Mitigation
Education for
Natural
Disasters

What you need to know ...

Suffolk County applied for and received a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the NY State Emergency Management Office (SEMO) to conduct a public education campaign on coastal hazards.

Public meetings are being hosted by your local County Legislators in the most at-risk areas of the County.

The main natural hazards that we face in Suffolk County include:

- ➤ Nor'easters
- > Severe Winter Storms
- >Severe Thunderstorms
- > Hurricanes
- >Coastal Erosion
- > Shallow Groundwater
- > Flooding

The effects of these hazards can be devastating

- Homes destroyed
- > Homes damaged unlivable
- > Homes flooded
- > Roads impassable
- Loss of power
- Loss of communications
- Inability to get help

Eastern Long Island is in the top ten list of areas in the U.S. most vulnerable to hurricanes*

We are sure to be hit again.....

Based on the International Hurricane Research Center at Florida International University

Do you remember.....

Hurricane Gloria - 1985

- hundreds of thousands of people lost power
- 48 homes destroyed & thousands damaged
- \$4.3 Billion in damages (2010 \$)
- Category 1 Storm

Fading from memory but all too real.....

Long Island Express - 1938

- 63,000 people homeless
- 700 deaths and thousands of injuries
- \$6.1 Billion in damages (2010 \$)
- Weak Category 3 Storm

Potential for devastation -

In September 2008 a Category 2 Storm, Hurricane Ike, struck Galveston, Texas in an area very similar to Long Island with barrier beaches and a low lying flat shoreline. Based on FEMAs Impact Report, the storm brought

- 110 mph winds
- 20 foot storm surge
- \$ 24 Billion in damages
- \$ 3.4 Billion in private property damages
- 8,000 homes destroyed
- 150,000 homes damaged

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE – ATLANTIC BASIN SEASONAL HURRICANE FORECAST FOR 2010

Forecast Parameter and 1950-2000 Climatology (in parentheses)

2010	Issue Date 9 December 2009	Issue Date 7 April
Named Storms (NS) (9.6)	11-16	15
Named Storm Days (NSD) (49.1)	51-75	75
Hurricanes (H) (5.9)	6-8	8
Hurricane Days (HD) (24.5)	24-39	35
Major Hurricanes (MH) (2.3)	3-5	4
Major Hurricane Days (MHD) (5.0)	6-12	10
Accumulated Cyclone Energy (ACE) (96.1)	100-162	150
Net Tropical Cyclone Activity (NTC) (100%)	108-172	160

IF A MAJOR STORM WAS APPROACHING -

- what would you do?
- stay or leave?
- how would you decide?
- how would you prepare?
- where would you go?
- what would you take with you?

WHO OR WHAT IS GOING TO HELP YOU

Relatives Neighbors Friends Police Fire Departments

Volunteer Agencies C.E.R.T. members Ambulance Companies

Town County

State

Federal

Red Cross

?????????????????

