

With a high volume of media coverage in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, Good Jobs New York is keeping the spotlight on how government money is proposed to be spent in the rebuilding process. For more information on transparency and opportunities for community involvement, follow us on Twitter @GoodJobsNewYork #EyeOnSandyMoney. Also, let us know how we can adjust this alert to make it better

## Keeping an eye on Hurricane Sandy recovery dollars Weekly News Round-up: July 11-18

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### New from GJNY

Dazed and confused about the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013? We can help. Check out Good Jobs New York's new tool to help New Yorker's understand the Federal Disaster Relief Act and New York City's plan for the first round of CDBG funds.

[At-a-Glance: Federal Disaster Relief After Hurricane Sandy](#)

联邦政策一瞥：飓风桑迪救援资金分配 - (中文) ([In Chinese](#))

### This Week's News

#### Disaster Relief

Charity watchdog group, Disaster Accountability Project, filed a complaint with the New York State Attorney General against the American Red Cross alleging the charity changed eligibility rules leading over 1000 Hurricane Sandy victims who were promised recovery grants to be denied. [The Wall Street Journal](#) and [New York Daily News](#)

ALSO: The office of the New York State Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman released an [interim report](#) [pdf] on how large charities have handled donations for Hurricane Sandy relief, including the American Red Cross. [The New York Times](#)

ALSO: The New York State Attorney General is requiring an accounting of Sandy-related contributions of 50 charitable organizations. Though \$575 million was raised by 89 charities for Sandy relief in New York, 42% remains unspent. [Office of the Attorney General Press Release](#)

Gov. Christie announced that the federal government approved home buyouts for 129 flooded properties in Sayreville. New Jersey will use \$300 million in FEMA funds to purchase approximately 1,000 flood-vulnerable properties in the state. [The Star-Ledger](#) and [NJ Biz](#)

Gov. Christie announced \$28 million in CDBG grants for Toms River to maintain public services including police, firefighters and the regional school district. Toms River's property tax base decreased 18% after Hurricane Sandy. [Asbury Park Press](#)

Mayor Bloomberg and the New York City Economic Development Corporation [announced](#) "Water Street POPS!" a series of free events in public plazas this summer designed to attract business to Lower Manhattan's Water Street Corridor. [Staten Island Advance](#)

皇后区商业论坛助小商家发展 - U.S. Rep. Grace Meng (D-Queens) [hosted](#) a Queens Small Business Summit. The forum included representatives from federal and city agencies to help provide Sandy-impacted small businesses access to recovery assistance. [The Epoch Times](#)

## NEW Transparency Tip:

Reports and public notices available at [NYC Recovery](#)

Like our weekly round-up? Please forward to a friend.

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### Rebuilding Infrastructure

A national shortage of beach grass is delaying dune restoration projects in New York City and Long Island. [Crain's New York Business](#)

A new report by the U.S. Department of Energy describes how the national energy system is vulnerable to severe weather events like Sandy, and details how energy infrastructure is compromised. [The New York Times](#)

Today's New York Rising Storm Recovery Conference featured HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan for the launch of Gov. Cuomo's "[New York Rising Community Reconstruction Program](#)" designed to help New Yorkers rebuild after natural disasters that have hit the state in the past two years. [AP via Newsday](#)

In this in-depth look at the history of "beach nourishment" by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers along the Jersey Shore, some geologists question the sustainability of the practice. [The New Yorker](#)

A sea wall, built in 1882 and buried after years of natural sand movement, was key in protecting the neighborhood of Bay Head, New Jersey. [Science Daily](#)

桑迪导致严重破损史岛寄兴园急待修复 – The Chinese Scholar's Garden in Staten Island, the only traditional Chinese Garden on the East Coast, was seriously damaged by Sandy and needs funds to repair it. [Sing Tao Daily](#)

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### Housing

FAR-ROC (For A Resilient Rockaway) Design Competition finalists have been [announced](#). The competition is seeking innovative storm-resilient strategies for development in the Arverne East section of the Rockaways.

Mortgage lenders and homeowners are uncertain about how much national flood insurance premiums will increase as they wait for finalized FEMA flood hazard maps which will determine insurance rates. [The New York Times](#)

Gov. Cuomo [signed](#) new legislation that will allow Breezy Point, Queens homeowners to expedite certain building permit requirements. [New York Daily News](#)

桑迪「災區地稅未知會否大加」 – Many coastal towns in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut may not see significant tax increases due to federal aid to these municipalities. [The Associate Press](#) and [Sing Tao Daily](#)

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### Jobs

New York City Public Advocate and mayoral candidate Bill de Blasio discussed the need for a jobs plan for Coney Island and criticized the Bloomberg Administration's recovery efforts, particularly the mold removal program. [Brooklyn Daily Eagle](#)

## Advocacy News

List your upcoming event here! Email [elizabeth@goodjobsfirst.org](mailto:elizabeth@goodjobsfirst.org)

HUD Design competition [Rebuild by Design](#) responses to the Request for Qualifications are due **Friday, July 19**.

