

Town of North Castle

Supervisor

Michael J. Schiliro

E-News Update

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

North Castle restoration is a focus for Con Ed today, but we still have the final 10 roads with power lines that we are clearing today too. We had one full crew that worked all night clearing downed lines. If you see crews, please let them work. They are not aware of big picture dispatch, especially if they are from out-of-state. The more that people interrupt their work, the slower they finish each job. Trust that we work on this constantly and we are getting everything done that is humanly possible with the resources that Con Ed is providing and that we are fighting for. Here's a simple analogy; think 50 Governors fighting for PPE from the Federal Government during Covid. We have 48 local municipalities in Westchester fighting for Con Ed resources. Neither situation should exist, but they do thus we need to adapt.

Here is our real time update:

- **Outages:** Our outages reduced from 2,596 to 1,949, but this number is fluid. So that would mean another 650 restored since yesterday. So that gets us to about 38% of Town still out, so if you're in the 38% nothing you've read so far is any consolation, but my honest assessment is that today should be a very productive day. And as I mentioned prior, Con Ed cannot restore every outage simultaneously, thus everyone comes on in phases with no preferential treatment, just by priority of safety areas, clustered restorations, primary feeders, etc. Some of you are complaining that particular size homes, or certain streets, or houses, or neighborhoods, are being turned on first in favor of theirs, or their street is always last (we've had about 30 "last streets" so far). Folks, we don't play favorites!!! It's triage! I've advised several times to prepare for the worst, not to rely on Con Ed estimates, and trust that we are doing everything possible. If you choose not to believe that, that's your choice, but it's the truth.
- **Restoration:** As I've mentioned, be cautious about relying on Con Ed's estimated time of restoration. They are still projecting most of the Town will be restored by 3pm on Monday, but that's still a projection and note the word "most". As I said above, we do have numerous restoration crews in Town today, which include crews from Virginia, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Arkansas, and Michigan! Some jobs are bigger and more complicated than others. As example, Con Ed advised that their High Street section restoration yesterday was more complicated than expected,

so they only re-energized tens of homes, not hundreds, but will continue to restore all. Con Ed's preparedness and response is woefully inadequate, we all know that, but we are just focused on power restoration. There is plenty of time to once again deal with their infrastructure and operations, and their hearings will occur end-Aug/beginning September. But without competition, it's difficult to effect real change. (For Seinfeld fans, maybe it's time for cousin Jeffrey to work with Con Ed and revamp **that** entire operation. Sorry, needed some levity).

- **Town's Response:** As mentioned prior, we provide real-time updates to Con Ed, we escort crews from location to location, we communicate and pressure our Con Ed reps throughout each day, and our own employees (Police, Highway, Parks, Water/Sewer, Volunteer Fire Departments, etc.) are committed to helping Con Ed restore everyone.

STATUS ON ROAD OPENINGS: The number one priority of the Town remains to clear roads to allow for emergency vehicle access ("Cut and Clear"). We had a 3 crews out yesterday, one large crew overnight, and crews out today. We have 10 roads left; should be done today.

NOTE: The Town cannot independently clear a tree that involves wires – the wires must be removed by Con-Edison personnel. Also, you will see tree debris on the roadsides for many weeks. Our highway department will get to this over time, so it will not disappear quickly. Please be patient.

As of 11 AM Sunday, August 9th:

Total Roads impacted: 73

Total Roads that are now passable in North Castle: 63

Roads that are closed in North Castle with wires down: 10

IMPORTANT REQUEST REGARDING CON ED

COMMUNICATIONS IN THE FIELD: If Con Ed field staff communicates to you that they are waiting for the Town for repairs or to call us to report an outage, you are being misinformed. We wait for Con Ed to arrive to complete jobs, they don't wait for us. It continues to be a source of frustration for all muni officials.

TEMPORARY OUTAGES: Just a reminder, that it's common during restoration that if you have power, you may temporary lose power; it's called a "deliberate shutdown" or being "De-energized". In the process of restoring certain properties, sometimes they must cut power to a broader area in order to complete, and then restore everyone in that area. If this happens to you, you can call Con Ed and they may be able to confirm, but odds are your power loss is short term.

