

June 6, 2013

Dear Westwood Residents,

Weather forecasts for tonight into tomorrow call for significant rainfall as Tropical Storm Andrea tracks north along the East Coast and into Northern New Jersey. Several inches of rain are expected.

Current conditions in the Woodcliff Lake Reservoir have the water elevation at 94.45 feet, leaving only 0.55 feet of capacity before the maximum 95 foot elevation is reached. The Oradell Reservoir is currently at 22.61 feet leaving only 0.55 feet of capacity before exceeding its spillway crest.

With the current conditions as they are, the expected rainfall amounts may create the potential to cause flooding in historically susceptible neighborhoods in both Westwood and Hillsdale.

On behalf of the residents and businesses located in the flood prone areas of Westwood and Hillsdale, early this morning I had respectfully requested that the NJDEP require that United Water immediately begin to draw down the water elevation in both the Woodcliff Lake and Oradell Reservoirs.

I have received notification from the Governor's office that a meeting was held with NJDEP officials this morning and the State's technical experts are not recommending a water release at this time.

I strongly advise all residents living in flood prone areas to take all necessary precautions to secure your property should water levels continue to rise.

The Borough of Westwood Office of Emergency Management will be providing updates as the storm tracks closer to Westwood.

Please know that we will do everything in our power to ensure the safety of our residents should this storm continue on its projected path.

Sincerely,

Borough of Westwood

John Birkner, Jr. - Mayor