

6.0 Using Municipal Equipment During or After a Disaster (for local authorities)

Municipalities are expected to use their own equipment and resources to recover from a disaster rather than hiring external contractors unless it is not possible to do so. You do not have to notify Manitoba EMO if you are using external contractors.

To streamline record-keeping, local authorities may choose to claim a rate amount based on the [Manitoba Heavy Construction Association \(MHCA\) rates](#) rather than tracking fuel, oil, lubricant, maintenance, and repair costs. The formula is:

$$\boxed{\text{MHCA rate}} + \boxed{\text{Attachment rate}} - \boxed{\text{Regular operator wages}} \times \boxed{65\%} \times \boxed{\text{\# of hours of operation}}$$

- If the equipment used is not listed in the MHCA equipment rate guide, the municipality may claim 65% of the comparable rental rate in their local area. Typical equipment that is not listed includes pumps, steamers, and PTO (power take off) pumps. For PTO pumps, the municipality should claim the MHCA guide rate for the tractor used plus the attachment allowance based on the PTO rental rate in their local area.

Eligible expenses for municipal equipment include:

- Expenses for recovering from a disaster event using municipally-owned equipment such as graders, back-hoes, loaders, etc.
- Mobilization and hauling costs for equipment.
- Light duty trucks used to haul equipment, limited to the actual hours of operation for the truck (stand-by time or time where the truck is parked is ineligible).

Ineligible expenses for municipal equipment include:

- Stand-by equipment hours—also known as equipment “downtime.”
- Operating costs for fuel, oil, etc. if the MHCA guide rate or equipment rental rate is used by the municipality in their claim.
- Regular staff time during regular working hours (overtime is eligible).

Record-keeping/audit — the use of municipal equipment must be tracked, documented on “timesheets” or “operator’s reports” to submit with the claim.

A recovery advisor will be assigned to each local authority to answer claim questions and respond to local needs.