IN THE SHORT TERM - THE ANSWER IS MAYBE NO ONE

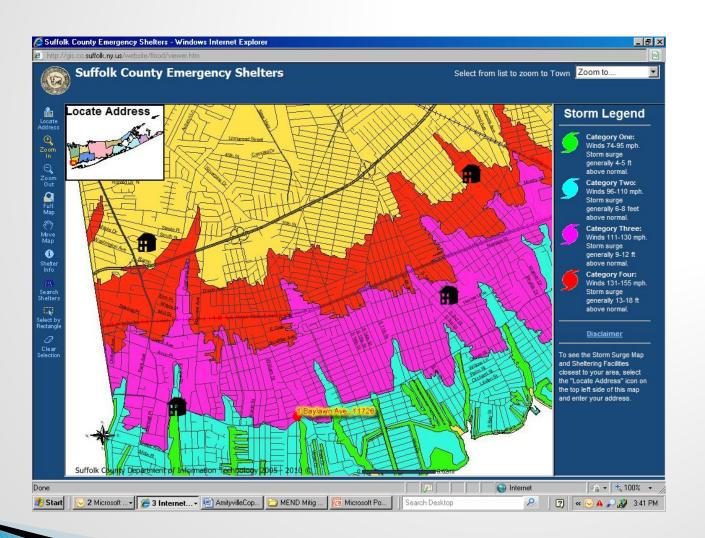
YOU NEED TO HELP YOURSELF

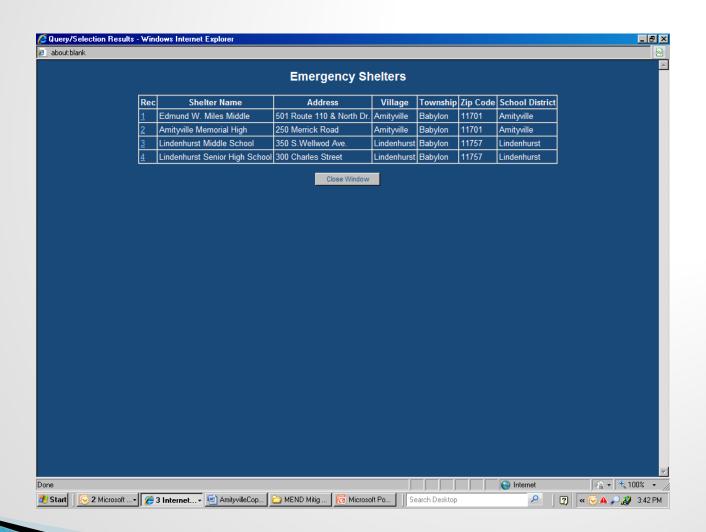
Do you know if you live in a storm flood zone?
SLOSH maps
FEMA Flood maps

Do you know where your local shelters are? Visit the Suffolk County website at

www.suffolkcountyny.gov

and follow the links to the Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services and then into the Office of Emergency Management



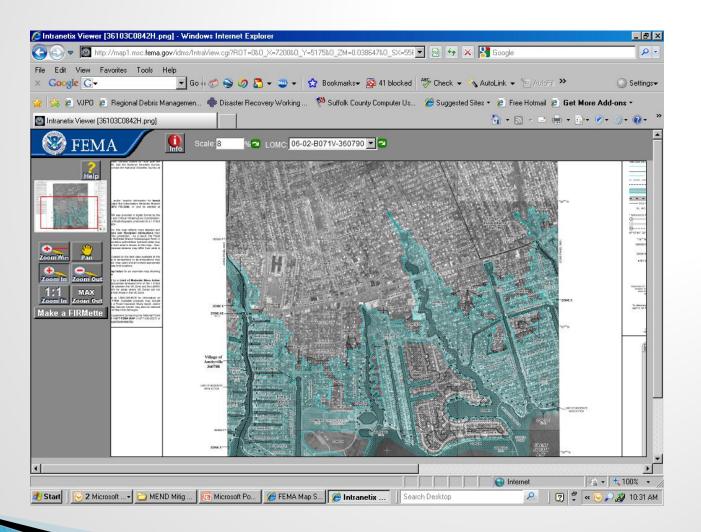


FEMA FLOOD MAPS

Visit the Federal Emergency Management Agency website at

www.fema.com

and follow the links to flood information and flood maps



You need to Plan

You need to Prepare

You need to

PLAN FOR

Evacuation – where to go – what to bring

Shelter in Place – what to do – how to

prepare – what supplies do you need
until help arrives

EVACUATION

Evacuating Suffolk County is NOT practical Local evacuations to higher ground are possible and if you live in a Flood Zone you will be expected to evacuate if the conditions warrant

County & Private Bus Companies

LIRR

Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles

Priorities – Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Mobile Home & Trailer Parks

SHELTERS

General Population – American Red Cross has 145 Shelters in Suffolk County – the Top 25 will be opened first – directions on website

County Run Shelters -

For First Responders

Pet Friendly Shelters – currently 3 at SC Fire Academy, Suffolk County Sports Park (LI Ducks Stadium) & SCCC Campuses

Special Needs Shelters -

John J. Foley Nursing Facility

SCCC Campuses

Town Special Needs Shelters

PREPARE FOR

your family's safety –
have a plan
physical storm damage –
mitigating actions
property and financial losses –
documentation
insurance claims –
understand coverage – options

DEVELOP EMERGENCY PLAN

Home / Workplace

Choose a person to contact - preferably an out of area friend or relative.

Choose a meeting area

Plan for Special Needs

Plan for pets * IDENTITY TAGS/CHIPS *

Post emergency numbers by the phone

Secure Emergency Supplies

Be Informed - Stay Informed

Listen to Local Radio / TV for information

BEFORE an emergency occurs PREPARE!!!!

