

# Hazard Mitigation Plan

ONONDAGA COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN 2019 UPDATE

## Mission

The mission of the Onondaga County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan is to protect the health, safety, property, environment and economy of the communities within Onondaga County and to increase resilience by partnering to identify and reduce our future vulnerability to natural hazards in a proactive and efficient manner.

## Support the Plan!

A public survey is posted on the Onondaga County website at:

<http://www.ongov.net/planning/haz.html>



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

## What is Hazard Mitigation?

Hazard mitigation describes any actions taken to help reduce or eliminate long-term risks caused by hazards or disasters, such as flooding, earthquakes, wildfires, landslides, or dam failure. The purpose of hazard mitigation is to protect people and structures, and minimize the costs of disaster response and recovery.

Hazard mitigation can take many forms, including capital projects, policies, and education. Proactive mitigation leads to more cost-effective projects. By contrast, reactive mitigation tends to lead to severe damage repair and often more costly fixes; it simply costs too much to address the effects of disasters only after they happen. A surprising amount of damage can be prevented if we can anticipate where and how disasters occur, and take steps to prevent those damages.

## What's the Plan?

The Syracuse-Onondaga County Planning Agency (SOCPA) is leading the update of the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan for the County and its jurisdictions. 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 plan update will include an updated hazard risk and vulnerability assessment, new mitigation strategies, current jurisdictional annexes for participating jurisdictions in the County (e.g., city, towns, and villages), new NYS Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) requirements (e.g., assessing critical facilities, plan for climate change, and plan for displaced residents and evacuation/sheltering), and a plan maintenance strategy.

## What are the benefits of participating in the Hazard Mitigation Plan?

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

- An increased understanding of the natural hazards the County faces.
- Development of more sustainable and disaster-resistant communities.
- Eligibility for federal funds for pre-disaster mitigation planning before disaster strikes.
- Potential financial savings to residents, including flood insurance premium reductions.
- Reduced long-term impacts and damages to human health and structures, and reduced repair costs.



## What is a Hazard Mitigation Plan?

A 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.

# FAQs

## What is mitigation?

Any sustained action taken reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property from a hazard event.

## How can we reduce/eliminate risk?

By identifying projects/actions/activities that can include:

- 1) local plans and regulations
- 2) structure and infrastructure projects
- 3) natural systems protection; and
- 4) education and awareness programs

## What hazards of concern will be included in the plan?

The plan will include a Risk Assessment and a Hazard Mitigation Strategy. The primary hazards of concern in Onondaga County include: Drought, Earthquake, Flood, Ground Failure, Harmful Algal Bloom, Invasive Species, Severe Storm, and Severe Winter Storm.

## How can I support the plan?

There are numerous ways you can support the plan! Here are a few:

- Take the citizen survey
- Provide ideas for projects in your community
- Identify problems areas in your community
- Attend public meetings (check SOCPA's website for dates)
- Contact your community

## Is there funding available?

Once the plan is approved by FEMA and adopted by the county and jurisdictions, FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant funding is available (annual and post-disaster opportunities).

## Where can I see the plan?

Sections of the draft plan will be available for download and review at the SOCPA website (<http://www.ongov.net/planning/haz.html>).

For more  
information:

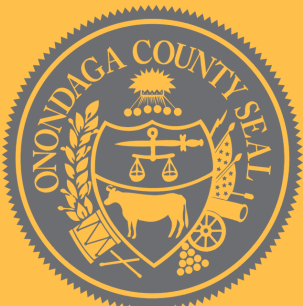


Contact your municipality  
-or-  
Contact SOCPA  
[planning@ongov.net](mailto:planning@ongov.net) or  
315.435.2611

Onondaga  
County  
resident?  
Take our survey!



<http://www.ongov.net/planning/haz.html>



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