

NEWS



Edward A. Diana
Orange County Executive

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For Immediate Release

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Orange County Solicits Projects Eligible for State's Hurricane Irene – Tropical Storm Lee Flood Mitigation Grant Program

Goshen – Orange County announced today that it is now accepting applications from municipalities for projects eligible for New York State's Hurricane Irene – Tropical Storm Lee Flood Mitigation Grant Program, which is being offered through Empire State Development (ESD) and the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). This Program will provide eligible counties, including Orange County, with up to \$500,000 each for certain flood mitigation or flood control projects in streams impacted by Hurricane Irene or Tropical Storm Lee. **Deadline for submission of application forms to the County is Wednesday, February 15, 2012.**

The Grant Program will fund projects that would reduce potential threats to public and private infrastructure, with priority given to projects that demonstrate the greatest need, as well as projects that are able to leverage other federal, state, and local funding sources. Eligible projects include stream debris removal, gravel removal in or directly around bridges and culverts, stream bank stabilization and restoration, stream channel restoration, and culvert replacement. Farmers with eligible projects should submit their proposals via their municipality. Local or regional flood planning initiatives are not eligible under this program. No match is required and FEMA-eligible projects may not be submitted.

County Executive Edward A. Diana stated, "I encourage each municipality in Orange County to think critically about the streams in their community that were affected by the tropical storms and explore opportunities for collaboration so our County can take full advantage of this funding."

A full description of this Flood Mitigation Grant Program can be found at:

www.dec.ny.gov/lands/79243.html. Only counties are eligible to apply to this Program; municipalities interested in submitting projects to the County for potential inclusion in its submittal to the State should visit www.orangecountygov.com/planning to download an application form and instructions, or contact Julie Richmond of Orange County's Office of General Services: 845-291-2795 or jrichmond@orangecountygov.com, or Kelly Dobbins at kdobbins@orangecountygov.com or 845-615-3847.

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Eligible small businesses, not-for-profit organizations, farms, or owners of multiple dwellings that sustained direct physical losses to structures or items that have not or will not be compensated by any other federal, state or local recovery program should apply directly to ESD under the Hurricane Irene-Tropical Storm Lee Business Flood Recovery Program. For more information: [http://esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/Flood Recovery.html](http://esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/Flood_Recovery.html). In addition, farmers should also contact the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) regarding the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program. For more information: <http://www.ny.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/ewp/index.html>

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[Program Guidelines Attached as PDF](#)

