

AUGUSTA-RICHMOND COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

What Is a Hazard Mitigation Plan?

Why is it Important to Me?

A Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) is the result of a planning process to identify natural hazards, develop strategies to reduce or eliminate the loss of life and property damage resulting from these hazards, and educate community members about these hazards and loss reduction strategies. This planning process is structured around the four phases of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, which Augusta's planning consultant has aligned with the ten steps of the Community Rating System (CRS). Having an adopted Hazard Mitigation Plan ensures a community is eligible for federal disaster funding. It is important for residents to become involved in mitigation planning in their community. The planning team needs your input on the types of hazards that are your priority concern and your opinion on ways to prevent or lessen the impacts of hazards.



What is the Community Rating System (CRS)?

The CRS is a national program developed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to encourage communities to reduce their risk to flood-related hazards. The CRS rewards the efforts communities take to go above and beyond the minimum requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) by providing discounts on flood insurance premiums. Specifically, the CRS encourages communities to reduce flood damage to existing buildings, manage development, protect new buildings, preserve and/or restore natural floodplain functions, help insurance agents obtain flood data, and help individuals obtain flood insurance.

Which Hazards are Addressed by the Plan?

The following hazards will be evaluated for inclusion in the Augusta-Richmond County Multi-Jurisdictional HMP:

- Dam Failure
- Drought
- Earthquake
- Extreme Heat
- Flooding
- Hurricane/Tropical Storm
- Infectious Disease
- Lightning & Hail
- Severe Winter Weather
- Tornado
- Wildfire
- Windstorm/Thunderstorm
- Chemical Hazard
- Cyberterrorism
- Radiological Accident

How Can I Participate?

Visit the website. Get more information and follow the planning process at www.augustaga-HMP.com. The website will contain announcements for upcoming meetings, minutes and presentations from past planning meetings, information on the identified hazards, draft planning documents for review, a public survey, and more.

Take the survey. A survey is available in hard copy format and on the plan website. Complete a survey ASAP to help the planning committee understand mitigation needs and ensure your opinion is captured!

Send us information or comments. If you have information to share for inclusion in the plan, please contact the planning consultants Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc. by email: abigail.moore@woodplc.com and david.stroud@woodplc.com. Additionally, you will be able to provide comments on draft documents via the plan website after they are posted (date to be determined).