

# THE UNION BEACH FLOOD PROTECTION INFORMATION NEWSLETTER    MARCH 2010

## FLOOD HAZARD REDUCTION

In order to minimize the effects of floods, the following standards have been developed:

1. All new construction and substantial improvements must be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, or lateral movement of the structure. Substantial improvement is defined as any repair, reconstruction or improvement to a structure whose cost is 50% of the building market value or greater.
2. All new construction and substantial improvements must be constructed with materials, utility equipment, methods, and practices resistant to flood damage.
3. All new public utilities such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems must be located to minimize flood damage and contamination.
4. For all new construction and substantial improvements, full enclosed areas below the lowest floor that are subject to flooding must be designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing for the entry and exit of floodwaters.
5. Check with the Building Department at (732) 739-1503 before you build, alter, re-grade, or fill your property to determine if a permit is needed. Report these activities to this number if you do not see a permit where work is being done.

**Flood proofing:** Residents can protect their building from flood damage by retrofitting. The following are several ways to flood proof or retrofit existing dwellings; waterproofing walls, installing watertight enclosures over doors, raising existing buildings above flood levels, and installing check valves in sanitary sewer lines. The Building Department can provide additional information on these methods.

## WHY PROTECT STREAM CORRIDORS?

A STREAM IS COMPOSED OF SEVERAL ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS INCLUDING THE STREAM CHANNEL ITSELF, ASSOCIATED WETLANDS, FLOODPLAINS AND FORESTS. WHERE STREAM CORRIDORS ARE MAINTAINED IN THEIR NATURAL CONDITION WITH MINIMUM DISTURBANCE THEY ARE INSTRUMENTAL IN PERFORMING THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS:

- REMOVING SEDIMENT, NUTRIENTS, AND POLLUTANTS BY PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR FILTRATION, ABSORPTION AND DECOMPOSITION BY SLOWING STORM WATER VELOCITY, WHICH AIDS IN ALLOWING STORM WATER TO BE ABSORBED IN THE SOIL AND TAKEN UP BY VEGETATION.
- REDUCING STREAM BANK EROSION
- DISPLACING POTENTIAL SOURCES OF NON-POINT SOURCE POLLUTION FROM THE WATERS EDGE
- SHADING SURFACE WATERS TO PREVENT EXCESS WARMING
- MAINTAINING BIOTIC DIVERSITY OF AQUATIC PLANTS AND WILDLIFE
- PREVENTING FLOOD RELATED DAMAGE AND ASSOCIATED COSTS TO SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES
- HELPING TO MAINTAIN ADEQUATE FLOWS OF FILTERED WATER TO UNDERGROUND AQUIFERS
- PROVIDING GREENWAY CORRIDORS FOR WILDLIFE

### BE A RESPONSIBLE PET OWNER

UNION BEACH HAS A "POOPER SCOOPER" LAW.  
ALL DOG OWNERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CLEANING UP AFTER THEIR PETS. PLEASE REPORT ALL VIOLATIONS TO THE UNION BEACH HEALTH DEPARTMENT.  
**732-264-2365**

Borough residents enjoy the beauty of residing near the waters of the Raritan Bay, Flat Creek, East Creek, Thorne's Creek and Chingarora Creek. However, the associated benefits are accompanied by threats of natural disasters, specifically hurricanes, nor'easters, flooding and the potential damage they bring to our shore-front community. Our entire 1.8 square mile Borough is affected by the tidal forces that have brought flood waters onto our roads and into our neighborhoods, businesses, and homes. As your Borough Council, we strive to prevent flooding due to accumulated debris and infiltration; and enact emergency notification and evacuation procedures.

Every Union Beach resident contributes to the overall success of our Borough preparedness. Please take a moment to review the enclosed information and follow the established guidelines. For further information, please contact the Borough Hall at (732) 264-2277.

**Services:** The map provides data on flood zone areas, locations of warning lights/sirens, and emergency evacuation routes. The official map is on record in Borough Hall, 650 Poole Avenue. Please contact the Building Department at (732) 739-1503 for more information on flood zones and the Office of Emergency Management for more information on the warning systems and evacuation routes.

The Borough of Union Beach Department of Public Works is responsible for the inspection and maintenance of the creeks and drainage systems on all Borough property as well as portions of the drainage systems and streams which are located on the easements dedicated to the Borough of Union Beach. Trash, debris, or obstructions in the Borough's drainage system or creeks should be reported to the Department of Public Works at (732) 264-1133.

