



Supervisor: (845) 688-7165
Police: (845) 688-9902
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"The Heart of the Park, .. Where the Eagle Soars"

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Group Letter to All Shandaken STR Owners.

As you all know, our area brings Many visitors due to its beauty. The mountains, streams, hollows, small winding roads, creeks, small bridges, lowlands, are just amazing. This beauty, though, can turn quickly during severe weather events. Heavy rains, ice, snow and high winds bring down trees, wires & block roads, flooding erodes the pavement, bridges and roads can be swept away.

This letter is directed to our Absent Owners of STR's. As far as our Owner Occupied & Resident owners: You folks know all this. You live in Shandaken as a Primary Resident, are here day in day out – year to year. You most likely were here during Irene and know the limitations and dangers of our area during a State of Emergency. You are on the property or nearby when your STR is being rented. You know what to do. During a catastrophic event – **Your guests are the safest they can be.** You are Golden to us! Carry On & Thank You.

Absent owners: **Please go to Youtube.com and search 'Hurricane Irene Shandaken, NY'.** Now, hurricanes don't happen much, BUT, Severe weather events do! Your guests are always at risk when this happens. When these trees come down on wires, **All power is lost. No phones, No Heat, No water, etc. Verizon land lines sometimes go out too, of course. We do not have cell towers here!**

Residents & Guests may be trapped, due to trees blocking driveways, roads, or bridge washouts. There is no way for you to know this. They cannot call anyone. **People panic** when these events happen, especially if the house is isolated. There may be no safe way for them to drive to town to see what happened. Our power outages are usually short. Maybe a few days at worst. It was about a week during Irene.

My advice, Don't Cheap Out on Hiring a Property Manager. Find someone you can trust and as local as you can. A person that knows the area, knows if your house is prone to flooding, or small bridges are near it, prone to tree damage, etc. Have an Emergency Plan for you house. Warn your guests about outages, and what to do. My questions to you:

- 1- **Do you have backup power or heat ? Is it safe & easy for guests to use?**
- 2- **Do you have Battery Operated Lanterns, Flashlights & a Battery Operated Radio available for guests?**
- 3- **Ask your property manager if they will check on guests or call emergency services to do so, if they can't get through to the house.**

Please talk to your Property Manager about all this. We want all our Visitors Safe. Thank You!
Joyce Grant Town Clerk/STR Licensing Officer