

# HAZARDOUS TREES DEFINED

## HAZARDOUS TREE

Any tree that presents an immediate threat to lives, public health and safety, or improved property; this includes trees that present a risk to the safety of crews performing Household Hazardous Material (HHM) and debris removal.

## INCIDENT-DAMAGED HAZARDOUS TREES

Trees are deemed hazardous and eligible for removal if **all** of the following criteria are met:

- The tree's diameter is 6 inches or greater, measured 4.5 feet above ground level, and
- The tree is a distance less than 1.5 times the tree height from a structure, such as improved infrastructure, a neighboring home; or if the tree presents a hazard to debris removal crews, and
- The tree is dead or will die within 5 years based on an evaluation by an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) certified arborist with Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ)

### Note:

- Trees on a parcel that do not meet the criteria above will be left in place.
- Trees **already down** within the ash footprint will be disposed of with the ash/debris.
- Trees that would not hit a structure if they were to fall, **will not** be removed. Hazardous trees that **would** hit a structure if they were to fall **will** be removed.



## WHICH TREES WILL BE **REMOVED**?

- Trees within the ash footprint are removed as required to safely perform Household Hazardous Material (HHM) removal and Private Property Debris Removal (PPDR). These would not be subject to the hazard tree evaluation.
- Trees within the right of way (roughly from the sidewalk to the street) **will not** be removed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The local jurisdiction will assess right-of-way trees. Hazardous trees on private property that present a threat to the public right of way will be removed.
- Hazardous trees will be cut near the ground. Stumps and/or root balls **will not** be removed.
- Trees that are not considered a hazard as defined by FEMA guidelines above, and are outside the ash footprint of a structure, are not eligible and **will not** be removed.

### EXAMPLES OF HAZARDOUS TREES

- Dead or dying trees
- Trees too close to the slab and/or ash footprint will be removed to safely perform HHM removal and PPDR
- Trees leaning over the work area will be removed to safely perform HHM removal and PPDR
- Potential to fall on public right of way, or homes, powerlines, public facilities, etc.
- Trees likely to die within five years of the declared disaster as determined by an arborist or Registered Professional Forester.
- Trees with more than 50 percent of the root ball exposed (subject to FEMA determination)



Dead or dying tree



Too close to the slab and/or ash footprint



Leaning over work area



Potential to fall



Likely to die within five years



50 percent + root ball exposed