

# Town of Riverhead

*Supervisor Sean M. Walter*

**January 22, 2016 - 0730 hrs.**

## **Weather and Travel Advisory**

A Blizzard Warning and a Coastal Flood Advisory has been issued by the National Weather Service for our area. The Blizzard Warning is from 4 AM Saturday to noon on Sunday. The Flood Advisory is from 5 PM on Saturday to 1 AM on Sunday. Snow will arrive during the early morning hours on Saturday and will continue through Sunday morning. 7 to 12 inches of snow are expected. Winds will increase from 25 to 35 miles per hour with stronger gusts. Wind chill values are expected to be in the teens. Coastal flooding will occur during the Saturday night high tide cycle. Tides expected to be 2 to 3 feet above normal due to the storm and the full moon and will affect all areas adjacent to the North Fork. If you are in a coastal flood prone area, pay close attention to Saturday night's high tide. Traveling on Saturday will be extremely dangerous due to heavy snowfall and strong winds with whiteout conditions possible. Expect secondary roads, especially our north south roads or roads adjacent to open fields to become impassable. Power outages are possible due to the strong winds and falling tree limbs causing downed power lines. Remember to stay away from all downed lines and to treat them as energized.

Today we will see a calm day weather wise. So it is a perfect day to get prepared for this snow event. Make sure that all is in order and that you are ready for the storm before you go to bed tonight. Do not plan to leave your home tomorrow or Sunday morning. If you absolutely must leave your home, **USE EXTREME CAUTION AND REDUCE YOUR SPEED**. Make sure that you have a charged cellphone and a winter storm survival kit with you. If you get stranded, stay with your vehicle and call the police.

A Snow Emergency is expected to be declared to help facilitate snow removal from the roadways. Highway crews will be out working for the duration of the storm; please make sure all vehicles are parked off road as not to hamper plowing. In case of an emergency, dial 911 or call the Riverhead Police Department at 727-4500. If you can, stay inside, stay warm, stay informed and as always, stay safe.

*IF YOU ARE IN A COASTAL FLOOD PRONE AREA, YOU WILL EXPERIENCE FLOODING DURING SATURDAY NIGHT'S HIGH TIDE CYCLE. TAKE ALL NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS.*

*TO REPORT POWER OUTAGES, CALL PSEG AT 1-800-490-0075.*

*ALL RESIDENTS ARE URGED TO REMOVE THEIR VEHICLES FROM THE STREET TO INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SNOWPLOWING OPERATIONS. CHAPTER 101-21 SUBSECTION A AUTHORIZES THE RIVERHEAD POLICE DEPARTMENT TO IMPOUND PARKED OR ABANDONED VEHICLES THAT AFFECT THE ROADWAYS DURING A SNOWSTORM.*

*PLEASE DO NOT SHOVEL SNOW INTO THE STREET. THIS ONLY CREATES A HAZARD FOR YOUR NEIGHBORS AND OTHER MOTORISTS.*

*IF THERE IS A FIRE HYDRANT BY YOUR HOME, PLEASE MAKE SURE IT IS VISIBLE AND SHOVELED OUT.*

*PLEASE MAKE SURE TO CHECK ON YOUR NEIGHBORS, ESPECIALLY THE ELDERLY AND HOMEBOUND.*

*DON'T FORGET YOUR PETS. MAKE SURE THEY ARE BROUGHT INDOORS OR HAVE SHELTER.*

*FOR THE SAFETY OF YOUR PATRONS AND VISITORS, PLEASE REMOVE THE SNOW AND ICE FROM THE SIDEWALKS IN FRONT OF YOUR BUSINESS OR PROPERTY.*

*REMEMBER THE P'S OF PREPAREDNESS, HAVE A PLAN, PACK AN EMERGENCY KIT AND PAY ATTENTION.*

*FOR WINTER SAFETY TIPS VISIT:*

FEMA

<http://www.ready.gov/winter-weather>

National Weather Service

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/winter/index.shtml>

NYS Homeland Security

<http://www.dhSES.ny.gov/oem/safety-info/publicsafety/winter.cfm>

American Red Cross

<http://www.redcross.org/news/article/Red-Cross-Winter-Weather-Safety-Tips>