



AMERICAN RELIEF ACT 2025 · STAG · EPA REGION 3 · TROPICAL STORM HELENE RECOVERY

Regional Disaster Debris Management Planning

Activity 2: Subrecipient Kickoff

Holly Brown & Beth Lohman
Office of Pollution Response & Emergency Preparedness
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
June 11, 2026

1

DEQ

1

TODAY

What we'll cover

- 1 Introduction**
The Helene debris that remains
- 2 The grant & your role**
Where Activity 2 sits & DEQ and PDC responsibilities
- 3 What you'll build**
The plan & the exercise
- 4 Compliance**
2 CFR 200, EPA General Terms & Conditions, and DEQ's agreement
- 5 Deliverables, timeline, support**
What we need and where to get help

Q & A

30 minutes

- Drop questions in the chat as we go.
- We'll work through them together in the second half.
- Anything program-specific we can't answer today, we'll research and get back to you.

2

DEQ

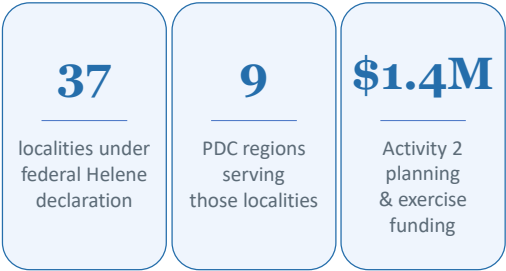
2

1

WHY WE'RE HERE

Tropical Storm Helene Impacts

- Tropical Storm Helene (September 2024) caused historic flooding across Virginia, scattering vegetative, construction, and hazardous debris through streams, rivers, and floodplains.
- FEMA Public Assistance removed eligible debris in the declared localities.
- Outstanding debris removal activities have potential public-health, environmental, and flood risk, and weighs on tourism- and recreation-dependent local economies.
- **Helene's clearest lesson:** a debris plan written before the next event may support (and even shorten) recovery activities.



THE GRANT AT A GLANCE

Grant Activities 1 - 4

\$13.5M	EPA Region 3	Virginia DEQ	FY2026–FY2028
AWARD	FUNDER	GRANTEE	PERIOD

Activity	Funded activity	Amount	Lead subrecipient
1	Debris removal	\$10.1M	PDCs and localities
2	Regional debris management planning + exercise	\$1.4M	Nine PDCs (37 localities)
3	Aerial imagery & remote sensing	\$800,000	Virginia Tech
4	Response equipment cache	\$870,000	VDEM

Listed amounts are the major activity allocations from the application; the balance of the \$13.5M covers DEQ grant administration.



YOUR ROLE

Division of work



DEQ (pass-through entity)

- Receives and manages the EPA award
- Issues your subaward agreement and scope
- Monitors progress, compliance, and spending
- Provides technical review and support
- Reports project and financial outcomes to EPA



PDC (subrecipient)

- Delivers the funded planning & exercise work
- Manages the project across your localities
- Submits progress reports, financials, and compliance records
- Convenes and facilitates local stakeholders
- Drafts plan content with locality input; the locality owns and adopts it

5

DEQ

5

ACTIVITY 2 SCOPE

Two linked deliverables for your region



1

Develop or update a Debris Management Plan

A pre-incident plan covering the declared localities in your service area: either a regional plan with locality annexes, or a plan per locality.



2

Validate the plan with a tabletop exercise

Exercise the plan with the localities and partners to test activation, decisions, and communications before a real event.

6

DEQ

6

3

PLAN STRUCTURE

Choose the structure that fits your region

Stand-alone locality plan

Each locality develops its own plan covering only its jurisdiction.

Regional plan + annexes

One regional plan covers shared elements; each locality adopts a locality-specific annex.

Hybrid

A locality plan that references and incorporates regional resources by reference.

It's the locality's call. Weigh the benefits, costs, efficiencies, and collaboration trade-offs and pick the best fit. The PDC provides planning support either way, and the same recommended content applies whichever structure you choose.

