



Tioga County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

What is a Hazard Mitigation Plan?

A hazard mitigation plan (HMP) is “the representation of the jurisdiction’s commitment to reduce risks from natural hazards, serving as a guide for decision makers as they commit resources to reducing the effects of natural hazards.” (44 CFR 201.6) HMPs establish and maintain eligibility for grant funds. The planning process is as important as the plan itself because it creates a framework for governments to reduce the negative impacts from future disasters on lives, property and the economy. Hazard mitigation planning can significantly reduce the physical, financial and emotional losses caused by disasters.

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 is federal legislation that establishes a pre-disaster hazard mitigation program and new requirements for the national post-disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). It encourages and rewards state and local pre-disaster planning and promotes sustainability. Completion of an HMP will result in more effective risk reduction projects and in a faster and more efficient allocation of funding.

What are the benefits of participating in the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan?

There are many benefits to local jurisdictions of participating in the multi-jurisdictional HMP including:

- ◆ The planning effort identifies and creates partnerships that enhance grant funding opportunities.
- ◆ Mitigation plans enable comprehensive approaches to mitigation of hazards that affect several jurisdictions in a specific geographic area.
- ◆ Mitigation plans provide eligibility for FEMA pre-disaster mitigation funds, which means that funding is available for projects to reduce the damages caused by natural hazards affecting Tioga County such as flood, severe storms, severe winter storms and drought.

What is required in a Hazard Mitigation Plan?

FEMA regulations require that the public must be engaged in all phases of the plan’s development. The HMP should review and incorporate existing plans and programs that can support or enhance hazard mitigation. The plan must assess the risk to natural hazards that may impact the planning area and identify and prioritize mitigation actions that can be taken. The HMP must also include a strategy for maintaining the plan, which must be updated every 5 years.

Mission

The mission of the Tioga County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, through partnerships and careful planning, is to identify and reduce the vulnerability to natural hazards in order to protect the general health, safety, welfare, quality of life, environment and economy of the residents and communities within Tioga County.

How can I provide information to support the plan?

A public survey is posted on the Tioga County website at <https://www.tiogacountyny.com/departments/emergency-services/> or at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TiogaCitizenSurvey>



Please visit the site or scan the QR code and complete the survey to provide valuable information for the planning process.

Tioga County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazards Mitigation Plan Update

Tioga County is undergoing an update of the All-Hazard Mitigation Plan for the County and its municipalities. This plan is an opportunity to detail a variety of potential hazards that could affect some or all of our residents and will also allow the County and participating municipalities to be eligible for future mitigation funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The goal of the plan is to identify projects that can reduce damages from future natural and non-natural hazards. The plan will include a Risk Assessment and a Hazard Mitigation Strategy. The primary hazards of concern in Tioga County include Drought, Flood, Severe Storm and Severe Winter Storm.

The study will focus on existing buildings & potential future development, infrastructure, and critical facilities that might be impacted. Critical facilities include but are not limited to municipal buildings and infrastructure such as power-generation facilities, water utilities, roadways, railroads and communication systems.

How can I provide information to support the plan?

A public survey is posted on the County website at <https://www.tiogacountyny.com/departments/emergency-services/> to obtain input and judge citizen preparedness for natural hazard events. Please visit the site and complete the survey to provide valuable information for the planning process.

Where can I review the Draft Plan and provide input if I choose?

Sections of the plan will be available for download and review at the Tioga County Emergency Services website (<http://www.tiogacountyny.com/departments/emergency-services/>). Copies of the Draft Plan will also be available in the Tioga County Economic Development and Planning office for review.

Can I get funding to mitigate my property?

Possibly, once this Plan is approved by FEMA and adopted by the County and participating municipalities, owners of properties vulnerable to flooding may be eligible to receive funding to elevate a structure above base flood elevation, or have their property acquired by their municipality. Generally, the property must have a history of NFIP (National Flood Insurance Program) damage claims. The property owner may be responsible for up to 25% of the project costs. Interested property owners should contact the County lead identified below.

For more information please contact:
Wendy Walsh, Tioga County SWCD Phone: 607-687-3553
[Email: walshw@co.tioga.ny.us](mailto:walshw@co.tioga.ny.us)

