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Burning of Debris from Hurricane Ike

Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services (HCPHES) and the Harris County Fire Marshal's Office strongly urge residents of Harris County to avoid open burning of storm and tree debris created by Hurricane Ike. This includes tree branches and wooden fences.

We have received numerous calls and complaints from residents reporting burning of storm debris in area neighborhoods. Many Harris County neighborhoods continue to be without power forcing them to open their windows. Smoke from the burning is entering homes and causing irritation of the eyes, nose and throat. Smoke can be much more harmful to people with lung problems such as asthma.

Debris burning has the potential to impact one's health due to its negative effect on air quality. Improperly controlled burning of debris is also a potential fire hazard.

HCPHES and the Harris County Fire Marshal's Office strongly advise residents to properly dispose of all storm debris. Place all debris near the street and work with your local jurisdiction or precinct personnel to properly dispose of the debris.

The removal of this large amount of debris will take some time and your patience is requested in this matter.