ASSEMBLE A GO KIT

Flash Light

Important Documents

First Aid Materials

Money - Cash

Keys

Non-perishable supply of food

for 4-5 days

Water

Extra Clothes for all

Battery operated radio

Contact Information

Medications

Whistle

Batteries

Plastic Bags

Map

Copy of Family Plan

Personal Hygiene Items

Toys

ASSEMBLE EMERGENCY SUPPLIES AT HOME

Flash Light

Important Documents

First Aid Materials

Money - Cash

Keys

Non-perishable supply of food

for 4-5 days

Water

Extra Clothes for all

Battery operated radio

Contact Information

Medications

Whistle

Batteries

Plastic Bags

Map

Copy of Family Plan

Personal Hygiene Items

Toys

BEFORE THE STORM

Secure all loose items in the yard Trim trees that are close to the house Board up windows Fill car fuel tanks Water supply - 1 gal/person/day - 3 days Non-perishable food for 3 days Turn refrigerator to coldest setting Close all windows and interior doors During the storm Stay in an interior first floor room Stay away from windows and doors STAY INFORMED AND KNOW WHERE TO GET

INFORMATION

COMMUNICATIONS –IN CASE OF EMERGENCY – "ICE"

List emergency contact information in a secure place

Currently many cell providers are including "ICE" in the base menu of phone address books

Encourages people to enter emergency contacts

WHAT IS HAZARD MITIGATION?

"Sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to life and property from a hazard event"

OR

"Any action taken to reduce future disaster losses"

Mitigation Actions fall into Six General Categories

- Prevention measures such as planning and zoning, open space preservation, land development regulations, building codes, storm water management
- Property Protection measures such as acquisition, relocation, storm shutters, rebuilding, barriers, floodproofing, insurance, and structural retrofits for high winds
- Public Education and Awareness measures such as outreach projects, real estate disclosure, hazard information centers, technical assistance
- Natural Resource Protection measures such as erosion and sediment control, stream corridor protection, vegetative management and wetlands preservation
- Emergency Services measures such as hazard threat recognition, hazard warning systems, emergency response, protection of critical facilities, and health and safety maintenance
- Structural Projects measures such as seawalls, bulkheads, retaining walls, channel modifications, storm sewers, and retrofitting buildings and elevated roadways

Mitigating Actions Can Include -

- Elevating appliances, heating systems & electrical equipment Elevating homes
 Installing sump pumps
 Installing drainage systems
 Installing shutters and weatherproofing
- Relocating structures

MITIGATION FUNDING

Federal funding for Mitigation Projects is available to local governments through the following programs

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program (PDM)
Flood Mitigation Grant Program (FMP)
Repetitive Flood Claims Program (RFC)
Severe Repetitive Loss Program (SRLP)

Suffolk County and most of the Towns and Villages in the county have the required FEMA approved Hazard Mitigation Plan in place and are eligible to apply for grants

Additional information available at

www.semo.state.ny.us and www.suffolkcountyny.gov/RESPOND

FOLLOWING A DISASTER - WHAT DO YOU DO?

Ensure your Safety
Take Pictures
Document Losses
Insurance Claims
Await Assistance
"Get Back to Normal"

HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE

- What is covered under a Homeowner Policy
- What is NOT covered
- What is the definition of Flood Insurance coverage
- How does it apply to different types of water damage claims
- What is a hurricane deductible and what does it really mean
- What you can do to minimize hurricane damage to your home

WHAT WILL NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAMS DO

National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (NFIP)

Background and History
Recent Mapping
Grandfathering
Coverage

Why do you need Insurance vs. Disaster Assistance

Here are some common myths and facts about the NFIP

 MYTH: My homeowner's insurance will cover me for flood damage.

FACT: Homeowners' insurance does not cover flood damage. You need a separate flood insurance policy. Federal flood insurance, purchased through your insurance agent or company, is the only guaranteed flood insurance available.

MYTH: Flood insurance is only available to homeowners.
 FACT: Renters can also purchase policies to cover personal property. Business owners can get coverage for buildings and their contents, including equipment.