**Citizen Responsibilities:** Property owners can do their part to remove debris and obstructions from ditches, streams, retention basins and drainage systems on their property. Leaves, grass clippings and branches can block systems and contribute to flooding.

Residents also have a duty to maintain public areas for the common protection and enjoyment of all citizens. The Borough Ordinance (Section 16-1.a.0) states it is unlawful to dump or throw, anything into the waters of any pond, lake, stream or other body of water in or adjacent to a park or any tributary stream, storm sewer, or drain flowing into such water. Any violations should be reported to the Union Beach Police Department at (732) 264-0313.

## FLOOD HAZARD SAFETY TIPS:

- Do not walk through flowing water. Currents can be deceptive. If you must walk, use a pole or stick.
- Move personal belongings and furniture to higher ground.
- Do not drive through a flooded area.
- Do not drive around road barriers, the road or bridge may be washed out.
- Stay away from power lines and electrical wires. Report downed power lines to JCP&L.
- Do not use appliances or motors that have gotten wet unless they have been taken apart, cleaned, and dried.
- Be aware of fallen debris, such as branches, wood, glass, or metal, since they may result in injury.
- Keep a battery-operated radio available to listen to the Union Beach radio station **1610 AM** for updates on flooding and evacuation.

**Flood Insurance:** If you don't have flood insurance, talk to your insurance agent. Home-owner's insurance policies do not cover damage from floods, but you can purchase a separate flood insurance policy which covers all surface floods because of the Borough's participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. There are approximately 960 flood insurance policies. If you have flood insurance, check the amount and make sure the contents are covered. Typically, there is more damage to furniture and contents than to the building itself.

## A FLOOD ZONE MAP IS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AT BOROUGH HALL

### "Take 10" and Help UNION BEACH Get What it Needs for the Next 10 Years

In March 2010, more than 130 million addresses will receive a **2010 Census** form by mail or hand delivery. The 2010 Census will document the changes in our nation since the last decennial census in 2000. Because census data affect how more than \$400 billion in federal funding is distributed to tribal, state and local governments, the census also will frame the future of our country and our community for the next 10 years.

During Census 2000, the mail participation rate was 72 percent as of the April 2000 cut-off. About \$85 million is saved for every one percent increase in mail participation. For these and many other reasons, we must work to encourage everyone's participation in the census.

Here's what you should know about the 2010 Census:

**It's easy.** One of the shortest census forms in history, the 2010 Census form asks 10 questions and takes about 10 minutes to complete. The individual in whose name the housing unit is rented or owned should complete the form on behalf of every person living there, both relatives and non-relatives.

**It's important.** Census data are used to reapportion seats in Congress and ensure proper district representation in state and local governments. Information from the census helps determine locations for child-care and senior centers, new roads, hospitals, schools and community centers.

**It's safe.** By law, the U.S. Census Bureau cannot share respondents' answers with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities. All Census Bureau employees take an oath of nondisclosure and are sworn for life to protect the confidentiality of the data. The penalty for unlawful disclosure is a fine of up to \$250,000 or imprisonment of up to five years, or both.

Finally, the most efficient way to respond to the 2010 Census is to complete the form as soon as it arrives and return it in the postage-paid return envelope. Census workers will visit households that do not return forms to take the count in person.

Mayor & Council are issuing a challenge to all Union Beach residents to increase the mail participation rate and help ensure a complete and accurate count in 2010. For more information about the 2010 Census and the "Take 10" initiative, visit [2010census.gov](http://2010census.gov).

## CATCH BASINS ALERT

- KEEP OUR STREAMS, CREEKS AND OUTFALLS CLEAN.
- DO NOT USE YOUR CURB LINE AS A TRASH CAN.
- DO NOT USE YOUR STORM CATCH BASIN AS A TRASH CAN.
- DO NOT USE STREAMS, CREEKS AND OUTFALLS AS A DUMP.
- THE ONLY THING THAT BELONGS IN A CATCH BASIN, STREAM, CREEK AND OUTFALL IS RAIN WATER.

