

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.



Hazard Mitigation Planning Goals

- Protect Life and Safety
- Increase Understanding and Awareness of Natural Hazard Risk
- Promote Resiliency Throughout the County
- Protect the Environment and Natural Resources
- Promote and Support Partnerships
- Enhance Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Recovery

Hazard Mitigation Overview

Hazard mitigation planning helps to reduce long-term risks caused by hazards or natural disasters, such as flooding, earthquakes, or severe storms. The ultimate purpose of hazard mitigation is to protect life and property, and minimize the costs of disaster response and recovery. Mitigation can take many forms, such as construction projects, policies, education, or environmental protection, and can be done by government, business and homeowners.

Proactive mitigation often 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.

Updating the Onondaga County Plan

This plan is a comprehensive update of the original 2013 Onondaga County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). Onondaga County Towns, Villages the City of Syracuse, Onondaga County, and the Onondaga County Water Authority formally participated in this update, and this multi-jurisdictional plan serves as each entity's formal HMP. The plan complies with federal and state hazard mitigation planning requirements to establish eligibility for funding under Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant programs.

Benefits of a Hazard Mitigation Plan

- 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.

