



A message from

Assemblymember Brindisi...

Last summer, the U.S. Department of Agriculture designated Oneida County as a natural disaster area after being hit by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. The record-breaking storms left behind millions of dollars in property damage. To assist local families affected by the storms, a number of government grants were created to help alleviate recovery costs. These grants are still available for those affected by the storms. I encourage all who are eligible to apply.

Business Flood Recovery Grant Program:

A \$21 million relief fund for sustained and direct physical flood-related damage providing up to \$20,000 per eligible entity.

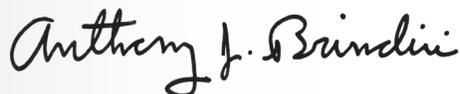
Eligibility:

- Any small-business owner, not-for-profit organization, farm or owner of multiple dwellings that sustained physical damage
- Sustained loss incurred on or after Aug. 28, 2011, for Hurricane Irene and Sept. 7, 2011, for Tropical Storm Lee

The New York Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Oneida County Local Government Education Committee are hosting an **OPEN HOUSE ON TUESDAY, FEB. 7, FROM 4-8 P.M.**, in the Gannett Gallery of Kunsela Hall at SUNYIT to further discuss the impact Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee had on the Mohawk Valley. Additionally, advice on flood insurance will be offered. Anyone who would like more information or the opportunity to voice their concerns is welcome to attend.

In our current economic climate, it is essential that our young people gain valuable work experience and that we take vital steps in bettering our region's financial stability. Through the **NY Youth Works Program**, Mohawk Valley **businesses can receive tax breaks** for hiring, training and retaining at-risk or disadvantaged youths between the ages of 16 and 24, helping jumpstart their entry into the workforce and put a new generation on the path to economic prosperity right here in our community.

To learn more or to apply for the Business Flood Recovery Grant, visit <http://esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/FloodRecovery.html> or call 518-292-5340. For general questions on the flood insurance plan, contact the DEC at 518-402-8185. For questions on the NY Youth Works Program, visit www.labor.ny.gov/careerservices/youth-tax-credit.shtm. And as always, if you have any questions regarding these or any other important community issues please call my office at 732-1055 or email me at brindisia@assembly.state.ny.us.



Anthony J. Brindisi
Member of Assembly