7

DEQ

THE PLAN CONTENT

Nine elements every plan should address

1 Plan development & maintenance

2 Roles & responsibilities

3 Situation, assumptions & debris forecast

4 Debris clearance & collection

5 Debris management sites (TDRS)

6 Contracted services & procurement

7 Private property debris removal & demolition

8 Health & safety

9 Public information & communications

8

DEQ

HELENE'S LESSONS

Special operational considerations to build in



Waterway debris

Woody vegetation, debris, rock, sediment; COV vs. USACE jurisdiction; derelict vessels



Hazmat & orphan containers

Displaced tanks and cylinders surface for months



Human remains protocol

Stop work, call 911, notify the OCME.



Mass animal mortality

Coordinate with VDACS and NRCS, especially poultry and swine.



Invasive species quarantines

VDACS permits to move vegetative debris out of quarantine areas.



Historic & cultural resources

Coordinate with DHR near historic and archaeological sites.

9

DEQ

9

HOW DEQ REVIEWS

Submission Instruction (SI)

- The SI provides a content standard.
- The SI lists the topics your plan should address and the considerations within each.
- Flexibility on format, organization, depth, and locally-specific decisions.
- The SI maps to the federal frameworks (EPA's Planning for Natural Disaster Debris, 530-R-25-013, and FEMA's PAPPG and DMP Workshop)

DEQ's review is a courtesy

- **DEQ does not approve or disapprove plans.**
- Plan ownership and adoption rest with the locality.
- We return written comments to help you strengthen the plan and position it for FEMA PA eligibility after a future declared event.

10

DEQ

10

5

ACTIVITY 2 SCOPE

On the exercise

New Contract Opportunity for State, Regional, Local, Tribal and IHE partners

Are you needing assistance with the design, development, conduct and evaluation of an exercise? The new VDEM Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation (HSEEP) Contract can be leveraged to assist with your need.

Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) Contract
Initial Contract Term: November 26, 2025 - November 25, 2026
Contract Renewal Terms: Four (4) successive one (1) year renewal terms
 Previous Contract Number: VDEM 12719-006

VENDOR NAME	CONTRACT NUMBER
ALLIANCE SOLUTIONS GROUP INC.	CTR046764
APPLIED TRAININGS SOLUTIONS LLC.	CTR046765
ASCENTRIA LLC	CTR046766
BUILDING BELOVED COMMUNITIES LLC	CTR046767
CADMUS GROUP LLC	CTR046768
CNA CORPORATION	CTR046769
CONSENSUS SOLUTIONS LLC	CTR046770
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PARTNERS LLC	CTR046771
E-PAGE INC.	CTR046772
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES INTERNATIONAL (EMSI)	CTR046773
THE OLSON GROUP LTD.	CTR046774
PERSES CONSULTING LLC	CTR046775

to reach out to VDEM Procurement, Contract to request to be added as an additional user, complete and send back to her.

ted the additional user can work directly with This contract vehicle is for the complete ent, conduct, evaluation, corrective action and II- jurisdictional, agency or multi-agency P exercise.

Operations-Based
Operations
Action/Reaction
 • Drills
 • Functional Exercises (FE)
 • Full-Scale Exercises (FSE)

Grid Meet and Greet with the vendors, bring at the Virginia Emergency Operations shared via VDEM Regional Staff once

ut this contract opportunity please reach out.

or:
 VDEM TEED - Stephanie Harris Stephanie.harris@vdem.virginia.gov or Brian Mayfield brian.mayfield@vdem.virginia.gov
 VDEM Procurement - Sheronda Johnson sheronda.johnson@vdem.virginia.gov

Partnership with VDEM

- Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) is a framework and guideline, not a mandatory standard.
- We would like to see the HSEEP framework used to structure your tabletop exercise (TTX).
- You may use the VDEM Optional-Use Statewide Exercise Contract.
- VDEM's Training, Education, and Exercise Division (TEED) is your point of contact for exercise support: exercise@vdem.virginia.gov or brian.mayfield@vdem.virginia.gov

11

DEQ

11

SUBAWARDS

How the funding is built, and how it's paid

\$30,000per declared locality
in your service area
(plan development)

+

\$20,000per PDC for one exercise
covering all localities
in your service area

Funds may be used for staff time, a contracted planner, or a mix. If a locality opts out of the planning effort, the workplan may need to be amended.

\$ Reimbursement Basis

DEQ reimburses documented costs after they are incurred.