### ANYTHING ELSE MAY VIOLATE FEDERAL, STATE & LOCAL LAWS.

## ADDITIONAL FLOOD INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT OR THROUGH THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES :

**FEMA DISTRIBUTION CENTER**  
P.O. BOX 2010  
JESSUP, MD 20794-2012  
800-480-2520

*COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING PUBLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE FREE:*

- HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE TO RETROFITTING.
- SIX WAYS TO PROTECT YOUR HOUSE FROM FLOODING. FEMA- 312, 1998
- DESIGN MANUAL FOR RETROFITTING FLOOD PRONE RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES, FEMA-114, SEPT. 1986
- ENGINEERING PRINCIPALS AND PRACTICES FOR RETROFITTING FLOOD PRONE RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS, FEMA- 259,1995

*THE FOLLOWING PUBLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE FROM:*

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS,  
ALBUQUERQUE DISTRICT**  
ATTN: CESA-ET-PH  
4101 JEFFERSON PLAZA, N.E.  
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87109-3435

- FLOOD PROOFING TECHNIQUES, PROGRAMS AND REFERENCES, FEBRUARY 1991
- FLOOD PROOFING: HOW TO EVALUATE YOUR OPTIONS, JULY 1993
- LOCAL FLOOD PROOFING PROGRAMS, JUNE 1994

## OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

TUNE INTO 1610 AM

FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION ON STORMS, FLOODING, AND OTHER PREVALENT EMERGENCIES. THE BLUE & WHITE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SIGNS THROUGHOUT TOWN WILL FLASH WHEN TO TUNE IN FOR INFORMATION. THIS IS A VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION THAT OFFERS A WIDE VARIETY OF SERVICES. FOR MORE DETAILS ON THE BOROUGH'S EMERGENCY WARNING SYSTEM, EVACUATION ROUTES OR TO JOIN, CALL (732) 264-7434

## UNION BEACH SIREN SEQUENCES:

FIRE: 16 SECOND UP & 6 SECONDS DOWN FOR 1-1/2 MINUTES

E.M.S: ONE STEADY TONE FOR 29 SECONDS

O.E.M.: 6 SECONDS UP & 6 SECONDS DOWN FOR 3 MINUTES

CIVIL DEFENSE TEST 8 P.M. EVERY NIGHT—8 SECOND TUNE

## UNION BEACH CHILDREN NEED YOUR HELP!

We are running a town wide challenge for the next 12 months.

Our Union Beach children **need your BOX TOPS**, your family, friends, co-workers, and anyone you know to help reach the maximum earn out of \$20,000. Other communities around the country have reached their maximum. If WE collectively join together, Union Beach can achieve this goal too.

This will work if WE get help from ALL 6,400 residents. Please ask everyone you know.

**Each BOX TOP earns \$ .10. We can hit our GOAL of \$20,000 if:**

6,400 residents gave (1) Box Top per week or 6,400 x \$ .10 = \$640 per week x 52 weeks = MAXIMUM EARN OUT. This effort would double, triple if you ask family, friends and co-workers.

BOX TOPS are everywhere and little effort is required to cut BOX TOPS. BOX TOPS are on hundreds of commonly used products from 82 different cereals, 45 snack items, 24 baking items, 12 childcare, 17 paper products, 22 storage and waste bags, 25 school supplies, 14 tableware and more. Qualifying Box Tops coupons can be found on packages of participating General Mills Big G cereals, Betty Crocker® products including Betty Crocker® fruit flavored snacks, Yoplait® yogurt multipacks, Yoplait® Go-GURT® yogurt, Gold Medal® flour, Green Giant® frozen meal kits and frozen sides, Old El Paso® products, Totino's® frozen snacks, Pillsbury® refrigerated and frozen products, Chex Mix® snack mixes, Cascadian Farm® cereals, Avery®, NESTLÉ®, Hefty®, S.C. Johnson Ziploc® and Kimberly-Clark products. For a complete list of participating products visit [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) (BTFE.com) or look on the products before placing them in the trash.

All that is required is to cut the BOX TOP coupon and drop them off at Memorial School, Town Hall, Library or Recycling yard office. Coupon will say BOX TOP EDUCATION and is usually located in top corners of boxes or plastic packaging. Each and every BOX TOP counts! Let's join together to see what we can achieve as a community.

