



Gary R. McCarthy
Acting Mayor

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, September 30, 2011

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Schenectady Stockade Adopt-a-Neighbor Volunteer Day Saturday, October 1, 2011

Volunteers to meet at tennis courts Ingersoll Avenue and North Street

SCHENECTADY – The City of Schenectady's Adopt-a-Neighbor volunteers will gather at the Stockade tennis courts, located between Ingersoll Avenue and North Street on Saturday, October 1, 2011 at 10:00 a.m., to assist in cleanup and rehabilitation efforts focused on helping residents who were affected by Tropical Storms Irene and Lee. Volunteers will be divided into teams and dispatched into various areas of the Stockade neighborhood.

“Programs like this one, with neighbors helping neighbors, demonstrate the feeling of community shared by Schenectady residents,” said Acting Mayor McCarthy.

The idea for the program came to be through a conversation between Solid Waste Supervisor Bill Macejka and Acting Mayor Gary McCarthy. Macejka was describing the situation of a former city employee who was victimized by the flood and wanted to find a way to help him out. When the discussion shifted towards ways that the city could help *all* residents affected by the flooding, Acting Mayor McCarthy and Supervisor Macejka came up with the idea of the Adopt-A-Neighbor Program.

In addition to the volunteers who have signed up over the past two weeks, several different groups will be volunteering their time including the Office of General Services, Waste Collection, Code Enforcement, Fire Department, Habitat for Humanity, Glenmont, New York Job Corps and students from Union College.

Lunch will be provided for volunteers courtesy of Capri Imports, Polar Beverage, Union Pizza, Glenville Subway, Mike's Hot Dogs, Bad Pig Saloon and Deanna's Courtside Cafe.

Volunteers will be carrying out a variety of tasks such as cleanup and minor building rehabilitation. Trade professionals will work with teams performing construction and helping with damage assessments. Other volunteers will assist FEMA with insurance paperwork.

Mayor McCarthy said, ***“The community’s response to our ‘call to service’ has been gratifying and reaffirms our connections to each other.”***