CHARGING STATION / WATER:

Armonk: We have a 24/7 charging station outside of the

Hergenhan Rec Center on Maple Ave and on the Whippoorwill Road East side of the Library. There are a finite number of outlets, bring your own cords and plugs, wear masks, bring disinfectant, etc. Also, we connected a hose in the rear of the building for those with well water who need water to flush, etc. Fortunately, this is a popular item for residents.

North White Plains Community Center: We also have a 24/7 charging station outside of the Center on the beautiful outdoor deck. There are a finite number of outlets, bring your own cords and plugs, wear masks, bring disinfectant, etc. We have also set up a hose as well if needed.

Community Park Drive: The Town has provided a filling station for potable drinking water in Community Park (aka IBM Park) situated on the left side of the access road entrance.

DRY ICE: NORTH CASTLE LOCATION ADDED! Con-Edison has information vans located at the following locations. Dry Ice distribution will begin today, Sunday, August 9th, between 10:30 AM and 9 PM. Police Chief Simonsen was dogged in his pursuit of a dry ice station in North Castle; I formally requested it last night, and it was established this morning.

- The North Castle Community Park, 205 Business Park Drive, in Armonk. Distribution will be from 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. or until supplies run out.
- The Cross-County Shopping Center, 8000 Mall Walk, Yonkers. Distribution will be from 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. or until supplies run out.

Con-Edison Spoiled Food Claim Form:

Con-Edison has expanded their claims policy for customers who have been without power for 48 hours or more since Thursday 8/6 to cover spoiled food, medication, or perishable commercial merchandise. Both forms are located on the Con-Edison [File a Claim](#) page.

REPORTING TELECOM ISSUES – FIOS / ALTICE, ETC.: If you have issues, call your provider directly and get a ticket number. Then email my Executive Assistant Mindy Berard (mberard@northcastleny.com) with that ticket number, your name, address, provider and the number associated with the account and she will pass to the County. County Executive George Latimer has dedicated staff to perform the follow up for you on this. It's a huge help!

NO SHELTER / WORKING ON WIFI: As you know, our own NC4 (North Castle Citizen Corps Council) always establishes an emergency shelter at a moment's notice. Unfortunately due to Covid, we cannot at this time. However, we are working on various WIFI opportunities; as soon as we have a positive update I will advise.

REPORTING POWER OUTAGES:

Call Con Edison directly: (800) 752-6633 or visit their website

at www.coned.com. Every residence should report their own outage directly to Con Edison in order for them to create a ticket.

You can also sign up for Con Edison Text Alerts by [Clicking Here](#). And while on their website, you can find a [“map of outages”](#) and customize right down to North Castle.

EMERGENCIES and HAZARDS:

In case of Emergency call the North Castle Police Department (NCPD): 273-9500.

Please register for NIXLE to receive Police and Highway Alerts www.nixle.com.

If you use life-support Equipment – register with Con-Edison by filling out the life support equipment form on the [Con-Edison website](#).

Dangerous conditions still exist like weak limbs, etc. Please be careful!!

CAUTION: Do not drive around Police barriers or yellow Caution Tape once a road is closed. The NCPD closes a road because a hazard exists, and NEVER ATTEMPT TO TOUCH WIRES.

COVID: Don't forget – MASK UP!!! Keep distancing!!! Model Good Behavior and get used to it as it will be around for a while. A quick date update: We remain well below the county average of incident rates per population. We currently (no update from 8/8) have 10 positive cases in Town, and our total since Covid began is 217. We can report these numbers, but that is all that we can and will report, thus please understand and appreciate that due to confidentiality laws, emails to us asking for any further info regarding details will not be responded to.

It's easy to lose focus on Covid with this aggravating storm and power outage, but we can't let our guard down. Also, if you have questions regarding your child's school attendance, you should direct those to your school district.

SOCIAL MEDIA FOR TOWN INFO: As always, follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

I along with the Town Board and Town Administrator fully understand the inconvenience and utter frustration. And I'm not just saying that; we do. I know I definitely look like I haven't had power in 5 days.

Stay safe!

Mike

NORTH CASTLE COUNTS

The 2020 Census is happening NOW!
Online, by phone, or by mail



2020census.gov

English:
844-330-2020

Español:
844-468-2020

Sign up for emergency alerts via
NIXLE

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