**BOX TOPS are "free money", all that is needed is to cut them. A little effort can go a long way in helping our children.**

Every BOX TOP counts when added together, so join me and community residents to cut BOX TOPS. To assist further, please cut BOX TOPS along dotted line and check for expiration dates.

**Other ways you can help support the children is to:**

1. Log on to [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) or the shortcut version of [BTFE.com](http://BTFE.com) and sign up as a supporter for Memorial Elementary School – Union Beach. Each time you shop on line with participating vendors, Memorial Elementary School – Union Beach will earn a percentage for every product purchased.

*\* Since there are several Memorial Elementary Schools in the state/nation, please make sure you support the correct school which will read **MEMORIAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – UNION BEACH***

2. Enter to win Bonus Box Tops – (to enter see the EARN heading at the top of web site then scroll down to Bonus Box Tops), enter sweepstakes to help earn more money. Sweepstakes run often and you can enter daily in most cases. Some Sweepstakes can earn 50,000 Box Tops (which is \$5,000)! So log on an enter often

**\*\* Note: The website BTFE.com contains FREE money saving coupons !!!**

Sincerely,  
PTA of Union Beach

## New Jersey Natural Gas Offers Enhanced Rebates

**Over \$1,000,000 OF INCENTIVES HAVE BEEN PAID**

**SAVEGREEN** programs are available from New Jersey Natural Gas to help both residential and commercial customers save on the cost of energy-efficiency upgrades.

Residential customers who upgrade or replace a furnace or boiler could be eligible for up to \$1,200 in rebates as well as additional incentives. The first step is to install a furnace with an annual fuel utilization equivalent (AFUE) of 92 percent or greater, or a boiler with an AFUE of 85 percent or greater. Then, call NJNG at 1- 877-455-NJNG and schedule a FREE home energy audit, a \$125 value. Apply for a \$300 WARMAdvantage rebate from New Jersey's Clean Energy Program and an additional \$900 Enhanced Rebate from NJNG. Residents may then be eligible for up to \$1,000 of air sealing work at no cost. For furnaces with an AFUE of 95 percent or greater and boilers with an AFUE of 90 percent or greater, you may also be eligible for up to \$1,500 in federal tax credits. Residents who installed qualifying equipment on or after September 8, 2009 are eligible to apply for rebates.

For commercial customers, SAVEGREEN offers benefits through Direct Install, the newest program offered under NJ SmartStart Buildings. Direct Install was created for existing small to mid-sized commercial and industrial facilities with a peak electric demand that did not exceed 200 kilowatt (kW) in any of the preceding 12 months. Direct Install will evaluate, update and replace outdated equipment with energy-efficient alternatives and pay up to 80 percent of the cost! Systems and equipment addressed by the program include lighting, heating, cooling and ventilation, refrigeration, motors, natural gas and variable frequency drives. With these incentives, an upgrade project can pay for itself in less than two years.

For more information contact Susan Ellman of New Jersey Natural Gas at 732-378-4924 or [sellman@njng.com](mailto:sellman@njng.com).

## TRASH INFORMATION

PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL GARBAGE IS PLACED OUT CURBSIDE ON THE NIGHT BEFORE YOUR SCHEDULED PICK UP. ALL TRASH CANS SHOULD BE NO LARGER THAN 30 GALLONS AND WEIGH NO MORE THAN 50 LBS. ALL CANS SHOULD BE COVERED OR HAVE HOLES PUNCHED IN THE BOTTOM AS TO AVOID WATER/ SNOW ACCUMULATION IN THE CAN. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

## ATTENTION RESIDENTS

THERE IS NO OVERNIGHT PARKING IN ANY BOROUGH PARKING LOT

**DRIVE 25  
KEEP OUR KIDS  
ALIVE!**

## DON'T DUMP ON UNION BEACH

DUMPING GRASS, BRANCHES, LEAVES AND OR TRASH IN OR ON ANY EMPTY LOT, MARSH LAND, MEADOW, CURB LINE OR CATCH BASIN, WITHIN THE BOROUGH IS ILLEGAL AND VIOLATES BOROUGH, COUNTY, STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS. THE BOROUGH ACCEPTS AND OR PICKS UP MOST OF YOUR TRASH NEEDS. IF THE BOROUGH DOES NOT PICK UP, OR ACCEPT CERTAIN ITEMS, WE CAN DIRECT YOU TO WHERE THOSE ITEMS CAN BE BROUGHT. **REPORT ALL VIOLATORS TO THE UNION BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT @ 732-262-0313 OR THE UNION BEACH BOARD OF HEALTH @ 732-264-2365**

## Parking Pay Stations Coming to Beachfront:

Beginning this spring, there will be two new parking pay stations installed at the beachfront. These new parking stations will account for approximately 90 spaces in all. In order to park in the designated spaces, patrons of the beachfront will be required to pay for the necessary permit and place it within view on or in their vehicle.

