

Chester County

Hazard Mitigation Plan Update



What is Hazard Mitigation?

- A foundation to reduce/eliminate the long-term risk to life and property
- Ongoing process before, during & after a disaster
- Planning is key
- Doesn't prevent disasters, but it reduces the impact

Chester County's Mitigation Plan

- Contributions from and adopted by all 73 municipalities
- FEMA regulations require an approved mitigation plan for grant eligibility
- Plan focuses on the area's most threatening hazards
- Provides a strategy to reduce or eliminate the risk from these hazards

Why is the Plan update important?

- Prevent loss of life
- Prevent loss of property
- Federal legislation requirements

Plan Timeline

- HMP set to expire in October 2020
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation eGrant approved for contractor assistance
- Sub-committees reviewing hazard profiles
- Each municipality will update their community profile
- All municipalities will need to adopt the new HMP

Mitigation Actions

- **Short-term actions**
 - Purchased mobile cameras for large events
 - Purchased back-up power sources for traffic signals
- **Long-term actions**
 - Software for SARA site plans (hazmat)
 - Enhance communications between muni and county
- **Ongoing actions**
 - Continual maintenance of stream gauges
 - Continual education on Emergency Preparedness

Possible Hazards for 2020 Plan

- Pandemic & Infectious Diseases
- Opioid Epidemic
- Invasive Species
- Climate Change
- Pipelines



Moving forward...

- Looking for more mitigation actions
- Questionnaires for each municipalities
- Public Meetings this fall

The Value of Mitigation

Natural Hazard Mitigation Saves 2017 Interim Report

The Nation Saves Through Mitigation Programs:

\$4 for every \$1 spent exceeding select provisions of the 2015 model building codes.

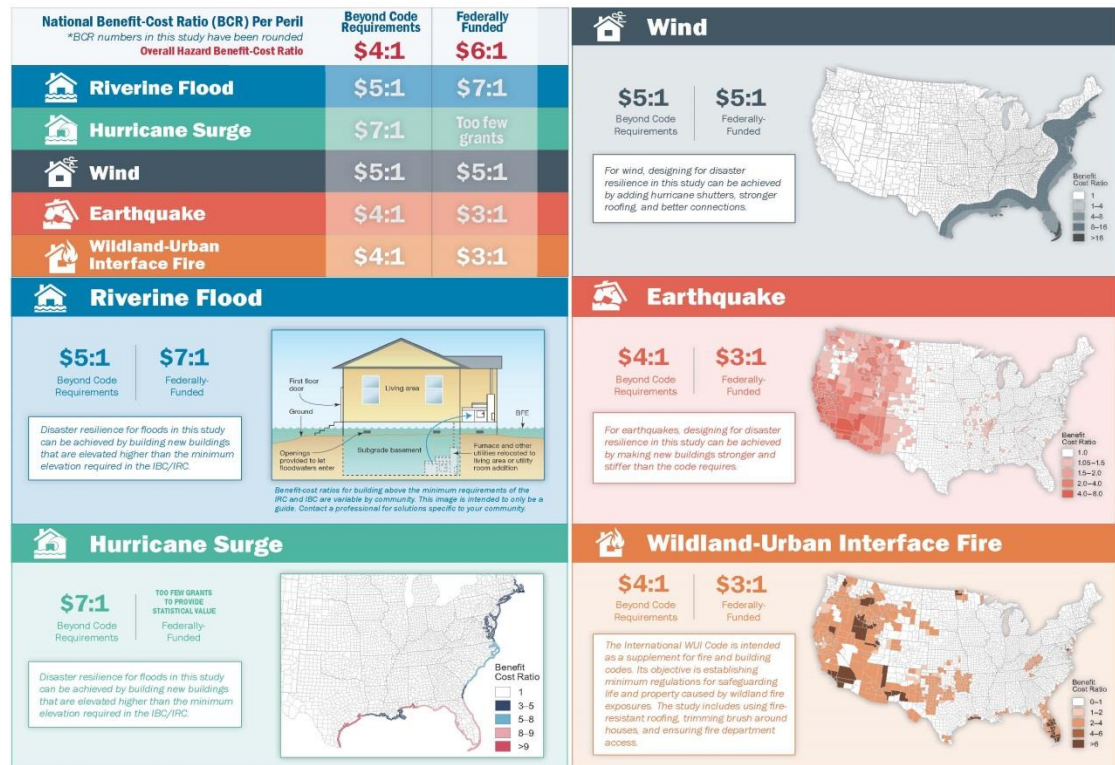
Beyond code requirements: The costs and benefits of designing all new construction to exceed select provisions in the 2015 International Building Code (IBC) and the 2015 International Residential Code (IRC) and the implementation of the 2015 International Wildland-Urban Interface Code (IWUIC). This resulted in a national benefit of \$4 for every \$1 invested.

\$6 for every \$1 spent through mitigation grants funded via select federal agencies.

Federally-funded: The impacts of 23 years of federal mitigation grants provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Economic Development Administration (EDA) and Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), resulting in a national benefit of \$6 for every \$1 invested.

This Interim Study quantified a number of benefits from mitigation, including reductions in:

- Future deaths, nonfatal injuries, and PTSD
- Repair costs for damaged buildings and contents
- Sheltering costs for displaced households
- Loss of revenue and other business-interruption costs to businesses whose property is damaged
- Loss of economic activity in the broader community
- Loss of service to the community when fire stations, hospitals, and other public buildings are damaged
- Insurance costs other than insurance claims
- Costs for urban search and rescue



National Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR) Per Peril

**BCR numbers in this study have been rounded*

Overall Hazard Benefit-Cost Ratio

**Beyond Code
Requirements**

\$4:1

**Federally
Funded**

\$6:1



Riverine Flood

\$5:1

\$7:1



Hurricane Surge

\$7:1

Too few
grants



Wind

\$5:1

\$5:1



Earthquake

\$4:1

\$3:1



**Wildland-Urban
Interface Fire**

\$4:1

\$3:1