Office of Pesticide Programs and Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics Actions
• EPA’s Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) and Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT) coordinate with EPA’s Emergency Operations Center in Washington, D.C. on response activities.
• The office provides technical assistance to federal and state response efforts, which includes providing information related to pesticide clean-up from damaged production facilities, run-off, or lead in paint or renovations.

Pest and Pesticide Concerns During and AfterFlooding
• Concerns about pests and pesticides typically increase as the response enters the clean-up phase.
• To avoid excessive risks to people or the environment, pesticide users should always follow directions on the label.

Mold
EPA provides tips on getting rid of mold on surfaces in and around homes. EPA-registered antimicrobial products can be used to treat mold infestations.

Bed Bugs
• Large movements of people and bedding in crowded conditions enables bed bug infestations.
• While bed bugs are not known to transmit disease, they may cause other public health issues.
• Read more about bed bug controls.

Emergency Water Disinfection
People whose water supply is known or suspected of being contaminated should consider using EPA-registered antimicrobial products to disinfect drinking water. Consult your local health authorities for instructions. Search for registered products by use at http://npic.orst.edu/NPRO/.

Mosquitoes
• After flood waters from a hurricane recede, standing water can provide an ideal breeding ground for mosquitoes.
• Mosquitoes can transmit serious diseases (Zika, West Nile, etc.). More about diseases carried by mosquitoes.
• EPA registers effective mosquito control pesticides used by state and local mosquito control departments, as well as mosquitocide and repellent products that can be used by consumers. More about Mosquito Control.

Fire Ants and Rodents
• Floating fire ant colonies, which have been reported in Texas floods, pose significant risk to people in water or boats.
• Hundreds of rodenticide and fire ant products are registered by EPA. Search for registered products by pest type at http://npic.orst.edu/NPRO/.

Unexpected Needs for Pesticides
During emergencies, Section 18 of FIFRA authorizes EPA to approve limited use of an unregistered pesticide.

Lead in Paint: Concerns with Post-DisasterRenovations
Natural disasters often result in need for renovations to damaged homes and other structures. For more on how to perform renovation work safely, contact the National Lead Information Center, 1-800-424-LEAD (5323).