NFIP - continued

- MYTH: I can't buy flood insurance because my home has been flooded before.
 - FACT: It doesn't matter if your home has been flooded before. As long as your community participates in the National Flood Insurance Program, you can buy flood insurance.
- MYTH: I can get federal disaster aid if my home has flood damage. I don't need to buy flood insurance.
 FACT: Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster assistance is only available after a Presidential disaster declaration that includes the county in which you live. You may have flood damage but your county might not be designated for federal disaster aid. Flood insurance policies pay claims whether or not a disaster is declared.

NFIP - continued

- The time to buy flood insurance is now. After you purchase a policy, there is a 30-day waiting period before it goes into effect.
- For more information talk to your insurance agent. You can also call toll-free 800-427-4661 or visit www.floodsmart.gov to find out how to prepare for a flood, assess your risk, estimate the cost of flood insurance premiums, find local insurance agents and get links to community based information.
- FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM – (CRS)

Background of the CRS

NY State Facts

Discounts

Activities

What it takes to join

Community Rating System (CRS)

Method for Communities to reduce NFIP insurance premiums paid by homeowners through actions taken to control losses

NFIP Premium discounts of up to 45% can be achieved incrementally

HOW DOES GOVERNMENT'S DISASTER "PROCESS" WORK

PUBLIC EXPECTATIONS

Citizens Alerted in Advance
Magnitude Assessed Quickly
Citizens Kept Properly Informed
Dangerous Areas Safely Evacuated
Citizens Relocated to Safe Place If Necessary
Services Rapidly Restored
Recovery Assistance Provided
Impact of Recurrence Mitigated

What will the local municipalities do?

What will the County do?

What will the State do?

ALL EMERGENCIES BEGIN & END LOCALLY

The County's Emergency Preparedness Efforts Focus on

Planning

Evacuation

Shelters

Special Needs Population

Pets

Logistics

Dissemination of Information

Communications

Suffolk County's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is activated prior to an emergency and works with local, state and federal officials in

Shelter Management Planning

Resource Management Incident Response

In an emergency representatives from Local Governments, Utilities, Transportation, Fire, Police, Health, EMS, Public Works, Volunteers, and Private Sector work together in the EOC to address needs

WHAT WILL FEDERAL AUTHORITIES DO

Public Assistance – for public property & critical facilities

Threshold based on per-capita levels to be met at both
county and state levels before PA can be provided

Individual Assistance – for private property
Criteria for IA based on number of homes destroyed at
county level before IA can be provided

Small Business Administration – low interest rate loans for residents, businesses and non-profit organizations

Criteria for loan applications based on un-insured losses

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE (PA)

Preliminary damage assessments conducted Damages summarized
If County and State damage thresholds met Request for Presidential Disaster Declaration Disaster Declaration Announced Recovery Projects defined
Funding 75% federal / 25% local cost share

INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE (IA)

Preliminary damage assessments conducted Damages summarized
If County damage criteria met
Request for Presidential Disaster Declaration
Disaster Declaration Announced
Funding 100% federal / 0% local cost share

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (SBA)

At least 25 homes (primary residences) and/or businesses which have uninsured losses of 40% or more

Low interest rate loans made available to residents for un-insured losses to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate and personal property

Businesses and non-profit organizations may borrow to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory and other business assets

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO

Educate Yourself

Prepare

BEING PREPARED IS NOT JUST KNOWING WHAT TO DO ... IT MIGHT BE KNOWING WHAT NOT TO DO ... OR WHEN TO DO IT! KNOWLEDGE IS POWER ... SO BE INFORMED AND STAY INFORMED BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER AN **EVENT!**

For additional information about what to do and how to prepare please visit the following websites:

Federal Emergency Management Agency www.fema.gov

NY State Emergency Management Office www.semo.state.ny.us

Suffolk County Office of Emergency Management www.suffolkcountyny.gov

Office of Emergency Management
 American Red Cross
 www.redcross.org

Information such as the following and more is available at the Suffolk County Website

www.suffolkcountyny.gov (go to the Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services – Office of Emergency Management)

<u>The Great Hurricane Blowout - Learn about Hurricane Preparedness</u>

<u>Plan it Now -Hurricane Preparedness-</u> Disaster Happens When Preparation Doesn't

Flood Awareness in Spring

Hurricane Planning & Preparation

Are You Aware & Prepared?

Natural Disasters

What to do Ahead of Time