



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Andrew J. Lanza

STATEN ISLANDERS SHOULD CALL 311 TO REPORT DAMAGE INCURRED DURING SEPT. 16 STORM - Information collected will be used to determine eligibility for FEMA disaster declarations

ANDREW J LANZA September 17, 2010

Residents affected by last night's storm should call 311 to report any damage to their homes or businesses. In order to qualify for disaster relief assistance, New York City must estimate the storm's total effect on city residents and employees. Residents should be prepared to answer questions about the extent of their property damage, and should take photographs, if possible, of any damage prior to debris removal or repair.

The Office of Emergency Management continues to monitor the damage from last night's storm. They have opened the City's Emergency Operations Center and are coordinating with key agencies such as Con Edison, Parks Department, FDNY, NYPD, Department of Transportation, Department of Sanitation, MTA, and Department of Housing Preservation and Development. OEM responders are located in the hardest hit areas and there is a command post set up in Flushing to coordinate field activities.

OEM is also working with the National Weather Service and the State Emergency Management Office to assess the damage. The Weather Service will survey the damage to confirm whether a tornado occurred.

It is very important that residents report any building damage and downed trees. This information will be collected and used to determine eligibility for FEMA disaster declarations.