EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

All the disasters that are frequently shown on television came home to Canaan. In February we had an ice storm, August brought a tornado plus a visit from the National Weather Service and finally within one week we experienced tropical storm Irene.

Canaan’s Emergency Management Program responded through the cooperation of Fire, Police and Highway to minimize the impact on our residents. Irene caused the greatest need for storm response as all town emergency responses joined together under our emergency operations plan to mitigate damage to Canaan. Our emergency response center coordinated all efforts for almost two days straight. Emergency Management provided necessary information to residents. We also participated in the statewide conference calls during this time as we tried to anticipate residents’ needs and coordinate our requests for state and federal aid during Irene.

The team continued daily efforts for a week on an as needed basis to help residents recover from a weather event that seems to be occurring more often in New Hampshire.

Finally in relation to Irene we began the long process of working with FEMA to complete the required paperwork to recuperate funds covering expenses encumbered for storm work and in repairing infrastructures damaged by the storm.

Respectfully submitted,

William Bellion
Emergency Management Director