

Waterbury Flood Update for Tuesday, 9/27/2011

News from the Waterbury Municipal Office, temporarily at Thatcher Brook Primary School

“WATERBURY IN NEED” SATURDAY VOLUNTEER WORK DAYS START THIS WEEKEND AND RUN INTO DECEMBER

Flood-relief volunteer organizers hope to help Waterbury-Duxbury homeowners with volunteer teams every Saturday through Dec. 3, starting this weekend. Calling the effort “WIN” for short, they hope residents will contact them with flood-related work projects that they will assign to volunteer teams each Saturday (skipping Nov. 26 of Thanksgiving weekend).

Homeowners in flood-damaged areas in Waterbury-Duxbury: Please identify projects with which you would like help. Call the Waterbury Flood Relief Hotline @ 802-839-6000 to get on the list for a work crew. Or sign up in person at the Main Street Fire Station. Please check in by Thursday for the upcoming weekend if possible.

Volunteers: Adults interested in helping should consider recruiting a team of four people. Teams and individuals are welcome. It would be helpful if you have specific construction skills and tools. Email Belle McDougall btmpcdougall@gmail.com to volunteer. We would like 30-50 volunteers this Saturday!

MEETING SPOT: St. Leo’s Hall, St. Andrews Catholic Church, 109 S. Main St., Waterbury.

MEETING TIME: 9 a.m.-4p.m. Saturdays

LUNCH for volunteers will be provided at St. Leo’s, 12-1p.m.

CONTACT: Belle McDougall, btmpcdougall@gmail.com.

EXTRA HELP: *Have a question for a contractor? Skilled volunteers including an electrician, plumber, and carpenter will be available for homeowner questions Saturday at St. Leo’s Hall, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. Just stop by.*

TIPS TO HELP FAMILIES TONIGHT: Information session tonight, 6:30 p.m., Thatcher Brook Primary School cafeteria, by Washington County Behavioral Health Disaster Response Team. Guidance for parents and children coping with the aftermath of the flood, changes in daily life, “the new normal,” stress, helping kids feel safe, etc. Refreshments and child care for children over 2 provided. Meanwhile, the 24/7 hotline for referrals to crisis counseling is 802-229-0591.

NEW CLOTHING - FREE THIS WEEKEND!

On Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon, the Vermont Flood Relief Distribution Center at 2802 Waterbury Stowe Road will host a NEW ITEM giveaway for area residents who suffered flood damage and loss. Come to the distribution “store” on Rt. 100 across from Sunoco for new winter outerwear and more. Also available is a large selection of gently used donated goods, including clothing for all ages, linens and bedding, toys, books and other household items. Residents of Waterbury or Duxbury who were affected by flooding will receive an invitation in the mail along with vouchers to pick up new items donated by various vendors. Anyone from the flooded areas who did not receive a mailing may email sduxbury@myfairpoint.net or call 244-8708 to include your name on the distribution list before Saturday. The center’s regular hours are Monday, Wednesday, Saturday 9 a.m. to noon; Monday and Wednesday evenings 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY DEADLINE for RW BUSINESS GRANTS: Waterbury and Duxbury businesses that suffered flood damage may apply to Revitalizing Waterbury for Business Flood Relief Fund grant. Awards of up to \$5,000 are meant to help with immediate business recovery needs and will be distributed in October. Applications are at the town offices at TBPS and online at

www.revitalizingwaterbury.org. Due Sept. 30. Funding from GMCR, National Life Group, Rise Up Waterbury, and many individuals and businesses. Call or email for information: 272-1423 or fund@revitalizingwaterbury.org.

FOOD SHELF REBUILDING BUT OPEN: The Waterbury Area Food Shelf is under construction but is open in a trailer alongside its South Main Street building. Hours this week: Monday-Tuesday-Thursday-Friday 10-2; Wednesday 3-5. In case of an urgent need over the weekend, call 802-999-7014

MEDICAL CLINIC RETURNS: Waterbury Medical Associates have opened a small satellite clinic at the Thatcher Brook Inn on Rt. 100 with one doctor on site on a rotating basis. Hours: Monday-Thursday, noon-8 p.m.; Saturdays, 8-noon. Call 244-7874 for appointment. This is not a walk-in clinic. The entire group has relocated to the top floor of Building D at Central Vermont Medical Center in Berlin while their S. Main Street office is rebuilt. Same phone: 244-7874.

FREE MASSAGE: If you haven't seen Billy Wood of Vermont Sports Therapy for a free massage yet, he has time this week for those with aches and pains from working in the flood zone. At Family Physical Therapy, 2 N. Main St. Call 244-1140.

FIXING YOUR HOME – FINDING A HOME

LICENSED CONTRATORS: The Vermont Division of Fire Safety reminds homeowners that skilled contractors such as plumbers, electricians must be licensed with the state and file work notice forms on projects or they can be fined up to \$1,000. Homeowners may ask to see a contractor's license or check with the state. Call 802-479-4273 or visit www.vtfiresafety.org to look up a license.

FREE WORKSHOP ON WOOD PELLET HEATING: The Richmond Climate Action Committee is hosting a workshop on pellet heating at the Richmond Free Library Thursday 7-9 p.m. aimed at homeowners who need to replace flood-damaged heating systems, but open to anyone interested in pellet stoves, furnaces, etc. Information: Jeff Forward, 434-3770, or forward@gmavt.net.

CONTACT THE HOUSING COMMITTEE waterburyfloodhousing@gmail.com / 839-6000:

- ***If you have been displaced by the flood, even temporarily,*** and need a new home until you can return to yours or find a new permanent home. Volunteers are working to find short-term and long-term housing nearby for families, individuals, couples.
- ***If your housing situation has changed since you registered with FEMA.*** Also update your FEMA information by calling 1-800-621-3362 or talking with FEMA at the Main Street Fire Station. FEMA can provide financial assistance for housing.
- ***If you have an apartment, house or other housing unit available for lease.*** The committee is eager to iron out details with owners to make more housing available.

Efficiency Vermont will do free building assessments for homes with flood damage. Call 888-921-5990 for details and to sign up. Air sealing can cut heating bills and reconstruction is the perfect time to take these steps. Much more information is at www.encyvermont.com.

Truck Available: BCK Real Estate has a 14-foot moving truck to loan to anyone affected by the flood. Call 244-1250 or visit 21 North Main St.