

  
**TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL**  
**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

HON. JOSEPH TEMPESTA, JR.

November 19, 2012

Dear Neighbor:

We would like to thank all West Caldwell residents for their patience and cooperation during and following Hurricane Sandy. We are pleased to report that due to the impact of this storm, we were again able to provide curbside pickup of most storm debris. The cleanup is expected to be completed Town wide before Thanksgiving. After Thanksgiving, we will return to our normal debris pickup program as outlined on the attached notice.

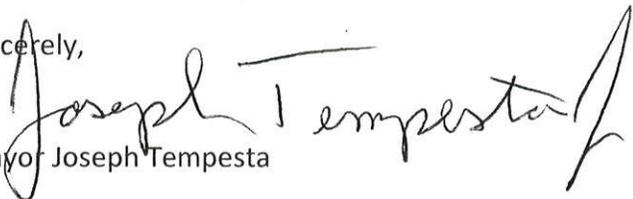
In the coming months, we will be investigating additional communication outlets in order to improve our ability to reach more residents during and following an emergency. In the meantime, we would like to encourage all residents to sign up for a service that was implemented earlier this year. If you visit the Township's website at [www.westcaldwell.com](http://www.westcaldwell.com), there is a link to the Swift 9-1-1 system. This system contains the published phone numbers of all residential and business properties in town and enables us to send out mass voice messages to those phone numbers. Residents who wish to provide their cell phone number and or e-mail address can also receive blast cell phone and e-mail text messages. However, for these extra services, you must provide your contact information at the Swift 9-1-1 link on the Township's website. There is no cost to sign up for the service.

After Hurricane Sandy, we made every effort to communicate with as many residents as possible through as many outlets as possible. The Mayor and Council conducted daily conference calls with staff to measure progress, prepare a plan of action for the coming day, and to communicate that information to residents as best and as often as possible. While we realize that those without power had limited access to our communications, which in themselves were hampered by loss of power and the telephone system at the municipal building, we were able to see daily improvements with the number of residents contacted.

Our staff worked long hours, seven days a week to reach out in-person to as many affected residents as possible. Our efforts to identify local causes for service disruption coupled with access to a PSE&G liaison enabled us to get specific repairs into daily work plans scheduled by PSE&G. As a result, West Caldwell residents had power restored days, and in some cases a week or more, sooner than in other neighboring communities.

Thank you again for your patience and assistance to the township and your neighbors during our recovery from this unprecedented storm.

Sincerely,

  
Mayor Joseph Tempesta