



Town of Falmouth
Emergency Management
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NEWS RELEASE - 2011-06

For Immediate Release: August 25, 2011

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Falmouth Emergency Management Prepares for Hurricane Irene

On Thursday August 25, 2011 the Falmouth Emergency Management team met to discuss plans for the upcoming Hurricane Irene. The Falmouth EMA team consists of the leaders of Falmouth Parks and Public Works, Fire-EMS, Police, Wastewater, Communications Center, Information Technology, Finance Department, School Department and the Town Manager's Office. Town leaders are working together to prepare for the potential for power outages, downed trees and power lines, flooding, and high winds. The EMA group discussed severe storms from the past, including the Patriots Day Storm of 2007 to try to predict issues that may arrive with the storm.

Preparations are already underway at all departments in advance of the potentially dangerous storm expected on Sunday and into Monday. Saws, generators, barricades, and even snow plows to clear roadways from downed trees are all in place and ready if needed. Staffing plans for calling in extra help if needed at various departments have been prepared, and a plan on releasing updated information to the public has been crafted. While the EMA team will use a combination of the Maine 2-1-1, the town's website, news group e-mails, the town's emergency notification paging system and the town's EMA hotline to provide updates to the public as needed, EMA Director Rice encourages residents to use the EMA hotline and emergency notification paging system for the latest updates. The hotline can be reached at (207) 699-5241 and callers will hear a message that is updated routinely with the latest information on road closures, power outages and other important information. Residents can also sign up for the emergency notification paging system by visiting the town's EMA website at: <http://www.town.falmouth.me.us/vsubscriber>.

The Falmouth EMA team is in contact with Cumberland County EMA and is monitoring the latest forecasts and county planning efforts. EMA Director Rice asks that all Falmouth residents watch the weather forecast very closely over the next few days and take any precautions as advised.

End of release.

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