

Hazard	Proposed Mitigation Action	Responsible Agency	Potential Sources of Funding	Timeframe
Landslide	Maintain regular contact with Pennsylvania Department of Natural Resources to ensure that County information about the potential for landslides is current.	Union County Mitigation Officer and Building Inspector for each Township or Borough except for Lewisburg Borough	County Annual Budget	Annually
Drought	Provide workshops for farmers regarding livestock management and crop survival during times of drought.	Union County Mitigation Officer with Pennsylvania Cooperative Extension Service	County Annual Budget	As needed depending upon drought conditions
Drought	Provide education for residents about water-saving landscaping techniques.	Union County Mitigation Officer	County Annual Budget	Annually
Multiple Hazards	Include publicity about the benefits of mitigation actions in a public relations program.	Union County Mitigation Officer in cooperation with officials of each Borough and Township	Annual County Budget	Annually

## Plan Maintenance

### *Plan Maintenance Update*

In the previous version of this plan, monitoring was scheduled to occur quarterly; this schedule was too aggressive and experience shows that an annual review of mitigation actions will be sufficient. Thus, the timeframe for monitoring has been changed. The process for evaluating the plan has been modified slightly from that presented in the previous version of the plan. The protocols for updating the plan and continued public involvement have been elaborated upon in this version of the plan.

### *Monitoring Mitigation Actions*

The Union County Mitigation Officer will monitor the progress made on the implementation of the identified action items annually at about the anniversary date of plan adoption. Monitoring will be accomplished by calling or e-mailing each County or municipal agency that, through adoption of the plan, has assumed the responsibility of implementing one or more mitigation actions.

By monitoring mitigation actions, when the plan is next updated, information about the status of proposed mitigation actions will be readily available. The updated plan will include a section explaining if previously proposed mitigation actions have been implemented, completed, or deferred. The updated plan will identify actions that are no longer appropriate for the community and should be deleted. The updated plan will identify obstacles to implementation that caused proposed actions to be deferred and will recommend strategies for overcoming those obstacles.

The Steering Committee will not only monitor the implementation of mitigation actions proposed in this plan, but will also monitor actions of participating jurisdictions and surrounding communities that may affect the ability of Union County to withstand the effects of natural hazards or to recover from a disaster in the future. The method for gathering information about actions beyond those proposed in this plan will be informal; as active members of the Union County community, Steering Committee members will bring their own knowledge of the area to monitoring meetings to provide information about actions of participating jurisdictions as well as of nearby communities.

### ***Evaluating the Plan***

One month after conducting the annual monitoring of mitigation actions, the Union County Mitigation Officer will schedule an annual meeting of the Steering Committee to evaluate the mitigation planning process, implementation of the plan, and conditions in Union County that suggest the need to modify either planning data or planning actions. Participating boroughs and townships will be invited to attend the evaluation meetings. The evaluation meeting will include a presentation of the results of the monitoring of mitigation actions and will answer the following questions:

- Do mitigation goals and objectives reflect current community concerns as well as the finding of the risk assessment?
- Have conditions in the County changed so that findings of the risk assessment should be updated?
- What hazards have caused damage in the County since the plan was written? Were these anticipated and evaluated in the plan or should these hazards be added to the plan?
- Have conditions in the County changed so that the magnitude of risk as expressed in this plan has changed?
- Are new sources of data available that will improve the risk assessment?
- Are current resources sufficient for implementing mitigation actions?
- For each mitigation action that has not been completed, what are the obstacles to implementation? What are potential solutions for overcoming these obstacles?
- Is each completed mitigation action effective in reducing risk? What action is required to further reduce the risk addressed by the completed action?
- What mitigation actions should be added to the plan and proposed for implementation?
- Should any proposed mitigation actions be deleted from the plan? What is the rationale for deleting previously proposed actions from the plan?

- Based upon the evaluation, should the plan be updated as soon as possible or should the plan be updated as scheduled 5 years after it was adopted?

The County Mitigation Officer will document the results of the annual evaluation meeting and submit the findings to each borough and township in the County for review within 2 weeks. Documentation of the annual evaluation meeting will be attached to the Union County paper and electronic copies of this plan within 1 month. If the Steering Committee determined that the plan should be updated as soon as possible, the County Mitigation Officer will take action to initiate the plan update.

### ***Updating the Plan***

This plan must be updated within 5 years and again adopted by the County and participating jurisdictions in order to maintain compliance with the regulations stated in 44 CFR Part 201.6 and ensure eligibility for applying for and receiving certain Federal mitigation grant funds.

Monitoring and evaluation will identify necessary modifications to the plan including changes in mitigation strategies and actions that should be incorporated in the next update.

The update will have more current information about previous occurrences of hazards and improved information about wind speed for high wind events will be sought.

The Union County Mitigation Officer will initiate the process of updating the plan no more than 3 years after the plan was adopted, probably in August 2013, or immediately upon a determination by the Steering Committee that the plan should be updated sooner. This will allow approximately 1 year for securing funding and/or staff for updating the plan and 1 year for conducting research and writing the updated plan.

### **Continued Public Involvement**

The Union County Mitigation Office will provide printed copies of the plan to key Union County offices including the Department of Public Safety as well as to the largest public library in the County so that the public has access to printed copies of the plan. A copy of the adopted plan will be posted on the County Web site for 5 years so that the public has electronic access to the plan. The Web site will include an easy-to-access feedback option so that residents, business owners, and others who read the plan will be able to provide a comment about the plan or about the mitigation strategies. The Union County Mitigation Officer will maintain these comments and will provide them to the Steering Committee for consideration at the annual plan evaluation meetings.

The Union County Mitigation Officer will post notices of annual mitigation plan evaluation meetings using the usual methods for posting meeting announcements in the County to invite the public to participate. In addition to posting announcements on the

County Web site, at least one newspaper press release will be published at the onset of the process of updating the plan inviting public participation.

The County Mitigation Officer will document the number of people who participate in the annual meetings and the results of the meeting for inclusion in the plan when it is next updated. In this way, the public will have an opportunity to become involved in the planning process and to influence mitigation planning decisions.

Because the public did not respond to invitations to participate in the drafting of this update, an additional approach will be implemented when the plan is next updated. The County Mitigation Officer will extend an invitation to all county high schools and to Bucknell University to assign one student as a full participating member of the Steering Committee. This will be an educational experience for the students, would generate some publicity and, therefore, might encourage greater public participation, and would expand the available perspectives on the feasibility of proposed mitigation actions.

The Union County Mitigation Officer will provide a written report and/or make a presentation to the Union County Commissioners to advise them of the status of the plan and of proposed mitigation actions. In this way, the public will have another opportunity to become aware of local mitigation efforts.