

## Weekend Update: Waterbury Flood-Relief News Friday 10/7/2011

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

### **Need help with a project? Have some time to help? Check in for the SATURDAY VOLUNTEER WORK DAY!**

Volunteer help for Waterbury-Duxbury homeowners continues this weekend. Homeowners - call the Flood Relief Hotline or stop by the Main Street Fire Station local help desk to request help with specific projects. Organizers hope for 30-50 volunteers to form work teams.

Volunteers – consider signing up in groups or pairs. Call 839-6000 or email Belle McDougall to volunteer [btmcdougall@gmail.com](mailto:btmcdougall@gmail.com). Meeting place will be St. Leo's Hall, 109 S. Main St., 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Next work day is Sat. Oct. 15.

**FEMA DEADLINE APPROACHING:** Oct. 31 is the final day to register with the Federal Emergency Management Agency for flood disaster assistance. FEMA reps are still working at the Main Street Fire Station Mon-Sat 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. If you had flood damage, register. And if you have registered and have changed housing arrangements, update your information with FEMA so you can receive the full benefits you qualify for. Residents who have not returned home or have not found a new permanent home may qualify for ongoing FEMA rent assistance and FEMA also has updated housing information. Stop by or call 1-800-621-FEMA (3362)

**POST-FLOOD LAWN and GARDEN ADVICE:** Wondering what to do about your vegetable garden and lawn that now sit under a thick layer of river mud from the flood? Vermont gardening expert Charlie Nardozi has covered this topic on his Vermont Garden Journal segment on Vermont Public Radio. (<http://www.vpr.net/episode/51975/>)

Here are a few tips:

1. UVM Extension Service's Master Gardener program tests soil. Organic matter will decompose by spring and does not present a long-term hazard. Pesticides, chemicals are a greater concern. For details on how to get a good sample, where to send it, etc., call the helpline 1-800-639-2230 (Mon-Thurs-Fri 9-12) or visit <http://www.uvm.edu/mastergardener/> and click on Garden Help.
2. For annual vegetable and flower gardens, consider growing a cover crop of winter rye now. This will help build back the soil organic matter for next year.
3. On lawns and around trees, try to rake off the silt as much as possible. Aerate lawns and consider over-seeding with lawn grass seed now. Depending on the trees, they should be fine if they were under water for no more than a couple of days.

**REBUILD AND SAVE ENERGY:** Efficiency Vermont is offering free, objective assessments and air sealing to help building owners with flood damage to fix rebuild with energy efficiency and safety in mind. Efficiency Vermont along with local Building Performance Institute certified contractors and Weatherization Assistance Programs is offering homeowners and small businesses: a moisture assessment to determine if flooded areas have dried sufficiently; a blower test to identify areas of leakage; air sealing in flood-damaged areas to reduce energy loss; testing to determine carbon monoxide levels; recommendations for rebuilding safely and energy efficiently. Before the assessment, it is best if affected drywall and insulation are removed at least six inches above the water line and any potential mold issues are addressed. Building owners also should be registered with FEMA. To schedule your assessment, call 888-921-5990. Info.: [www.encyvermont.com/irene](http://www.encyvermont.com/irene).

**CHILD CARE/PRESCHOOL NEEDS STORAGE SPACE:** Hunger Mountain Children's Center needs to completely empty their center at 123 S. Main St. by next Friday. Their temporary home since the flood does not have room. Storage units, vacant commercial or residential space could work to store books, toys, art supplies, furniture, etc. Volunteers also needed every day next week to help pack. To help, contact HMCC director Kristen Nugent, 802-585-9581 or email [Kristen@hmcc.comcastbiz.net](mailto:Kristen@hmcc.comcastbiz.net).

**NEW HOURS FOR DOCTORS' OFFICE:** Starting Monday, hours at Waterbury Medical Associates' satellite clinic at the Thatcher Brook Inn, Rt. 100, will be 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday. Saturdays 8-noon. Staff will rotate to have one doctor on site. This is not a walk-in clinic. The temporary home for the practice is on the top floor, Building D at Central Vermont Medical Center, with weekday hours until 8 p.m. Call 244-7874 for either location.

**ReSOURCE ReLIEF VOUCHER PROGRAM:** Residents who suffered a loss of essential household items in their primary residence, can apply for a voucher for ReSTORE Burlington or ReSTORE Barre to be used to help purchase the following items: washers, dryers, refrigerators, stoves, furniture, and other basic household essentials. For those who have suffered structural damage, vouchers are available for building materials through ReBUILD Burlington and ReBUILD Barre. These items include lumber, doors, flooring (if available), and water heaters (if available). Visit or call the ReSTORE in Barre for ReLIEF Essential Goods Vouchers. If you request a voucher by phone, they will hold it for you to shop when you're ready. ReSTORE Barre, 28 Granite Street, 802-477-7800 ext. 20.

## ~ FLOOD-RELIEF BENEFITS GALORE ~

**WIND ENSEMBLE PLAYS SATURDAY FOR FLOOD RELIEF:** Several dozen local musicians will gather at Stowe High School Saturday at 7:30 p.m. for a fundraising concert to support Vermont flood-relief efforts. The Vermont Symphonic Winds ensemble will feature several local players including Harwood Union High School graduates Kate Noyes Liptak, Dan Liptak, Will McCraw; Harwood trumpet teacher Jason Whitcomb; Harwood clarinet teacher Joni McCraw; and trombonist Brent White of Duxbury. Admission is free but donations are welcome.

**COOL SHIRTS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT:** The Waterbury Fire Department will have special flood-relief t-shirts for sale Saturday at the downtown Harvest Fest on Stowe Street 11 a.m.-3 p.m. The burnt-orange shirts celebrating "Our Community" are \$10 each to benefit the Good Neighbor Fund. Look for the fire truck. Free helmets and coloring books for kids, too.

**COLLECTING FLOOD STORIES:** While the memories are fresh, a group of volunteers are asking Waterbury-Duxbury residents to think of their experiences with Tropical Storm Irene and the flood. They want to hear your stories – where were you when it happened? Memorable moments about the flood, the cleanup, whatever stands out in your mind will be collected and printed in a book illustrated with photos by local photographer Gordon Miller. Proceeds will go to ReBuild Waterbury. Stories by adults and children are welcome. Keep them short (400 words or fewer) and don't worry about editing. Deadline is Oct. 20. Email them to [floodstories@clifonline.org](mailto:floodstories@clifonline.org). For more information, contact Duncan at [duncan@clifonline.org](mailto:duncan@clifonline.org).

**HALLOWEEN CANDY COLLECTION:** Sonja Garon, owner of BGB salon on North Main Street was so happy with the haircut-a-thon fundraiser she did in Sept. for the Good Neighbor Fund – it raised about \$1600 – that she's doing a Halloween project now. She's offering 10 percent off any service or product to clients who bring in a bag of Halloween candy to donate up until Oct. 28. She's planning to get the candy to flood-damaged neighborhoods for the big day.