Hurricane Sandy relief volunteer opportunities in New York City are listed at [New York Cares](#)

### Manhattan

Friday, July 26, 9:00-10:30 am: [Auxiliary Power: Backup Strategies that work](#). Facility managers, plant operators, developers, and property owners are welcome to attend the latest installment of the Resiliency Speakers Series organized by Enterprise Community Partners, Inc. Sessions will also be available via Webex. Please [register](#).

SAVE THE DATE: Wednesday, July 31, 11:00 am. Join the [Alliance for a Just Rebuilding](#) for the *Walk & Rally to Remember Sandy, Revive Our City*. Delegations of those impacted by Hurricane Sandy from Queens and Staten Island will meet at South Ferry Station. More information coming soon.

### Queens

New York Cares project, [Play and Read at Goldie Maple Academy](#) in the Rockaways section of Queens focuses on the long term rebuilding needs of the area and is seeking volunteers for July.

### Long Island

Monday, July 29, 3:00-6:00 pm Nassau County Bar Association will present two free mortgage foreclosure and Sandy recovery clinics. NCBA Headquarters located at 15th and West Streets in Mineola. Reservations are required: 516-747-4070.

### New Jersey

SAVE THE DATE: Tuesday, October 29, 2013: Superstorm Sandy: One Year Later conference. Monmouth University, West Long Branch, N.J. Presented by Monmouth University, New Jersey Future, New Jersey Recovery Fund.

The Christie Administration [released](#) best practices for treating mold in flooded homes. Additionally, the New Jersey Department of Health will offer training sessions in mold removal and assessment.

## Advocacy Reports

New York City Public Advocate Bill de Blasio documents the efforts of community-based organizations providing disaster relief services for low-income families after Sandy: [Supporting Community-Based Disaster Response: Lessons Learned from Hurricane Sandy](#)

The Center for Urban Real Estate: [NYC 2040: Housing the Next One Million New Yorkers](#)

American Planning Association-New York Metro Chapter for the Rockaway Development & Revitalization Corporation: [Getting Back to Business: Addressing the Needs of Rockaway Businesses Impacted by Superstorm Sandy](#)

The Sandy Regional Assembly, made up of environmental justice organizations, community-based groups, labor unions, and advocates have released [Recovery from the Ground Up: Strategies for community-based resiliency in New York and New Jersey](#). Based on input from grassroots groups identifying priority projects for the Sandy recovery process, the Recovery Agenda includes priorities of low-income people, communities of color, immigrants, and workers.

The [2013 CoreLogic Storm Surge Report](#) ranks storm surge risk for U.S. metropolitan areas; New York metro region is ranked number 1. New Orleans is number 5.

Climate Central, [Hurricane Sandy's Untold Filthy Legacy: Sewage](#)

The Pratt Center for Community Development has [published](#) a series of maps documenting the storm's impacts on low-income residential communities and Industrial Business Zones.

Enterprise Community Partners, ['Measuring the Response to Hurricane Sandy'](#)

Food Bank For New York City, [Hurricane Sandy Response: 100 Days of Meeting the Needs](#)

Furman Center for Real Estate & Urban Policy, [Sandy's Effects on Housing in New York City](#).

The Alliance for a Just Rebuilding released [Sandy's Mold Legacy: The Unmet Need Six Months After the Storm](#); Other reports include: [After Sandy, Prioritizing the Vulnerable and Displaced: Fixing Major Flaws in City Hall's Disaster Recovery Planning](#)

## Federal, State & Local Resources

**UPDATED:** [The New York State Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services Sandy Recovery Resource Guide](#), updated July 9, 2013.

**NEW:** Report by the U.S. Department of Energy: [U.S. Energy Sector Vulnerabilities to Climate Change and Extreme Weather](#). Part of the Obama Administration's national climate change adaptation planning, this report examines current and potential impacts of climate trends on the nation's energy sector. It includes an interactive map showing the location of current climate vulnerabilities in the energy sector.

[Hurricane Sandy: An Assessment of Impacted Commercial Corridors and Recommendations for Revitalization](#) [pdf]. This report by the New York City Department of Small Business Services and the New York City Economic Development Corporation provides an assessment of commercial corridors in Brooklyn, Staten Island, Manhattan, and Queens.

The New York City Economic Development Corporation released its RFP for the "Neighborhood Game Changer" competition. Winning proposals will receive up to \$18 million in CDBG funds to support the proposed project. Deadline for submission is Monday, September 9, 2013. [NYCEDC Press Release](#)

Institute for Public Knowledge on the immediate aftermath of Sandy and the rebuilding process. [Superstorm Sandy Research Initiative](#)

Report by the New York City Department of City Planning Sustainable Communities Consortium, [Designing for Flood Risk](#) and [Urban Waterfront Adaptive Strategies](#)

Updated [Hurricane Evacuation Maps](#) for New York City

For more resources, visit Good Jobs New York's [Keeping an Eye on Hurricane Sandy Recovery Money](#)

### **We'd love to hear from you!**

Check out our resources on Hurricane Sandy money at our website. Or follow us on Twitter: @GoodJobsNewYork #EyeOnSandyMoney. Please forward your suggestions on how we can make this round-up more useful to you in your work.

### **Contact us**

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