



TOWN OF HAMDEN

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Media Release

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HAMDEN EMERGENCY RESPONSE RUNNING AT FULL SPEED

Hamden - Mayor Scott D. Jackson announced that the Town's clean-up effort to Hurricane Irene is proceeding at full speed, with power restored to more than two-thirds of the greater than 12,000 households left in the dark by the storm's aftermath.

Jackson said Hamden's Public Works Department has been working around the clock since midnight Saturday, breaking only to sleep, in an effort to clear fallen trees from streets and power lines.

“Public Works Director Craig Cesare has reassigned his entire department to tree clean-up in an effort to aid United Illuminating in restoring power. As soon as we get word from UI that they have deadened downed lines, our tree crews can come right behind them to clear the blockages and allow UI to turn the power back on.” Jackson added that UI has brought in new crews from several states to speed the process.

Please note that the Hamden Public Works cannot touch trees entangled in power lines until UI is available to respond to problem.

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Additionally, the Town will begin picking up brush and tree limbs left at the curb starting Tuesday . “Our first priority is to get power restored to all homes and clear all streets, then aggressively focus on cleaning up the storm damage”, Jackson said.

While some households wait for power to be restored, the Hamden-North Haven YMCA has announced it will provide free shower access to the public from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Residents are requested to bring their own towels.

“The greatest factor in Hamden's quick recovery was the preparedness of Hamden resident's who cleaned up potential hazards, prepared themselves and stayed safe as the storm approached. Their common sense allowed us to focus on clean-up efforts, Jackson said.”

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