

NEWS:



Edward A. Diana
Orange County Executive

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 24, 2011

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Orange County Designated Storm Ready by National Weather Service *Only second in Hudson Valley to earn recognition*

(Goshen, NY) – Orange County Executive Edward A. Diana, Commissioner of Emergency Services Walter C. Koury and Deputy Commissioner of Emergency Management Seamus K. Leary are pleased to announce that Orange County was formally recognized today by the National Weather Service as Storm Ready at a certification ceremony that took place at the Orange County Emergency Services Center in Goshen.

“We appreciate that the National Weather Service is formally acknowledging the good work being done each and every day by the dedicated men and women in Orange County’s Division of Emergency Management and Division of Emergency Communications,” said County Executive Diana. “I’d also like to thank our RACES volunteers who provide weather observation reports and assist with critical radio communications.”

Gary Conte, of the National Weather Service, presented County Executive Diana with a recognition award designating Orange County New York as Storm Ready, establishing a close partnership between the National Weather Service and the Orange County Department of Emergency Services that will save lives and protect property in Orange County.

“Being Storm Ready doesn’t mean being storm proof,” said Conte. “It does mean that Orange County is now better prepared to help the public during natural disasters.”

Also making remarks at today’s ceremony was Chairman of the Orange County Legislature Michael R. Pillmeier and Orange County Legislator and Public Safety Committee Chairman Daniel C. Depew.

Orange County’s Division of Emergency Management was inspected by the National Weather Service and met their rigorous criteria to be Storm Ready certified. Orange County is only the second county in the Hudson Valley to be recognized as Storm Ready, and 1 of 19 in the state of New York.

The U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA), designed Storm Ready, a program aimed at preparing cities, counties and towns across the nation to help Americans guard against the ravages of severe weather.

The top goal of Storm Ready is to prepare communities with an action plan that responds to the threat of all types of severe weather. A voluntary program created in 1998, Storm Ready provides clear-cut advice to city leaders and emergency managers that would improve their local hazardous weather operations.

Please visit www.orangecountygov.com/dem or www.stormready.noaa.gov for more information.

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