



Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Phone: 908-204-3001; Fax: 908-204-3015; Website: www.bernards.org

September 6, 2021

Dear Bernards Township Resident,

On Wednesday September 1, 2021, Bernards Township along with many parts of the southern and northeastern United States was impacted by Ida. While Bernards was fortunate to avoid loss of life and widespread damage, many of our fellow citizens were not as fortunate.

In Bernards, the storm event was intense and most of the damage occurred during a window of approximately 4 hours. In this short time some residents experienced flash flooding in areas not previously impacted, residents near streams and rivers experienced heavy river flooding and many motorists were caught up in low areas on our roadways.

I would like to recognize our first responders including: the Bernards Township Police Department, Liberty Corner Fire Company, Basking Ridge Fire Company, Liberty Corner and Basking Ridge First Aid, Bernards Township Department of Public Works, and the Somerset County Dispatch for their tireless effort throughout the storm. Our first responders assisted with many motor vehicle water rescues, as well as several flooded homes.

Please be aware that the Township has extended the hours and added additional days to our Pill Hill Recycling Center to accommodate the influx of flood debris generated in the days ahead. The extended hours will be in place for the next 2 weeks and will be extended if needed (specific details and schedule on our Bernards Township website). If you have used up all your "card punches" for the year we will still accept debris to mitigate this emergency.

We have engaged with the Governor's Office and Somerset County Office of Emergency Management in the days after the storm. FEMA, American Red Cross, and County OEM are prepared to offer resources and support to those impacted by the storm. Links are found on our township website.

In closing, our hearts, prayers, and support go out to the families who lost loved ones throughout this great country and to our residents impacted by the flooding that took place. Our commitment to those impacted remains our priority. We are looking at ways to address the concerns that will arise in the days ahead. If I can personally assist you, please email me at jfields@bernards.org.

Sincerely,

Janice M. Fields
Mayor
Bernards Township