Supervisor Mark Lesko Declares State of Emergency in the Town of Brookhaven
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Farmingville, NY - At 5:00 p.m. on August 25, 2011 Supervisor Mark Lesko declared a state of emergency in the Town of Brookhaven due to projected path of Hurricane Irene. Lesko issued the following statement: "The Town of Brookhaven is taking the threat of Hurricane Irene extremely seriously and I made the decision to declare a state of emergency so we can adequately prepare for this potential category 2 hurricane.

The Town is working closely with Suffolk County and the other towns to ensure the safety of our residents. Today I joined with Suffolk County Executive Steve Levy and Islip Supervisor Phil Nolan to announce a voluntary evacuation of Fire Island. It is very likely that a mandatory evacuation of Fire Island will be announced tomorrow. Residents in low lying coastal areas on the South Shore of Brookhaven should be also prepared for the possibility of an evacuation if current hurricane predictions of eight to twelve foot storm surges are the same tomorrow.

Suffolk County has announced that Longwood High School (100 Longwood Road, Middle Island) will be open as a shelter today and we anticipate the opening of more emergency shelters.

It is very likely that residents will lose electric during this storm and I urge them to be prepared with batteries and battery powered radios. If you own a boat, make sure it is tied down and protected. If you utilize propane as a heating source it is important that the tanks are tied down and properly secured.

The Town of Brookhaven will be opening its Emergency Operations Center at Brookhaven Town Hall on a 24-hour basis starting tomorrow morning.

Residents can call 631-451-TOWN for more information or visit Brookhaven's website, www.brookhaven.org, for a disaster planning checklist, important contact numbers, and updates on Hurricane Irene."

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