- Paid against documentation, monthly, with a \$1,000 minimum per request.
- Locality already has a plan, or opts out? Funds can update and exercise the existing plan.
- Funds left over across the region? DEQ can pursue a grant amendment for added capacity building.

12

DEQ

12

DELIVERABLES

What you submit, and what DEQ looks for

You submit

- **Work plan:** At kickoff (with budget and subrecipient agreement)
- **Draft debris plan:** For DEQ technical review
- **AAR & Improvement Plan:** From the TTX
- **Final adopted plan:** Reflecting lessons from TTX
- **Evidence of adoption:** Governing-body resolution or endorsement

DEQ's review focuses on

- Whether the plan reasonably addresses the recommended elements
- Alignment with FEMA PAPPG so eligible costs are recoverable after a future declaration
- Virginia regulatory fit: 9VAC20-81, 9VAC20-60, and consistency with your SWPU plan (9VAC20-130)
- Whether temporary debris sites are described well enough to support an expedited emergency authorization later

13

DEQ

13

COMPLIANCE, PART 1

2 CFR Part 200: the federal rules that follow the money

As a subrecipient of federal pass-through funds, the Uniform Guidance applies to this work. The essentials:



Competitive procurement

Hiring a planning contractor means compliance with local/state/federal procurement requirements.



Allowable & allocable costs

Spend only on approved budget categories. Costs must be reasonable, necessary, and tied to the project.



Records & audit readiness

Keep your documentation.



Conflict of interest

Apply written COI standards to procurement and subcontracting decisions.

Specific dollar thresholds and procedures live in your subaward agreement.

14

DEQ

14

7

COMPLIANCE, PART 2

EPA General Terms & Conditions

EPA attaches General Terms and Conditions to every assistance award and it explains how EPA applies 2 CFR Part 200 requirements to its grants.

Reporting	Periodic progress reports and financial reporting, plus close-out reporting at the end of the project.
DBE / MBE-WBE	Good-faith fair-share efforts to use disadvantaged, minority, and women-owned businesses in procurement.
Acknowledgement & disclaimer	Acknowledge EPA funding on products, and state that content does not necessarily reflect EPA views or endorsement.
Records & access	Maintain records and provide access for audits

15

DEQ

15

COMPLIANCE, PART 3

DEQ Subrecipient Agreement

With each subaward DEQ develops and issues a subrecipient agreement, which outlines additional requirements.

Reporting	Quarterly reporting on grant progress (schedule provided)
Virginia Public Procurement Act (VPPA)	Comply with VPPA and entity's procurement policies and procedures
Project Budget Changes	Changes that exceed the lesser of \$100,000 or 10% of project budget total must be approved in writing in advance in writing by DEQ through formal agreement modification.
Records & access	Maintain records and provide access for audits

16

DEQ

16

8

YOU'RE NOT ON YOUR OWN

Support and resources

Your DEQ project officer

Programmatic and grant-administration contacts are named in your subaward agreement.

DMP Submission Instruction

The content standard for the plan, with the nine recommended elements.

EPA 530-R-25-013 (June 2025)

Planning for Natural Disaster Debris: the four-step planning process.

VDEM Regional All Hazards Planner & Central Office TEED

Access to state emergency operations plans and exercise support, plus the Optional-Use Statewide Exercise Contract available to public entities.

FEMA PAPPG + DMP Workshop

Eligibility and documentation rules, and FEMA's plan-building handbook.

DEQ Severe Weather Debris webpage

TDRS pre-certification and the emergency permit boilerplate.

17

DEQ

17

NOW WHAT?

Next steps

Determine Which Cities and Counties Will Participate

- This will determine your budget (\$30,000 per locality + \$20,000).

Complete Budget, Scope of Work, and Project Schedule

- We will provide draft documents to all eligible PDCs.

Submit documents to coprep@deq.virginia.gov

- Aim for June 30 (but no later than July 15) for an Oct. 1 project start date.

Sign Subrecipient Agreement

- Do not expend funds prior to fully executed agreement.

Begin Work

- Tentative period of Performance: Oct. 1, 2026 – Sep. 30, 2028

18

DEQ

18

9

Questions & discussion

What's on your mind: funding, structure, compliance, timing.

For anything workplan- or money-specific, DEQ is your contact. Exercise questions go to VDEM's Regional All Hazards Planner and their Training, Education, Exercise Division (TEED).