

Date: September 7, 2011

To: City Residents
From: Mayor Susan Feiszli

There is a monitoring station at the end of Elm Street, owned and maintained by the USGS, that is used as a "tool" to keep track of the Tioughnioga River depth and discharge flow. This is an excellent site that should be on everyone's "favorites" as a way of monitoring the Tioughnioga for specific information. See below

Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service: Binghamton: Tioughnioga River at Cortland
<http://water.weather.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=bgm&gage=crt6&view=1,1>

The site lists river levels and action stages for properties along it . Information below applies mainly to the properties along the main branch of the River and not to other flood prone areas of the City such as Otter or Dry Creek.

YELLOW = Action Stage: 7.0' This is when valuables should be removed from the lower levels, basements make sure scatter rugs are rolled up and elevate any electronic or electrical equipment

PEACH = FLOOD STAGE: 8.0' Minor flooding - minimal or no property damage, but possibly some public threat or inconvenience (one lane of Kellogg Road is usually barricaded to vehicular traffic)

PINK = MODERATE STAGE: 10.0 Some inundation of structures and roads near streams. Some evacuations of people and/or transfer of property to higher elevations is necessary.

PURPLE = MAJOR STAGE: 12.5' Extensive inundation of structures and roads. Significant evacuations of people and/or transfer of property to higher elevations.

RECORD FLOODING: 14.1' April 3, 2005 the highest reading was 14.07' According to records kept at County Emergency Management office during each "high water event" the following readings impacted the 6th Ward during April '05:

First call for water in the basement was at 10.2' (two feet above flood stage)
A total of 37 calls were received from the Kennedy Parkway area between 10.2' & 13.9'

At 13.6' the entire area was surrounded by water - any residents who did not evacuate were indeed "trapped" and needed assistance from local police and/or fire to get out of the immediate area

As a result of the April '05 floods, many lessons were learned and corrective actions have been incorporated into our preparedness plans:

- Whenever the NWS forecasts a "flood WATCH", Brenda DeRusso of Emergency Management immediately sends out specific information to everybody on the County's e-mail network, and copies everybody on the City of Cortland e-mail network distribution lists for fire, police, Emergency Medical Services, School Districts, American Red Cross, and print/air media reps.
- When a "flood WARNING" is issued, the information is relayed verbatim via local radio monitors for ALL emergency responders (puts everyone on notice that calls may be forthcoming); the CSD and this office will determine if there is a need to activate Reverse 911 to residents or geographical areas that have been impacted during other flood events.

Please send your name, phone number, street and e-mail address to Mayor@cortland.org

I will compile your information and send your e-mail address to Brenda DeRusso who will include you in her e-mail notices.

EMERGENCY PLAN FOR YAMAN PARK RESIDENTS

Between 10-11', Emergency Management would request that the City PD and/or Fire send personnel with bull horns and/or do a door-to-door notification of potential serious flooding.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Cortland County Fire & Emergency Management

Brenda S. DeRusso, Assistant Director Phone; 607/753-5065 (work)

(607/753-7006 (home)

E-Mail: bderusso@cortland-co.org

Cortland City Police

Phone; 911 or 753-3001

Cortland Fire Department

Phone 911 or 756-5611

Mayor Susan Feiszli

Phone: 753-0872 (work)

email Mayor@Cortland.org