



*NH 25A Orford, NH; 2017
Source: NHDOT*

Local Hazard Mitigation Planning

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Background & Purpose of Hazard Mitigation Planning

What is Hazard Mitigation Planning?

Mitigation planning involves identifying local policies and actions that can be implemented long-term to help reduce or eliminate risks caused by natural hazards or disasters, such as flooding, earthquakes, wildfires, landslides etc.

Why do we do it?

- **Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000**

State, tribal, and local governments must develop a hazard mitigation plan as a condition for receiving certain types of non-emergency disaster assistance through the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Programs.

Benefits of Hazard Mitigation Planning



New Boston, NH

- Protect public safety.
- Reduce harm to existing and future development.
- Prevent damage to your community's economic, cultural, and environmental assets.
- Minimize operational downtime and accelerate recovery of government and businesses after disasters.
- Reduce the costs of disaster response and recovery and the exposure to risk for first responders.

The Hazard Mitigation Planning Process

Build the Planning Team

Conduct a Risk Assessment

Develop Mitigation Strategies

Determine Plan Maintenance Process

The Mitigation Planning Process

Build the Planning Team

Build the planning team with community stakeholders from a variety of departments/fields:

- Fire / Emergency Management
- Police
- Community & Economic Development
- Planning
- Public works
- Highway
- School district
- Conservation Commission
- Library
- Town Administration
- GIS
- Parks and Recreation



The Mitigation Planning Process

Risk Assessment



1. Identify the hazards that could impact the community.
2. Estimate the potential frequency and magnitude of the hazards.
3. Estimate potential losses to life, property and natural/cultural resources from natural hazards.

The Hazards

Natural Hazards

- Avalanche
- Flooding
- Drought
- Earthquake
- Extreme Temperatures
- High Wind
- Infectious Disease
- Landslide
- Lightning
- Severe winter weather
- Solar storms/space weather
- Tropical and post-tropical cyclones
- Wildfire



Flash flood Manchester NH, 2018; source: WMUR



Andover, NH 2017 after heavy snowfall; Source: NHDOT



Downed tree in Manchester, NH after severe wind and rainstorm 2018
Source: ManchesterInkLink

The Hazards

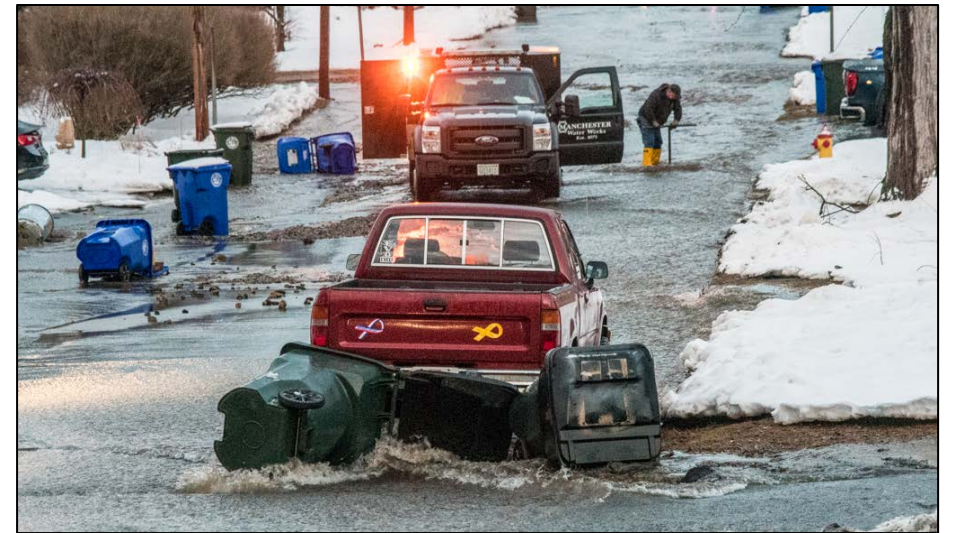
Technological

- Aging infrastructure
- Conflagration
- Dam failure
- Hazardous materials
- Contaminants
- Long-term utility outage
- Radiological



Sinkhole on Interstate 93 North between Exits 13 and 14 in 2015 due to failed culvert dating back to 1950s and significant rain the night before.

Source: NHDOT



Water main break on Mammoth Rd in Manchester, NH February 2020

Source: ManchesterInkLink

The Hazards

Human - Caused

- Cyber event
- Mass casualty incident
- Terrorism/violence
- Transport accident



*Tractor-trailer truck on I-93 north in Londonderry on Sept. 27, 2018.
Photo/Jeffrey Hastings, Frame of Mind Photo*

The Mitigation Planning Process

Develop Mitigation Strategies

Types of Mitigation Strategies:



PREVENTION

ADOPTION AND ENFORCEMENT
OF REGULATORY TOOLS, I.E.
ORDINANCES, REGULATIONS,
AND BUILDING CODES



PROPERTY PROTECTION

MODIFICATION OF
BUILDINGS /STRUCTURES TO
PROTECT THEM FROM
HAZARDS



NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION

INCLUDES SEDIMENT AND EROSION
CONTROL, STREAM CORRIDOR
RESTORATION, WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT, ETC.



PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

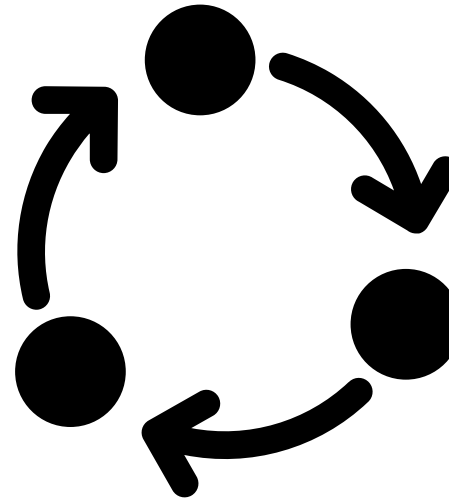
EDUCATE PROPERTY OWNERS
AND THE PUBLIC ABOUT RISK,
MITIGATION MEASURES AND
HOW TO PROTECT HOMES
AND BUSINESSES.

The Mitigation Planning Process

Determine Plan Maintenance Process

- Plan must be regularly reviewed, updated and maintained
- Integrate mitigation strategies into existing plans and programs
- Identify departments responsible for monitoring, evaluating and updating plan

"A local jurisdiction must review and revise its plan to reflect changes in development, progress in local mitigation efforts, and changes in priorities, and resubmit it for approval within five (5) years in order to continue to be eligible for mitigation project grant funding" (44 CFR §201.6(d)(3))



Hazard Mitigation Planning at SNHPC *Update 2020*

- Four plan updates in progress:
 - Bedford
 - Derry
 - Francestown
 - Hooksett
- Plan updates completed in 2019
 - Deerfield
 - Windham
- All public meetings moved to Zoom; meeting information posted on SNHPC and Town websites
- Increased discussion on *infectious diseases*

