

3128 **APPENDIX H**

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3130 **LOW IMPACT DEBRIS REMOVAL STIPULATIONS**

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3133 Low Impact Debris Removal Stipulations (LIDRS) to protect potential archaeological resources

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3135 **Desktop Review:**

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3137 Prior to any soil disturbing activities all properties will be reviewed using known historic properties  
3138 and archaeologically sensitive areas.

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3140 1. General Approach to Minimize Impact to Soil:

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- 3142 a. When using heavy equipment, work from hard or firm surfaces to the fullest extent possible,  
3143 to avoid sinking into soft soils.
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  - 3145 b. The Subrecipient will, to the fullest extent possible, ensure that its contractors minimize soil  
3146 disturbance when operating heavy equipment on wet soils (6 inches or less).
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  - 3148 c. Excavation and burial of debris on site is not permitted.
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3150 2. Activity Specific Guidelines:

3151 a. Woody Debris Removal (including rootballs):

3152 The Subrecipient will ensure to the fullest extent possible that all prior Public Assistance  
3153 Program guidance regarding woody debris is followed.

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3157 b. Filling Voids:

3158 Any voids which require filling because they are a "health and safety issue" will be filled  
3159 with suitable fill from an approved source.

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3162 c. Surface Grading and Site Clean-Up:

3163 The Subrecipient will ensure to the fullest extent possible that its contractors will limit site  
3164 grading to within the first six (6) inches of the existing surface elevation (e.g., side walk  
3165 level, driveway level, slab level, etc.).

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3168 d. If the building or structure has been destroyed by the event and there are remaining structural  
3169 features or utilities that require removal, then:

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- 3171 i. Utility lines will be disconnected and capped. In cases where there are no shut-off  
3172 valves, limited excavation within the utility rights-of-way will be required to cap these  
3173 service lines.
  - 3174

3175 ii. In order to minimize further soil disturbance, FEMA recommends shear off at the  
3176 ground-surface.

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3178 e. Demolition: If the building or structure has been destroyed by the event and there are  
3179 remaining structural features that require removal, then the following applies for the  
3180 removal of the feature listed below:

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3182 i. Foundation Removal

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3184 The Subrecipient will ensure, to the fullest extent possible, that the contractors will  
3185 limit excavation to within two (2) feet of the foundation perimeter and will not excavate  
3186 more than six (6) inches below the depth of the foundation to minimize soil disturbance.

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3188 ii. Slab/Driveway/Sidewalk Removal

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3190 The Subrecipient will ensure, to the fullest extent possible, that the contractors will  
3191 limit excavation to within one (1) foot of the slab/driveway/sidewalk perimeter and will  
3192 not excavate more than six (6) inches below the depth of the asphalt/concrete to  
3193 minimize soil disturbance.

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3195 iii. Oil Tank Location/Removal

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3197 The Subrecipient will ensure, to the fullest extent possible, that approved methods will  
3198 be used in locating an underground oil tank. Approved methods include using a  
3199 magnetometer, probe, or GPR system. Trenches are not permitted.

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3201 The Subrecipient will inform landowners to the fullest extent possible, of best practice  
3202 guidelines for oil tank removal and they are made aware of the NYDEC spill hotline  
3203 and state regulations for contamination remediation. Best practices for tank removal  
3204 would be to use smaller machines with approximately two (2) foot wide buckets for  
3205 excavation to reduce potential soil disturbance.

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3207 iv. Septic Tanks

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3209 The Subrecipient will ensure, to the fullest extent possible, that fill required in the  
3210 decommissioning of septic tanks is from an approved, established source.

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3212 Utility lines will be disconnected and capped. In cases where there are no shut-off  
3213 valves, limited excavation within the utility rights-of-way will be required to cap these  
3214 service lines.

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3216 Shearing off at the ground-surface is strongly encouraged so that further soil  
3217 disturbance is minimized.

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3219 3. Treatment of Unanticipated Discoveries:

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- 3221 a. Archaeological Materials/Human Remains  
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- 3223 i. If debris removal activities disturb archaeological artifacts (e.g., old bricks, ceramic  
3224 pieces, historic bottle glass or cans, coins, beads, stones in the form of tools [arrow  
3225 heads], pieces of crude clay pottery, etc.), archaeological features (e.g., grave markers,  
3226 house foundations, cisterns, etc.) or human remains the Subrecipient will ensure to the  
3227 fullest extent possible that the contractor immediately stops work in the vicinity of the  
3228 discovery and take all reasonable measures to avoid or minimize harm to the finds. In  
3229 the event human remains are discovered the Subrecipient will implement the NYSHPO  
3230 “Human Remains Discovery Protocol” (November 28, 2018). In such cases, the  
3231 Subrecipient will immediately inform the NYSHPO and FEMA (also the local law  
3232 enforcement, county coroner/medical examiner and county OEM representative for  
3233 human remains, in accordance with applicable NYSHPO and state guidelines) of the  
3234 discovery for further guidance. The Subrecipient will ensure that the contractor does not  
3235 proceed with work in the areas of concern until FEMA staff has completed consultation  
3236 with the NYSHPO and other interested parties, as necessary.  
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- 3238 ii. The Subrecipient will adhere to all applicable State and local laws for necessary  
3239 permission from all appropriate parties to remove remains.  
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- 3241 4. Failure to comply with these stipulations may jeopardize the Subrecipient’s receipt of Federal  
3242 funding.  
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- 3244 5. FEMA, DSHES, and the NYSHPO have agreed that the Subrecipient is responsible for  
3245 ensuring that their demolition contractor adheres to these work restrictions known as Best  
3246 Practices for Lower Impact Debris Removal and Demolitions for FEMA Public Assistance  
3247 and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program eligible activities.  
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