMENT LIST

Quantity

Recommended

5-Gallon Buckets	6
Bibles, English and Spanish	6
Bolt Cutters, 36"	1
Brooms	3
Dolly, Heavy Duty, Fold Out	1
Drill Motor and Drill Bits	1
Ear Plugs	1 case
Face Masks, N95 - With Valve, disposable, half face or full face	1 case
Fire Extinguisher	1
First Aid Kits	1
Gas Cans, 5 gallon and 1 gallon	2
Generator, 3500 Kw	1
Gloves, Rubber and Leather	1 case
Goggles & Safety Glasses	1 case
Hack Saw with blades	1
Hammer, Sledge, 3#	2
Hammers, standard	2
Hard Hats	6
Hose, Water - 50 ft	4
Ice Chests	2
Knee Pads	6
Ladder, 6 foot	1
Pitch Forks	2
Portable Lights	1
Rakes, Metal	2
Saw - Circular with blades	1
Saw - Reciprocating with blades	1
Shifting Frames	2
Shovel, Scoops	3
Shovels, Square Edge	3
Tools, Miscellaneous Mechanic	1
Traffic Safety Cones, 18 inches	4

Optional

Chop Saw with extra blades	1
Cutting Torch (Tanks, Hoses, Torch, Supplies)	1
Coveralls (Tyvek)	1 case
Hoe, Flat	2
Rain Gear	3

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PROPERTY OWNER'S REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE SOUTHERN BAPTIST DISASTER RELIEF

Received By		Tracking No. (Office Use)	
Date Received		Cell Number	

THIS IS NOT A CONTRACT TO PROVIDE SERVICES

WORK: <input type="checkbox"/> Chainsaw <input type="checkbox"/> Flood Recovery <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Roof <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Recovery <input type="checkbox"/> Other			
OTHER NEEDS: <input type="checkbox"/> Boxes <input type="checkbox"/> Chaplain <input type="checkbox"/> Debris Removal <input type="checkbox"/> Other			
Brief Description of Work/Need			
PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION:			
Name			
Phone (H)		(W)	(C)
Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> Home Owners <input type="checkbox"/> Flood <input type="checkbox"/> No Insurance			
Property Owner Must Be Present During Work? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO			
Property Owner Permission to Take Pictures of Property? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO			
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: <input type="checkbox"/> Primary Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Rental <input type="checkbox"/> Guest House <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant			
Address (Number & Street)			
City, State, Zip			
Property Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Single Family <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Home <input type="checkbox"/> Apartment/Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Modular Home			
OCCUPANT INFORMATION: <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Health Issues or Circumstances			
<input type="checkbox"/> First Responder <input type="checkbox"/> Elderly Living Alone <input type="checkbox"/> Deployed Military <input type="checkbox"/> Other			
Name (If other than Owner)			
Phone (H)		(W)	(C)

I, (Print Name) _____

hereby release from liability and agree to hold harmless the Southern Baptist Convention Disaster Relief Volunteers, their representatives, agents and or employees for any damage or injury that may occur on my property, including personal property or to my person, which may occur during the cleanup operation. I further understand and agree that there is no warranty, implied, written or oral, for any work performed on my property by said volunteers. I understand that the Southern Baptist Disaster Relief is a volunteer organization that has limited volunteers, limited financial and material resources, and makes no guarantee that said service will be provided. Additionally, I further understand **THAT THIS IS NOT A CONTRACT TO PROVIDE SERVICES!**

Must be signed before work can be assigned to a team

Property Owner's Signature	Date
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Work Complete By (Blue Cap)	Date Completed
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ASSESSMENT - PROPERTY AREA SOUTHERN BAPTIST DISASTER RELIEF

Assessor		Tracking Number (Office Use)	
Phone #		Date Assessed	

ATTACH THIS FORM TO APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT FORM

Property Owner	
Work Location	

In the space below sketch an outline of the property and indicating dimensions. Indicate slope of land by arrows. Locate and outline the house, garage and other buildings on property, giving dimensions as appropriate. Draw and label (by name if possible) frontage roads (streets) adjoining property, driveway(s) & fences. Locate and identify septic tank and drain lines. Locate and identify water source, well, cistern water lines, water meter, gas meter, sewer cleanouts, and sprinkler heads. Locate propane tank and line or natural gas lines. Locate and identify areas to be sifted. Identify significant trees to be saved and those to be cut down. Suggest location for saved salvage, debris bins, hazardous waste, cut logs, brush debris. Locate Power Poles and Power Lines. Indicate **North** direction of property on drawing with arrow and letter.

Use back or attach additional sheets as needed.

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Assessment – Fire Recovery SOUTHERN BAPTIST DISASTER RELIEF

Assessor		Tracking Number (Office Use)	
Phone #		Job Priority	1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/>
Date			

ATTACH THIS FORM TO “PROPERTY OWNER REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE”

Property Owner			
Work Location			
TYPE OF BUILDING	PROPERTY ACCESS		
<input type="checkbox"/> Detached Home	<input type="checkbox"/> Dirt/Gravel		
<input type="checkbox"/> Mobile/Modular Home	<input type="checkbox"/> Paved		
<input type="checkbox"/> Out Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Steep	<input type="checkbox"/> Up Hill	<input type="checkbox"/> Down Hill
<input type="checkbox"/> Attached Home/Apartments	<input type="checkbox"/> Level		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Other		
FOUNDATION			
<input type="checkbox"/> Slab	<input type="checkbox"/> Basement	<input type="checkbox"/> Pier & Beam	<input type="checkbox"/> Stem Wall
<input type="checkbox"/> Other			
If Basement, Is there Heavy Equipment Access?		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Basement Depth
WORK DESCRIPTION			
<input type="checkbox"/> Sifting	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure Demolition	<input type="checkbox"/> Debris Removal	
Note sifting area on “Property Area” form. Owner present during sifting? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> NO			
EQUIPMENT NEEDED			
<input type="checkbox"/> Excavator/Back Hoe	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal Saw	<input type="checkbox"/> Cutting Torch/PPE	
<input type="checkbox"/> Heavy Duty Chains	<input type="checkbox"/> Water Buffalo	<input type="checkbox"/> Tractor/Skid Steer	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Equipment			
Dumpsters Required?		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Dumpsters on Site? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<i>If Dumpster required, Homeowner is responsible for obtaining and payment.</i>			
If NO, where will debris be Stacked/Separated?			
If YES, but dumpster unavailable, May debris be stacked at curb? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO			
Will Ash and Debris need to be sprayed to control Dust?		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
If YES, Is there a close by Water Source?		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
Location of Water Source			
HAZARDS			
Electrical			
Other			
Special Instructions (Notes)			

Assessor Instructions:

1. Determine priority based on Special Needs of Owner and work requested. (See Property Owner Request for Assistance and Assessment-Priorities document).
2. Complete “Assessment-Property Area” and attach to Assessment Form.

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ADDITIONAL NOTES