

# It's Time to Rebuild My Home

What Now? A Guide to Working with the City of Rowlett

Questions?  
Call Building Inspections at 972-412-6125

## My Home Was Destroyed

Demolition – If your property is heavily damaged and cannot be repaired or you will not be repairing the existing structure, a permit to demolish the structure is required. Be sure to contact the utilities offices to have any electric and/or gas services removed prior to the demolition.

If rebuilding on existing slab, an engineer letter stating the slab is suitable for construction is required.

Check zoning requirements with Garrett Langford at 972-412-6166\*

Visit [www.rowlett.com/residential](http://www.rowlett.com/residential) for New Residential Checklist.

Hire a general contractor who is registered with the City of Rowlett.

Fill out a permit application.

\*Suspension of Zoning Requirements: Residents may re-build to at least the previous standard established. For example if a home was built with only 75% masonry materials (i.e. brick), you will only be required to construct to that amount of masonry material.

## My Home Sustained Severe Damage

Check zoning requirements with Garrett Langford at 972-412-6166.

Hire a general contractor registered with the City of Rowlett.

Fill out a permit application. In lieu of Building Plans, an insurance estimate detailing scope of work will be accepted.

Visit [www.rowlett.com/residential](http://www.rowlett.com/residential) for New Residential Checklist.

Structural damage (i.e. wall, room or any permanent portion) repairs require a permit with designed reconstruction plans, including electrical, plumbing and mechanical work.

## My Home Sustained Minor Damage

What does not require a permit? Painting, wallpapering, replacing sheet rock, carpeting or cabinets, foundation repairs, trim work, and replacing windows. New windows must meet current Energy code.

Fence replacement requires a permit unless it is less than 25% and of the same material, same height and same location as the previous fence.

Visit [www.rowlett.com/residential](http://www.rowlett.com/residential) for specific repair project forms or permit requirements and hire a contractor registered with the City of Rowlett.

### Does the City license contractors?

No. The City registers contractors so that we have the means to contact them in the event it is warranted.

### Does the City perform structural engineering inspections?

No, the City does *not* perform such inspections. The property owner or contractor is required to hire a structural engineer.

### What do the red tags that the City placed on my home mean?

These tags were placed by City staff to perform a topical assessment of homes post-tornado. They do not represent a determination as to the percentage loss of a home.

## Contractor Information

Contractors must register at the City's Development Services Building, located at 3901 Main Street, and carry proof of this registration in the form of a receipt with them at all times. Exceptions are those supervised or contracted by the City for right-of-way response or vehicle extraction. A list of contractors currently registered is available at [www.rowlett.com/contractorlist](http://www.rowlett.com/contractorlist).

## Post Disaster Contractor Practices

When recovering from a disaster reputable contractors are an important part of recovery efforts. However, citizens need to be aware of and prepared to protect themselves from attempts at fraud and deception by a relatively small number of disreputable companies. Chapter

58 of the Texas Business and Commerce Code specifies that a contractor cannot require a full or partial payment before work begins; this includes contractors who ask for cash up front. Chapter 58 also says this provision does not apply to a disaster remediation contractor that

has a physical business address located in the county of the affected property or in an adjacent county for at least a year preceding the date of the contract. This is to allow residents who know a contractor to be reputable and reliable to go ahead and contract services quickly.

- Door-to-door sales are quite common in post-disaster areas. Under Texas law, the seller must advise you of your right to cancel the sale within three days. Always ask for a physical address and references.
- Be wary of any contractor that asks for full payment in advance or provides you a contract with blank spaces in it.
- When interviewing a contractor, ask questions, ask for identification and ensure any contractor you hire is in good standing with the Better Business Bureau.
- It is critically important that you safeguard personal info.
- Others may include fraudulent building or housing inspectors and contractors, phony pleas for disaster donations or fake offers of local, state or federal aid. As state and federal assessment teams survey the damage, they will always have identification and will never ask for or accept money.
- If you suspect fraud or have a complaint, call the Texas Attorney General Consumer Protection Hotline at 800-621-0508.



# Rowlett Tornado Resources Information

Rowlett  
TEXAS

An informative flyer for residents affected by the December 26 tornado and those who wish to assist them.

The City of Rowlett has formed a Long Term Recovery Committee, Rebuild Rowlett (LTRC), whose purpose is to meet the need for ongoing coordination among agencies providing volunteer, financial, spiritual and emotional/physiological support for people whose lives have been ravaged by the December 26, 2015 tornado. In addition, leadership will be provided in the discernment of long-term needs for recovery and rehabilitation, which can be most effectively met or assisted by this collaboration. Advocacy for the people most vulnerable to having their needs overlooked in the public recovery processes will also be provided.

