

April 11, 2016

Re: Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)

Dear Neighbor;

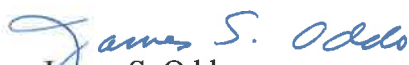
As you are no doubt aware, wildfire season is once again upon us. This annual occurrence threatens both lives and property, and we at Borough Hall want to work together with the community to minimize the potential dangers of a phragmites-fueled brushfire.

There are common-sense steps you can take to protect your home and property from a brushfire, the most important of which is to keep your back and side yard areas clean and cleared of any flammable material. It is also important to make sure your roof gutters are unblocked and free of leaves, which could help prevent the spread of fire to your home via airborne sparks.

Through the CWPP, you are permitted to mow phragmites adjacent to or behind your house on property owned by the city, state or federal government, but to do so you must obtain a permit. These permits are free and easy to obtain by calling Borough Hall at (718) 816-2003. With a permit, you are allowed to mow a distance of 50 feet from your property line, creating a fire break to protect your home.

It is my hope that the efforts of the community, working alongside city, state and federal agencies, will make this the least destructive summer in recent memory.

Yours truly,



James S. Oddo
President, Borough of Staten Island

