

NEWS:



Edward A. Diana
Orange County Executive

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Saturday, August 27, 2011

Media Contact: Orysia Dmytrenko / (845) 615-0510
odmytrenko@orangecountygov.com

Shelter Opening at Taft Elementary School in Washingtonville, NY

(Goshen, NY) – Deputy County Executive James D. O'Donnell announced that the County of Orange and the Red Cross have initiated steps to open a shelter at Taft Elementary School, located at 10 Toleman Road, Washingtonville, NY 10992 by 12:00am.

The shelter will operate twenty four hours per day until further notice. The shelter will offer a safe place for Orange County residents to stay during the storm. The Red Cross will provide cots and blankets for sleeping, with food and water served by Sunday morning. Staff from the Orange County Emergency Operations Center, Human Needs Branch will be in the shelter to offer assistance with accessing additional human services that may be required.

The shelter at Taft Elementary School will permit pets to accompany residents under specific conditions. All pets must be caged and the owner of the pet will be responsible for providing for the health and safety of their stay at the shelter. All pets must stay in a separate room and food for each pet must be provided by the pet owner. Shelter staff will expect the owner of the pet to care for the pet's hygiene needs.

Residents in need of assistance should contact 2-1-1 for additional information on opening of the shelter. Residents are encouraged to contact 2-1-1 throughout the storm to access non emergency related health and human services information across the County of Orange.

The Orange County website, www.orangecountygov.com, has a new section designated just for critical information regarding Hurricane Irene. Please continue to find the Orange County Emergency Management and Orange County Executive Edward A. Diana on Facebook and Twitter.

###