Dretha Burris  
Whitney Laning  
Monika Baker  
Erin Harwell  
Diane Lemmons

Michelle Bounds  
Martha Brown  
Cole Hedgecock  
Brian Hiatt  
Tammy Dana-Bashian

Debby Bobbitt  
Brian Funderburk  
Ed Balderas  
Larry Glick  
Shelley Garrett

Eva Hummel  
Barry Young  
Bobby Montgomery  
Jim Proce  
Neil Howard

**Mission of the Long Term Recovery Committee, Rebuild Rowlett**  
**To provide recovery services to individuals and families affected by the tornado that hit Rowlett, Texas on December 26, 2015.**

Please Visit [www.RebuildRowlett.org](http://www.RebuildRowlett.org) or Call 972-412-6100 For More Information

## Financial Assistance and More is Available! Need Help?

### STEP ONE - Case Management

If you sustained home and/or vehicle damage or injuries, your first step in obtaining assistance is to register with a Disaster Care Management Agency. You will then be assigned a Case Manager.

**Catholic Charities and St. Vincent de Paul**  
**469-607-0909**

[tornadorelief@ccdallas.org](mailto:tornadorelief@ccdallas.org)

**OR**

**North Texas Conference Recovery Center**  
**469-243-1008**

[recovery@ntcumc.org](mailto:recovery@ntcumc.org)

If there is no answer when you call, leave your name, phone number and a brief description of your needs. They will return your call within 48 hours.

Case Management is here to help **YOU** with long-term and unmet needs.

### Case Managers...

...are caring people who help individuals and families adjust after a devastating disaster, recognizing it may take months or even years to fully recover.

...work hand-in-hand with disaster survivors to understand their situation, help them develop a plan and connect them to recovery resources.

...assist with forms, applications, processes and organizations to get affected residents the help needed.

## What Other Resources Are Available?

### Tornado Relief Donation Center

972-475-3667  
4813 Rowlett Road  
Monday - Friday, 5:00 – 7:00 P.M.  
Saturday 10:00A.M – 2:00 P.M.  
Food, household goods, toiletries, kitchen and baby supplies, storage bins and cleaning supplies.

### First Baptist Church

972-475-3510  
4309 Main Street  
Tue & Thur, 4:00 – 6:00 P.M.  
Saturday 10:00A.M – Noon  
Financial and housing assistance, food, household goods, toiletries, kitchen supplies, cleaning supplies and counseling.

### Church in the City

325-450-6659  
6005 Dalrock Road  
Daily 8:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.  
Financial and housing assistance, food, toiletries, some furniture, household goods, baby supplies, counseling, some electronics and appliances.

### Rockwall Exchange

972-240-9696  
5121 Grisham Drive  
Monday - Sat, Noon – 6:00 P.M.  
Sunday 2:00A.M – 6:00 P.M.  
Food, toiletries, furniture, baby supplies and clothing.

Life Message  
4501 Rowlett Road  
877-518-1000

First United Methodist Church, 4405 Main St.  
972-475-3667

First Christian Church  
7301 Miller Road  
972-475-3559

Cornerstone Church  
8200 Schrade Road  
972-475-4403

C3 Church  
3700 Chaha  
972-412-4420

Salvation Army  
214-353-4861

## Debris Removal & Demo Assistance

Texas Baptist Men – 214-908-6239,  
469-377-0290 or 214-381-3700  
Crisis Response International -  
256-426-0034, 214-288-9325  
Thirst No More -  
freedemo@citcdallas.org  
United Methodist Committee On Relief  
Disaster Response Team - 972-475-3667

## Want to Help? Here's How...

Rebuild Rowlett  
Go Fund Me  
OR PayPal

The Rowlett Chamber Foundation, a 501c3 non-profit organization, recently started "Rebuild Rowlett" Go Fund Me and PayPal accounts for those who wish to make tax-deductible donations to help Rowlett residents as they rebuild their lives and homes.



Make Your Donation at  
[www.GoFundMe.com/RebuildRowlett](http://www.GoFundMe.com/RebuildRowlett) OR  
via PayPal at [www.RebuildRowlett.org](http://www.RebuildRowlett.org)

## Want to Volunteer?

Contact Erin Harwell at [Erin\\_Harwell@hotmail.com](mailto:Erin_Harwell@hotmail.com)

## FEMA Update

The State of Texas has Filed its Appeal...

In February, Governor Abbott's office received denial from the federal government for the Individual Assistance (IA) portion of his January 26 request for a major disaster declaration. As a result, the State of Texas collected additional damage and insurance information through surveys and by other means from those who suffered property or vehicle damage or were injured as a result of the December storm.