Please note that ALL Union Beach residents will be eligible to receive Free Parking Permits for their vehicles by going to Borough Hall and providing proof of residence and documentation of proof of ownership of their vehicle(s).

Recognizing the need to generate revenue and to offset the costs associated with the year round maintenance of the beachfront, the Mayor and Council approved the implementation of these two parking pay stations so Non-Residents of Union Beach that frequent our waterfront pay their fair share of upkeep. Throughout this entire process, the Mayor and Council of Union Beach had insisted that ALL Union Beach residents be allowed to park for free because they already pay more than their fair share.

Should you have any questions, comments or concerns, you can contact the Union Beach Parking Committee located at 650 Poole Avenue, C/O Borough Clerk.

## DUMPSTER PERMITS REQUIRED

RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES UTILIZING PRIVATE DUMPSTERS FOR CLEAN UP AND OR DEMOLITION, MUST OBTAIN A PERMIT. THE PURPOSE OF THE PERMIT IS TO TRACK MATERIALS THAT ARE RECYCLED. WITH THIS INFORMATION THE BOROUGH RECEIVES CREDIT TOWARDS THE STATE'S ANNUAL RECYCLING GRANT. RESIDENTS THAT NEED TO PLACE DUMPSTERS ON ANY ROAD WITHIN THE BOROUGH MUST ALSO HAVE PERMIT APPROVED BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND/OR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. PLEASE CALL 264-1133 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

## ROAD OPENING PERMITS

ALL WORK BEING PERFORMED IN OR ON ANY ROAD WITHIN THE BOROUGH REQUIRES A ROAD OPENING PERMIT. ANY AND ALL WORK PERFORMED IN THE RIGHT OF WAY, ALSO REQUIRES A PERMIT. A FIVE YEAR MORATORIUM IS IN EFFECT ON NEWLY RECONSTRUCTED ROADS. NO ROAD OPENING PERMIT WILL BE ISSUED ON THESE STREETS. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION. PLEASE CONTACT PUBLIC WORKS AT 264-1133.

## KEEPING UNION BEACH LITTER FREE AND A CLEAN COMMUNITY

DURING THIS SPRING SEASON THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WILL BE PLACING TRASH CANS THROUGHOUT TOWN. THE RECEPTACLES WILL BE MAINTAINED BY THE BOROUGH AND BE PLACED ON SIDEWALKS ALONG THE CURB LINE ON MOST OF THE MAIN ROADS. THE PURPOSE OF THESE CONTAINERS IS TO KEEP LITTER OFF THE STREETS. PLEASE DO NOT USE THESE RECEPTACLES FOR HOUSEHOLD TRASH.

## ATTENTION UNION BEACH RESIDENTS

AT LONG LAST SPRING IS HERE, AND WITH IT COMES THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CLEANING UP THE OUTSIDE OF YOUR PROPERTIES. AS A PROPERTY OWNER YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY DEBRIS ACCUMULATING IN FRONT OF YOUR PROPERTY, IN YOUR YARD AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS. UNDER THE BOCA NATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE—1996 ADOPTED BY THE BOROUGH OF UNION BEACH, IT STATES:

"ALL EXTERIOR PROPERTY AND PREMISES SHALL BE MAINTAINED IN A CLEAN AND SANITARY CONDITION."

## RECYCLING IT'S THE LAW NOT JUST A GOOD IDEA!

RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES MUST RECYCLE NEWSPAPERS, CARDBOARD AND CO-MINGLE (GLASS, METAL, AND PLASTIC BOTTLES, CANS AND CONTAINERS). YOUR COMPLIANCE MEANS LOWERING TIPPING FEE COSTS AT THE LANDFILL AND COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECYCLING LAWS. RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES NEEDING FURTHER INFORMATION ON RECYCLING CAN CALL **732-264-1133**