

8 September 2020

Residents of Marlborough,

As we enter into what can be the most active time of year for severe weather, I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself and share some useful information. It is a great honor and privilege to serve the town of Marlborough as Director of Emergency Management. It is my goal to leverage and build upon the many strengths of the department in service to our residents.

The most effective emergency management teams begin and end with the people of the town through a “whole community approach”. By doing all that we can to individually and collectively prepare for severe weather or other emergencies, we allow federal authorities, state and local police, fire, emergency services, public works and volunteer organizations to focus on their primary functions during an event.

The team is well versed in the core emergency management priorities of reducing loss of life, minimizing property loss and damage to the environment. We do a lot more than that in our day to day operations – but when an incident occurs these will be our primary areas of focus.

Although it is impossible to predict when the next significant event will impact our area – we all know that it will come. When it does, we ask that you do what you can to prepare yourself and your families in advance, and to keep an eye out for your neighbors. During and immediately after an event my team will focus on synthesizing information from Connecticut Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS), emergency services, public works, utilities and other resources in order to provide situational awareness and actionable information to town leadership. We understand how inconvenient it can be to lose power and other services. However, we do ask that when you interact with town employees from any office, please treat them as you would like to be treated. They are likely experiencing the same challenges at home that you are. Remember that it is impossible for everyone to be restored first.

During and immediately after an event, I will provide brief updates by way of the official Town of Marlborough Website and Town of Marlborough Facebook pages (links below). My plan is to provide as much information as possible, as soon as I can, dependent on staffing and prioritized activities outlined above. We recommend that you plan to obtain information regarding restoration of services directly from service providers who will always have the most accurate and up to date information after an event.

I would like to thank the Board of Selectmen for their confidence in my ability to lead the team and build upon their capabilities and reputation. We look forward to serving you all in the coming months.

Please see the links below for some helpful resources to assist you with preparing for severe weather, and for online resources that will help residents self-serve during an emergency. September is National Preparedness Month. Stay tuned for additional information about how you can ensure you and your loved ones are prepared during a crisis.

All the best!

Scott Fleeher

Emergency Management Director

Marlborough, CT