Using this new data, Governor Abbott's office has since filed an appeal with President Obama for Individual Assistance for Collin, Dallas, Ellis, Franklin, Rockwall and Van Zandt counties. Since Governor Abbott's initial request, the additional major and destroyed homes added to the original numbers from the previous request increased the total of major and destroyed homes to 1,344.

The federal government *did* grant the declaration for Public Assistance (PA). This is very important to our community and citizens as PA is used to help cities and counties recover a portion of the costs associated with the disaster, such as infrastructure repairs, debris removal, etc.

There are **three separate types of assistance provided by the federal government in disasters:**

**Individual Assistance** is used to help individual property and home owners who are uninsured or underinsured.

**Public Assistance** is used to help cities and counties recover a portion of the costs associated with the disaster, such as infrastructure repairs, debris removal, etc.

**Small Business Association** Disaster Assistance Loans are available to small businesses, homeowners and renters. If the Federal government declares a major disaster declaration for Individual Assistance, the SBA's disaster loan program is automatically activated. However, the SBA may make a separate "SBA only" declaration if FEMA is not involved.



The City of Rowlett Has Cleared  
Over 180,000 Cubic Yards Of  
Debris Since December 26, 2015.  
1 Dump Truck load = 5 cubic yards...  
that's 12,000 loads!!



## Tornado Debris

Helpful Information for those in the Recovery Process

The City has contracted with Crowder Gulf, a vendor specializing in disaster debris removal, sorting and disposal, all to specific criteria and guidelines so that our community is well positioned to qualify for FEMA reimbursement of this cost.

Crowder Gulf trucks completed their first pass of the affected areas in early March, which took approximately 30 days. They are now well into their final pass for debris collection

and anticipate finishing it by the end of March. Residents should have debris cleared, sorted and piled at the curb for removal. **After the final pass is complete, residents will be responsible for their own debris disposal.** These are VERY large trucks, holding 150 cubic yards of debris each, 10-12 times the capacity of normal City dump trucks, so please be sure no vehicles are parked in front of the debris piles as this will hinder the collection process.

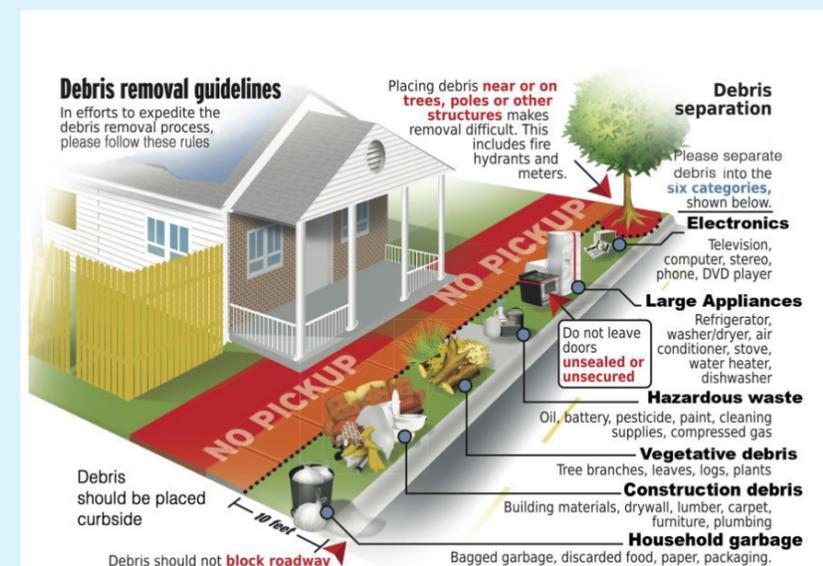
Please be aware that as they work, temporary road closures may occur in neighborhoods for safety reasons.

## Please adhere to these debris separation and placement guidelines...

- Do not place debris in driveways or alleys.
- All debris MUST be placed off the street but in the right-of-way (area behind the curb). If the debris extends past the sidewalk into your yard (private property), it will not be removed.
- Debris should be separated as demonstrated in the graphic attached to this post.
- Place debris away from obstacles such as mail boxes, water meters and fire hydrants.
- Volunteers:** please consolidate smaller piles into bigger piles, sorted as demonstrated in the illustration to the right. Those doing tear-downs, please make contiguous piles beginning at the curb line.

Material which will NOT be picked up includes:

- Concrete slab demo debris.
- Contractor debris.
- Swimming pool demo debris.



Get the Latest Updated FEMA Information at [www.Rowlett.com](http://www.Rowlett.com)  
and on the City of Rowlett, Texas Facebook page.