



Hurricane Damage - Interior



Hurricane Damage - Exterior

### **Disaster/Environmental Risk Management**

When disaster strikes, panic is contagious and communication can be difficult due to facilities that have been closed, employees who have evacuated families and/or corporate, regional and district teams all assessing facilities to determine how quickly they can be brought back on line. Given the typical state of disarray, environmental liabilities are often overlooked or may delay a store reopening because of the assumed significance and inability of response teams to make informed decisions as to appropriate steps.

Many environmental consultants see their role in a disaster response as limited to mold testing, moisture testing, and the occasional asbestos test. As a retailer or property owner, you are then forced to make sense of often inadequate data and then to hire another firm to perform drying, mold remediation and/or asbestos abatement.

At Watterson, we focus on four main priorities for our clients following a disaster:

- Streamlining communication
- Expeditiously quantifying environmental liability
- Controlling cost
- Managing the risk associated with cleaning up impacted media

After a disaster, Watterson is on the front lines along with the retailer's or property manager's representative. This is also critical in order to ensure that the process of getting the facility back on-line does not subject the company to future litigation from improper removal and disposal practices and/or potential exposure issues to customers and employees. With the Watterson approach, we will have you back up and running quickly, efficiently, and cost effectively. For further information, please contact Billy Watterson at 847-925-9800 or [bwatterson@watersonenviro.com](mailto:bwatterson@watersonenviro.com).

The first step is essential in determining what environmental issues exist and how they may impact the speed and cost of bringing a facility back on line. This step consists of the following:

- Assessing Water Damaged Building Materials, Inventory, Merchandise and Office Furniture/Equipment
  - Moisture Testing
  - Visual Mold Assessment
  - Mold Sampling as Required
  
- Asbestos Testing
  - Identification
  - Sampling
  - Analysis
  
- Hazardous Materials/Substances Evaluation
  - Photo Processing Chemicals
  - Pharmaceuticals
  - Fluorescent Light Tubes/HIDs/Ballasts
  - Mercury Switches
  - Fragrances, Aerosols
  - Misc. Automotive Fluids/Chemicals
  
- Water Quality Testing
  - Domestic Water Sampling
  - Analysis for Total Coliform
  
- Documentation
  - Digital Photos of Impacted Materials
  - Environmental Assessment Form
  - Analytical Reports

The second step entails the development of a scope of work to ensure that the best pricing can be obtained, even during an emergency. After the scope of work is developed, Watterson competitively bids the project to legitimate, insured and licensed contractors. In this step we do the following:

- Summarize Collected Data
  - Review Analytical Results
  - Compile Quantities
  - Competitively Bid
  
- Apply State and Federal Regulations
  - Emergency Exemptions
  - Licensing
  - Air Monitoring/Oversight
  - Remediation
  - Disposal
  - Recordkeeping

Once competitive bids have been collected and a contractor(s) is selected by the Client, Watterson moves immediately into the third and final step of the Disaster Recovery and Environmental Risk Management process. The final step consists of the following:

- Disposal of Hazardous Materials/Substances
  - Filing for Emergency EPA ID Numbers
  - Scheduling Lab Pack Chemists for Packaging and Disposal
    - Photo Processing Chemicals
    - Pharmaceuticals
    - Fragrances
    - Aerosols
    - Misc. Automotive Fluids
    - Misc. Household Chemicals

- Water Removal
- Drying
- Asbestos Abatement
  
- Mold Remediation
- Removal and Destruction of Personnel Files and Medical Records
  
- Interior Demolition

The Watterson approach is the best way to ensure, streamlined communication, accurate environmental risk assessment, and timely removal of environmentally impacted materials, or building components. With our cutting edge process, Watterson can visit multiple facilities daily and provide electronic information in less than 24 hours. The speed and accuracy of this information allows the Client to make educated, environmentally responsible decisions that can be executed within hours of the decision to start the process of correcting environmental impairment to bring your facility back on-line.

The end result:

***Your Facility is Back Online and Open for Business!***