

Mayor Kennedy's Legislative Update After "Sandy & Athena"

On October 29th I signed a proclamation declaring a Local State of Emergency within the Village of Sea Cliff due to what was then the impending Super Storm Sandy. This proclamation directed the Department of Buildings and the Department of Public Works to take whatever steps may be necessary to protect life and property, public infrastructure and other such emergency assistance as deemed necessary and as directed by me.

The decree suspended the requirements for first obtaining a permit (a) for the removal of any tree pursuant to chapter 121 of the Village Code and (b) pursuant to chapter 48 of the Village Code for the construction, replacement, or remediation of any building or structure damaged or demolished due to the storm named Sandy. In accordance with New York State Law, these suspensions were initially valid for 5 days and are subject to successive 5 day extensions. I have subsequently extended the suspensions so that they currently expire on Saturday November 17, 2012.

The suspension of the permitting requirements under chapter 48 allows for repairs of existing homes and structures that were damaged in the storm without first obtaining a building permit, *not for new construction*. The Building Department is available to assist if you have any questions and or issues.

The suspension of 121 (the Tree Preservation Law) also is scheduled to expire on Saturday November 17, 2012, but it is my intention to renew the suspension until Sunday December 2, 2012. This should give our residents adequate time to address trees that were affected by the storms and also to attend to trees that they feel pose a menace.

On another note, our Public Work crews have been working diligently for the last two weeks removing storm debris in the form of tree branches and limbs. Residents have been allowed to bring their fallen limbs and branches out to the curb line and DPW crews have been removing this debris. If you are removing a tree that is still standing or trimming a tree, the tree trimming company is responsible for removing the branches, limbs and trunks. Leaves must still be bagged in clear plastic bags and placed at the property line for pick up.

After Friday November 16, 2012, crews will no longer be picking this debris up. After the 16th you must bundle your branches in stacks that are 4 feet or less in length and place out on your normal rubbish day.

I want to express how proud I am of our residents and the way they came together during this emergency. I witnessed such an outpouring of support from this community and was deeply moved by witnessing neighbor helping neighbor. Thank you.

Mayor Bruce Kennedy