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**JANUARY 2024
NOTICE TO ALL PROPERTY OWNERS
REGARDING
FLOOD PROTECTION INFORMATION**

Dear Property Owner:

This letter is to inform you that your property is located in or near a flood hazard area known for past flooding problems, called a floodplain. The Village of Island Park is part of the Outer Barrier of Long Island. It is bordered on the West by Island Park Channel, a man-made canal. The southerly border is Reynolds Channel, and the Long Island Rail Road borders the Village to the East and North. In 2012, Hurricane Sandy produced extreme water elevations (10.89 ft) and widespread financial damage in the Village. Even though your property may not have been flooded recently, living in or near a flood zone means the risk of damage due to flooding is always present and you should take precautions. Someday, surge levels could affect your property and you should be prepared for the same.

Flood Safety

Handouts on flood safety measures and procedures are available at Island Park Village Hall and the Island Park Public Library. Some of the flood safety precautions included are: shutting off gas and electricity, staying away from power lines, not walking through flowing water, and not driving in flooded areas. Drowning is the number one cause of death during a flood; electrocution is the number two cause of death. Don't smoke, use candles or any other open flames unless you know that the gas has been turned off in the area; use a flashlight instead. In addition, the Island Park Public Library has a collection of reference materials on this subject. Refer to the Village's website for additional information related to flood readiness: <https://villageofislandpark.com/flood-readiness/>

Flood Insurance

Having a flood insurance policy may help pay for repairs after a flood and, in some cases, it may help pay for the cost of elevating a substantially damaged building. Approximately 95% of the homes in Island Park are located in the Flood Hazard area. Flood Insurance is available to all property owners and renters, not just for those located in flood zones. If you do not already carry flood insurance on your property, contact your insurance agent, as damage caused by flooding is not covered by the basic homeowner's insurance policy. Because the Village of Island Park participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), you can purchase a separate flood insurance policy. This flood insurance is backed by the federal government and is available to everyone. Carrying such a policy, even if you're not in a flood zone, is prudent because hurricanes and Nor'easters occur relatively often in our area. The Village has a handout

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on flood insurance requirements that may help people who are applying for a mortgage on a property that is in a flood hazard area. If you would like to make an inquiry, please contact the Building Department at 516-431-0600, between the hours of 9:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Monday-Friday.

Flood Insurance Maps

Additional flood data for a property, such as its FIRM (Flood Insurance Rate Map) zone and base flood elevation (BFE), may be obtained in the Building Department. The Building Department can also give you information on prior flooding, the actual depth of the BFE, and the location of Repetitive Loss Areas. There is no fee for any of this information. You can access more information, including flood maps and GIS (Geographical Information System) tools on FEMA's website: <https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps>

Retrofitting and Flood Proofing

You can protect your property by retrofitting, flood proofing and installing backflow devices on water lines and septic systems. Some measures include raising water heaters, furnaces, electrical panels and outlets above flood elevations. Re-grading your property or creating a small flood wall or earthen berm may help keep water away. This type of work would require a permit. Keep valuable items in the upper levels of the property or move them to the upper levels during a flood warning. The Building Inspector can visit your property and make recommendations regarding flood mitigation measures. Please contact the Building Department at 516-431-0600 to find out about financial assistance options.

What you can do to help

The Village strives to protect the grasses and other plants that grow along its shoreline of its various beaches and channels. This vegetation provides the natural and beneficial function of providing protection against erosion and improving water quality. Please make sure to sign up for CodeRED on the Village's website (<http://villageofislandpark.com/>) to get emergency alerts. CodeRED is an alert system that will contact residents in the event of a flood warning or other emergency. The Village receives flood warnings from the Nassau County Office of Emergency Management and the National Weather Service. Flood warnings from these agencies will be passed along to residents via CodeRED.

The Village of Island Park requires a permit for all development and alterations. For all substantial improvements to a property in a floodplain, flood protection measures must be incorporated into the initial plan. The Village has also implemented a drainage maintenance program to check drains throughout the Village to determine their effectiveness. Dumping in drains is strictly prohibited. Report any clogged or damaged drains to the Department of Public Works. Our environment thrives on a delicate balance between people, property, and nature. By following the requirements and recommendations outlined in this letter, you can help keep Island Park prepared for floods that may occur in the future.