

# ROAD SAFETY



**Emergency orders may restrict travel in the hours or days immediately following a hurricane. Southampton Town officials urge residents to stay at home and not venture out needlessly. More injuries and fatalities occur after a major storm event than as a result of the weather itself. Immediately after the storm, the first mission of the Town will be the clearing of downed trees and debris from Town owned roads for emergency vehicle use. This is done before any cleanup operation will commence.**

- Obey emergency orders including curfews. They are mandatory and will be re-evaluated daily. Anyone out during curfew could be subject to arrest.
- Under a declared State-of-Emergency, no one except authorized emergency personnel and highway crews are permitted on the roads. The less traffic the Highway Dept. has to deal with the quicker the cleanup process will be.
- Driving is extremely hazardous with storm debris on the roads, traffic signals that aren't working, signs that are down, flooding and downed power lines. Do not drive unless absolutely necessary. If you must drive please drive slowly and approach all intersections with caution.
- Do not visit disaster areas. Your presence may slow down emergency operations.
- Avoid weakened bridges and washed out roads. Do not drive into flooded areas. Never drive through flooded roadways. The depth of the water is not always obvious. Also, the road bed may not be intact under flood waters.
- If there is danger of flooding and your vehicle stalls, leave it immediately and seek higher ground. Rapidly rising water may engulf the vehicle and its occupants, sweeping you away.
- Roads may be closed for your protection. Signs, barrels or other barriers across the road mean that the road is closed and that obvious hazardous conditions exists. If you come upon a barricade or flooded road, do not enter. Downed trees and power lines may force you to use unfamiliar roads. Prepare by placing a map in your car.
- Obey all flagmen when entering a work zone. Proceed slowly and with extreme caution. Be prepared to stop at all times.
- Approach all LIRR crossings with caution and stop before crossing tracks.
- Treat intersections with missing/non-working traffic signals or missing stop signs as a four-way stop.

***The following four-way stop procedure should be used at intersections where traffic signals are not functioning or stop signs are missing.***

1. All vehicles must stop.
2. The driver of the first vehicle to stop at the intersection shall be the first to proceed.
3. If two or more drivers reach the intersection at the same time, the driver on the left shall yield to the vehicle on the right.
4. When traffic signal regains power, it may flash red or yellow. Drivers should stop at the flashing red light and proceed cautiously through a flashing yellow light.