

STORM RELATED STATE OF EMERGENCY

A storm- related emergency has been declared in Putnam County, Town of Philipstown and within the Village of Cold Spring starting at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, February 26th until Sunday, February 28th at 8:00 a.m. All non-essential vehicles should remain off the roadways to assist the highway department in snow removal. In the village, there will be no parking on village streets during the entire period of the snow emergency. This action was taken to assist our highway department, emergency personnel and Central Hudson.

Update on Storm and Power Outages and Restoration

From Mayor Seth Gallagher, 265-5508, mayor@coldspringny.gov

Friday, February 26– At 3:30 pm today the Village of Cold Spring, along with over 40 municipalities effected by power outages, participated a teleconference update from Central Hudson Operations Manager Steve Berger on the extent of damage to the Hudson Valley power grid and Central Hudson’s plans for power restoration.

Mr. Berger stated that the storm brought “devastation like nothing we have ever encountered”, and said it represented the single largest number of service interruptions in the Company’s history. This current storm follows a storm earlier in the week that caused roughly 100,000 power outages in areas of the Hudson Valley north of Putnam County. Mr. Berger estimated the number of outages at slightly under 150,000, with 50,000 in Dutchess County, and 4,200 out of 5000 customers in Putnam County (almost all of Central Hudson’s customers in Putnam are in Cold Spring, Nelsonville and the Town of Philipstown). Although the Village of Cold Spring is in the most highly effected area, and close to all of Philipstown and most of Nelsonville are without electricity, only a few parts of Cold Spring lost power in the storm. The Village areas effected include Pine, Paulding, Parrott, Parsonage, Bank and West Bank Streets.

Central Hudson currently has four times the number of field crews working to assess the damage and restore power, with many crews coming from outside other parts of the County such as Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Ohio. At least one hundred additional field forces are on the way from other electric utilities.

Update to Officials Scheduled for 3:30 pm Saturday, Leaflet to Follow.

Central Hudson is still working on the initial phase of damage assessment in the most highly effected area which includes Cold Spring but is not yet able to give an estimate on when power could be restored in the Cold Spring area. Mr. Berger asked for an additional 24 hours for assessment and scheduled a teleconference update at 3:30 pm Saturday, February 27th. The Mayor will participate in that update and relay information on power restoration to effected residents by leaflet dropped at their homes. Residents can also call 265-4883 for a message update on the Cold Spring Highway Dept.

As always for emergencies, you should call 911. In addition, if you need other emergency related information please call Mayor, Seth Gallagher, at 265-5508. If there is no answer leave a message and he will get back to you as soon as possible.

Until power is restored, residents may find the following information useful:

Residents can obtain a **ride to the area shelter**, located at the Putnam Valley Senior Center, by calling (845) 225-4673.

The Cold Spring Fire Company, 154 Main Street, has heat, electrical service and generator backup. This location can be used as an **emergency warming area**. For access, please contact Mayor Gallagher at 265-5508.

The Butterfield Library plans to be open tomorrow (Saturday, February 27th) from 10 am to 5 pm. At this time, the library has heat, electrical power and internet access. Perhaps this would be a good place to recharge your cell phone.

The Fishkill Town Hall will distribute **dry ice** tomorrow starting at 11:00 am.

The answering machine at the Village of Cold Spring Highway Garage (265-4883) will be used by the Mayor to provide periodic **storm-related updates**.

We realize that this storm has created a great hardship. Please be assured that your government officials are working closely with Central Hudson and Emergency Management to keep residents informed about the status of electrical service restoration. Until power is restored, please remember to keep safety first. Never use outdoor gas or propane heaters or charcoal grills indoors. They pose a fire hazard, and over time can give off deadly carbon monoxide gas. For the safety of our pedestrians, we are asking property owners to clear their sidewalks of snow and ice and to refrain from depositing snow back onto the roadways.