



March 9, 2013

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Notice to Members regarding our Emergency Contact Program

Stay at Home in Wilton (SHWIL) is about to celebrate its third year of operation. During this time, we have seen several situations of extreme weather (storms) that were severe enough to be declared emergencies by the Town of Wilton through the Emergency Alert System (EAS). The most serious of these were: the Hurricanes Irene and Sandy; and the Halloween Snow Storm in 2011.

In response to these potential extreme weather problem, the SHWIL organization has initiated a program designed to identify our members who might be at risk during a serious storm disruption or similar event. We had an opportunity to use this system during the most recent snow storm of February 8 and 9, which was also declared an EAS emergency by Town officials. Fortunately, the Town did not experience widespread electricity outages during this recent storm.

The purpose of this letter is to give you an introduction to the procedures that the SHWIL will put into use in instances of Town emergencies. Under this system, each SHWIL Board member has been given a contact list (usually consisting of three or four persons) to call in the event of an EAS emergency. Board members will call their contact list to alert you to the declared emergency and to determine your situation, i.e. living alone or in need of any special assistance. If possible, these calls are to be made before the event and subsequently, after the event, to further assess the member's situation, and to see how we can be of assistance.

It is important for you to realize that if you face a real emergency, you should dial 911 immediately. This effort by the SHWIL board members is just to be helpful in resolving any issues that you face that are not immediately threatening of your wellbeing. We will do our best to help out, but you should not rely on us if you have a real emergency.

Sincerely,

Phil Richards
President