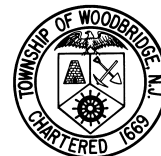


NEWS



TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE
MAYOR JOHN E. McCORMAC
1 Main Street, Woodbridge, NJ 07095

Phone: (732) 634-4500 ♦ Fax: (732) 602-6016

Web: <http://www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Aug. 14, 2008

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Mayor's Office of Communications

732-602-6039

Mayor McCormac & Woodbridge Township Office of Emergency Management Announce "Safe & Secure" Registry for Residents with "Special Needs"

WOODBRIIDGE TOWNSHIP "SPECIAL NEEDS" REGISTRY FOR DISASTERS... FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES WHO NEED HELP DURING AN EVACUATION OR EMERGENCY...



Woodbridge resident Mark Lewis explains the importance of the "Safe & Secure ~ Special Needs" registry to Woodbridge Mayor John E. McCormac. The "Safe & Secure ~ Special Needs" registry was unveiled at the Fords Fire Department.

Woodbridge Township residents (or caregivers on their behalf) are encouraged to fill-out and return the self-addressed 'special need' form received in

Woodbridge – Mayor John E. McCormac and the Woodbridge Township Office of Emergency Management today announced that every Woodbridge Township household will be receiving a "Safe & Secure" Registry for Disasters form and urged all residents with a "Special Need" to fill out and return the self-addressed form to the Woodbridge Township Office of Emergency Management.

"If you have a 'special need' and require assistance when it comes time to evacuate your home or business during an emergency, then you need to fill out the form and send it to the Woodbridge Township Office of Emergency Management," said Mayor McCormac. "We are urging Township residents who may have difficulty during an evacuation because of physical or other limitations, or lack of transportation, to sign up for the 'special needs' registry... that way, we'll know who to help in advance of an emergency situation when time is of the essence."

Joining Mayor McCormac at the Fords Fire Company #1 to make the announcement were Dennis Henry, Acting Director, Woodbridge Township Office of Emergency Management, Phil DiNicola, Deputy

Chief, Woodbridge Police Department, representatives of Woodbridge Township Emergency Response, First Aid Squads and Fire Departments, and Mark Lewis, a Woodbridge Township ‘special needs’ resident.

According to the Woodbridge Township Office of Emergency Management, residents who are non-ambulatory or wheelchair bound... connected to a respirator or dialysis machine... bedridden or critically ill... suffering from Alzheimer’s or a similar condition... diagnosed with impaired eyesight or loss of hearing... or have limited mobility have a ‘special need’ and should register with the Woodbridge Township Office of Emergency Management – all information will remain confidential and will be used only in time of emergency evacuation.

Charles Kenny, First Ward Councilman and Captain, Woodbridge Fire Department, noted that establishing the “special needs” registry in advance of an emergency or disaster situation will prepare first responders and will allow them to make the best use of limited time and resources to provide help to those with limited options for evacuation during an emergency.



Woodbridge Township emergency services and first responders include the Woodbridge Township Office of Emergency Management Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), the Woodbridge First Aid Squad, Port Reading First Aid Squad, Avenel First Aid Squad, Saint Johns First Aid Squad, Colonia First Aid Squad, and the nine Woodbridge Township fire departments – Woodbridge Fire Department, Port Reading Fire Company #1, Keasbey Fire Department, Avenel Fire Department, Fords Fire Company #1, Hopelawn Engine Company #1, Iselin Fire Company #1, Iselin Chemical Hook & Ladder Company, and the Colonia Fire Department.

Woodbridge Township residents with “special needs” (or caregivers on their behalf) are encouraged to fill-out and return the self-addressed ‘special need’ form received in the mail... log-on to the Woodbridge Township Web Page at: www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us to obtain a form... or call the Woodbridge Township Office of Emergency Management at 732-634-5401 for additional information and instruction on the “special needs” registry program. The Woodbridge Township ‘special needs’ registry was established in 2004. There are currently more than 370 Woodbridge Township residents registered.

“If you or a member of your household have a ‘special need’ that makes it difficult for you to successfully complete an evacuation of your home or place of business during an emergency, please fill out the ‘special need’ form and send it back to us... it’s free and will only take a few minutes... and it could save your life... With the right preparation today... an emergency doesn’t have to be a disaster,” said Mayor McCormac.

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For more information about Woodbridge Township programs and event, log-on to the Woodbridge Township Web Page at: www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us

Office of the Mayor
Township of Woodbridge
1 Main Street
Woodbridge, NJ 07095

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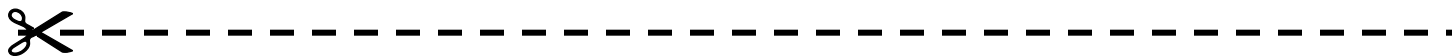
RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

**** WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP SPECIAL NEED REGISTRY FOR DISASTERS ****
— for people with disabilities who need help during an Evacuation or Emergency —

Please fill out the form below, detach at dotted line and mail it in to:

► Office of Emergency Management
1 Main Street, Woodbridge NJ 07095

*See reverse side
for return mail*



Name of Special Need Person _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number(s) _____

Your Special Need(s) _____

Emergency Contact Person _____

Contact Person Phone _____

**We're not waiting until disaster strikes.
Neither should you. . . send in your form today.**



With the right preparation, an emergency doesn't have to be a disaster.

The **Woodbridge Township Office of Emergency Management** wants to know if you need help in the event it became necessary to evacuate your home or business during an emergency. If you have a "Special Need" we want to know who you are — and what that "Special Need" is. That way, we'll know how to help in the event of an emergency situation where time is of the essence.

Signing up with the **Woodbridge Township Office of Emergency Management "Special Need" Registry for Disasters** will help our first responders make the best use of limited time and resources when responding to aid residents with limited options for evacuation during an emergency.

WHAT IS A "SPECIAL NEED"? Are you non-ambulatory? Hooked up to a respirator or dialysis machine? Bedridden or critically ill? Suffering from Alzheimer's or similar condition? Impaired eyesight or hearing? These are examples of a "Special Need".

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO? If you or a member of your household (or if you are a caregiver) have a "Special Need" that would make it difficult for you to successfully complete an evacuation of your home or place of business during an emergency, **please fill out the attached form on the other side and send it back to us using the mailer below.**

It will take just a few minutes. . . and it could save your life or that of a loved one.

Sincerely,



John E. McCormac, Mayor



**For more information
call (732) 602-7361**

— Detach and mail in the portion below with your info on back—

Office of the Mayor
Township of Woodbridge
1 Main Street
Woodbridge, NJ 07095

**Please Place
1st-Class
Stamp
Here**

**TO: Office of Emergency Management
1 Main Street
Woodbridge, NJ 07095**