



# TOWN OF HAMDEN

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Scott D. Jackson  
Mayor

Hamden Government Center  
2750 Dixwell Ave  
Hamden, CT 06518  
Tel: (203) 287-7100  
Fax: (203) 287-7101

### Media Release

**For Immediate Release**  
**August 26, 2011**

**Contact: Curt B. Leng**  
**Phone: 203-400-4408**

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## Hamden Emergency Management Team Organizes Efforts for Storm

### *Mayor Scott Jackson Declares a State of Emergency for Hamden*

**Hamden** - Mayor Scott D. Jackson announces that the Hamden Emergency Management Team has assembled for full-scale preparation for the upcoming storm and has developed an action plan for Hamden. In addition, the Mayor has declared a State of Emergency for Hamden as of 12:00 noon Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, which will be in effect until further notice.

All Emergency Personnel from Fire, Police and Public Works are preparing machinery and equipment and will be on official stand-by, with additional crews, in a proactive effort to address the needs of the Town during and after the storm.

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The following is a list of actions being taken by the Town to assist residents during this weather event:

**Emergency Shelter Will Be Opened – Hamden High School located at 2040 Dixwell Avenue**

Preparations are underway at Hamden High School for a temporary emergency shelter. The High School has an emergency power generator. The shelter will be opened at 7pm on Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup> and will be operated by Hamden’s Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) in coordination with the Hamden Fire Department. Should you choose to go to the shelter, please be sure to bring basic supplies with you including; a change of clothes, basic toiletries, any necessary medications and non-perishable food items for you and your family. Cots, blankets and pillows will be provided. Cats and dogs can be accommodated, but residents are strongly encouraged to bring a cage/carrier and must provide their own pet food and any medications.

The shelter will be accessed from the northern side of the building, closest to the Hamden Plaza, through either set of doors and residents will be asked to register upon entry.

**Actions the Town Has Taken:**

The following are actions that the Town has taken to prepare for this event:

- The Town has been working with all Local and State officials to best prepare for the event and prepare a communication plan to get the best information to our residents in the fastest way possible;
- All personnel have been put “on-call” in preparation for the emergency;

- Central Communications has been assigned with additional personnel and additional supervisors to properly handle the call volume expected and dispatch personnel;
- The Police and Fire Departments have been reviewing their emergency plan;
- All Town generators, vehicles and tools have been tested and fueled;
- Public Works crews have been out clearing potential trouble spots in preparation for the storm, to assist in water flow, but possible heavy flooding is expected in low-lying areas and have placed barriers in areas of Town where there have been areas of concern in the past;
- Public Works crews have tackled a priority list of tree removals and branch trimming in advance of the storm;
- Back-up plans have been established for additional shelter locations if needed;

### **Trees**

Hamden residents are urged to be aware of the potential for downed trees due to expected high winds. Priority will be given to clearing of main roadways for emergency vehicle travel. Calls will be prioritized utilizing a triage approach, elevating the most critical situations to first priority. Should a tree come down on your property which poses a serious threat to your home, has hit a power line or is blocking a roadway, please call 911 and the call will be dispatched accordingly.

### **Information Flow:**

Hamden is prepared to use all approaches to get information to residents related to the weather event. The Town of Hamden's website at [www.hamden.com](http://www.hamden.com) will be updated regularly for preparedness information and links. The "Town of Hamden" Facebook page will be updated throughout the event – people can find this by typing Town of Hamden in the Facebook search

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bar. Twitter reports will be issues throughout the event - residents can follow the Town of Hamden on twitter at @townofhamden

**FOR ANY NON-EMERGENCY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL (203) 230-4000.**

**IN THE EVENT OF A TRUE EMERGENCY, PLEASE CALL 911.**

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