

Waterbury Flood-Relief Update Tuesday 11/8/2011

News from the Waterbury Flood-Relief Effort with ReBuild Waterbury at Thatcher Brook Primary School this week.
The Municipal Offices are now located at the Main Street Fire Station.

FEMA APPLICATION DEADLINE NEXT TUESDAY, NOV. 15

Although the Federal Emergency Management Agency closed its Disaster Recovery Center at the Main Street Fire Station last week, Nov. 15 is the deadline to file an application for assistance. FEMA remains reachable by phone 800- 621-FEMA (3362) or online at www.disasterassistance.gov. Contact FEMA especially if your housing situation has changed and you would like assistance with rent for temporary housing. Also, if you have a question about your assistance or want to appeal your grant, you have 60 days from the date of your FEMA settlement letter to request it be reviewed. Incorrect or missing information can affect your grant. *TIP: Renters at the time of the flood who were displaced from their homes because their building sustained damage could be eligible for housing assistance.*

NOV. 15 DEADLINE ALSO APPLIES TO SBA LOAN APPLICATIONS

STILL NOT SURE ABOUT APPLYING FOR SBA ASSISTANCE?

NEED HELP WITH FORMS? HAVE QUESTIONS?

**MEETING: WEDNESDAY · Nov. 9 · 7 p.m. · Thatcher Brook Primary School
Bring your forms, questions for SBA and FEMA representatives.**

Important: With the deadline a week away, this is a final opportunity to meet face-to-face with SBA and FEMA staff to answer questions and complete forms for aid. Small Business Administration low-interest loans are NOT just for businesses. Homeowners, landlords, tenants – all who received a loan application --- are encouraged to complete it by Nov. 15. The SBA can open a door to both low-interest loans and additional FEMA grant money. (Those who don't qualify for a loan may receive additional FEMA grant money for personal property, moving and storage expenses, etc. if they have not already received the maximum benefit of \$30,200.) There is no requirement to take a loan. SBA also can structure loans in various ways including working with existing mortgages. Finally, loan approval is based on flood damage and ability to pay, not on personal assets.

For help with forms, come to the Wednesday meeting. Alternately, call the SBA at 800-659-2955 or 800-877-8339 for people with speech or hearing disabilities. Applications can be downloaded from www.sba.gov or completed online at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>

The two closest final options for in-person assistance before Nov. 15 are visiting the offices of:

1. Champlain Housing Trust, 88 King Street, Burlington; Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; 862-6244.
2. Central Vermont Community Land Trust, 107 North Main Street, Barre; Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; 802-476-4493.

BID ON A WEEK'S STAY AT FORT LAUDERDALE CONDO TO BENEFIT RBW!!

Thanks to a generous donation, RBW is auctioning off a week's rental (Jan. 1-7) at the Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort, 909 Breakers Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Bids will be taken through Nov. 30 on RBW's Facebook page or by calling 802-585-5202. Bid updates will be posted on Facebook, in this newsletter, and announced on WDEV throughout Nov. The winner must provide their own transportation. The high-rise ocean-view condo sleeps 6, has a heated pool, day spa, fitness center and more.

News from ReBuild Waterbury

- ReBuild Waterbury staff are working in temporary space at Thatcher Brook Primary School this week with plans to relocate to more permanent space soon. They will get phone messages from the Flood Relief Hotline number 839-6000 as the local help desk at the fire station transitions to hand off duties to RBW.
- Email contacts for Volunteer Manager Mame McKee and Case Manager Eileen Simpson are: Mame.rebuildwaterbury@gmail.com and Eileen.rebuildwaterbury@gmail.com. The general RBW mailbox is rebuildwaterbury@gmail.com. Also, look for RBW on Facebook.
- RBW received a \$5,200 donation Monday from the Stowe Rotary Club. The money was raised at the organization's Roctoberfest which traditionally supports Rotary scholarships and grants to local charities. The group opted to donate the entire amount raised this year to help with flood-recovery in neighboring Waterbury. The Stowe Rotary also contributed \$1,000 each to the Good Neighbor Fund and the Waterbury Food Shelf.
- Donations and grants to RBW so far total \$27,000. Donations to RBW are tax-deductible as it is a project of the non-profit Revitalizing Waterbury. Contribute online at www.ReBuildWaterbury.org or mail checks to RBW, P.O. Box 633, Waterbury, VT 05676. Make checks to Revitalizing Waterbury with "ReBuild Waterbury" in the memo line.

RBW's mission over the next year will be to help Waterbury, Duxbury and area flood-affected residents repair and return to their flood-damaged homes by tapping volunteer labor, coordinating construction expertise and materials, and using grants and donations to supplement residents' limited resources.

FOOD SHELF PREPARES FOR THE HOLIDAYS: Turkeys and Thanksgiving bags are now available at the food shelf, at 57 S. Main St. Individuals and families also may sign up for December holiday boxes in the next few weeks. The boxes have all the fixings for a holiday feast: turkey, stuffing, gravy, pie, cookies, cheese, crackers, fresh potatoes, carrots, apples, oranges and more. Families can sign up through the schools, or stop by or call the food shelf at 244-1561; director Cara Griswold can be reached at 999-7014. Leave a name, number of family members, and contact number in phone messages. Food shelf hours: 10-noon Mondays and Fridays, Wednesday 2-6 p.m. Call for an appointment if you cannot make those times. Griswold reminds the community that all are welcome to stock up their pantries including those hosting friends and family affected by the flood. Also, small donations of non-perishable foods are welcome, but please hold off on large food donations for now. Cash contributions welcome.

THANK YOU CLYDE WHITEMORE LITTLE LEAGUE and your volunteers who ran the Flood Distribution Center to get many donated items from our community into the hands and homes of those who needed them the most. A special thanks to Lara Lonon and Teresa Haskins for their daily organizing work. The center has closed. Those looking to donate or acquire gently used items should check the town website www.waterburyvt.com and its exchange center with offers and requests for goods and services. Also, local thrift shops such as Bargain Boutique and Lavinia's Closet have accepted many recent donations as well. Watch this newsletter and the Waterbury Record for announcements of future donation-exchange opportunities as well.

PROJECTS NEEDED FOR SATURDAY WORK DAY: Volunteer help for Waterbury-Duxbury homeowners continues Saturday. Organizers ask homeowners to sign up with specific projects where help is needed. Call the Flood Relief Hotline 802-839-6000 or stop by the Main Street Fire Station to fill out a help request form with details. Those who would like to work can also call the hotline or email Belle McDougall to volunteer: btmcdougall@gmail.com. Small groups are welcome. Meeting place: St. Leo's Hall, 109 S. Main St., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch provided.