

DuPage County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan



2019 Annual Report

DuPage County Natural Hazard Mitigation
Workgroup
January 2020



Executive Summary

The *DuPage County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan* (NHMP), updated in 2017, was approved and adopted in June 2018 by the DuPage County Board as a multi-jurisdictional plan. Throughout 2018, all DuPage County communities adopted the NHMP as well. For municipalities to be eligible for Hazard Mitigation grant funding, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) mandate the adoption of a hazard mitigation plan. This plan meets the mitigation planning requirements of both FEMA and IEMA.

The *Plan* examines natural hazards facing DuPage County, establishes mitigation goals, evaluates existing mitigation activities throughout the County, and recommends additional mitigation steps that are appropriate to protect people, property and other assets. The *Plan* provides the County, its municipalities, and other participating agencies with direction for enhancing current mitigation efforts. As required by FEMA and IEMA, mitigation plans must include actionable items that will help ensure proper plan implementation and maintenance. Chapter 10 of the *DuPage County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan* provides an “Action Plan” for implementation and maintenance.

Annual reports are intended to provide a review of the *Plan* direction and recommendations, a summary of natural disasters that impacted DuPage County during the reporting year, and a review of the action items implemented since the *Plan* was adopted, as appropriate.

This is the second Annual Report for the 2018 Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. The DuPage County Hazard Mitigation Workgroup met on January 15, 2020 to discuss this report and other topics of Workgroup interest. The following Annual Report is a summary of results from the 2019 DuPage County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan survey provided to all DuPage County municipalities and workgroup members.



2019 Annual Report Development

Participating agencies of the DuPage County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan and the 2018 Annual Report are listed below:

Local Municipal Jurisdictions

Addison	Glendale Heights	Warrenville
Bartlett	Hanover Park	Wayne
Bensenville	Hinsdale	West Chicago
Bloomington	Itasca	Westmont
Burr Ridge	Lisle	Wheaton
Carol Stream	Lombard	Willowbrook
Clarendon Hills	Naperville	Winfield
Darien	Oak Brook	Wood Dale
Downers Grove	Oakbrook Terrace	Woodridge
Elmhurst	Roselle	
Glen Ellyn	Villa Park	

DuPage County Departments

DuPage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
DuPage County Stormwater Management
DuPage County Building and Zoning
DuPage County Public Works



Review of Action Items

The Action Plan (Chapter 10) in the *Plan* contains 12 action items. These action items were taken from the hazard mitigation recommendations made in Chapters 4 through 9. Action items are meant to provide an overall direction for the County regarding natural hazard mitigation. Completion progress for the action items are summarized in the following report.

Action items marked ongoing for the current reporting period of 2019 reflect only the answers of the municipal jurisdictions and County departments and divisions whom replied to the 2019 annual survey.



Action Item 1: Establish Sub-Workgroups within the Mitigation Workgroup

Action Item Description: The Natural Hazard Mitigation Workgroup should establish quarterly sub-workgroup meetings, based on subject matter expertise, to oversee the plan maintenance and update process.

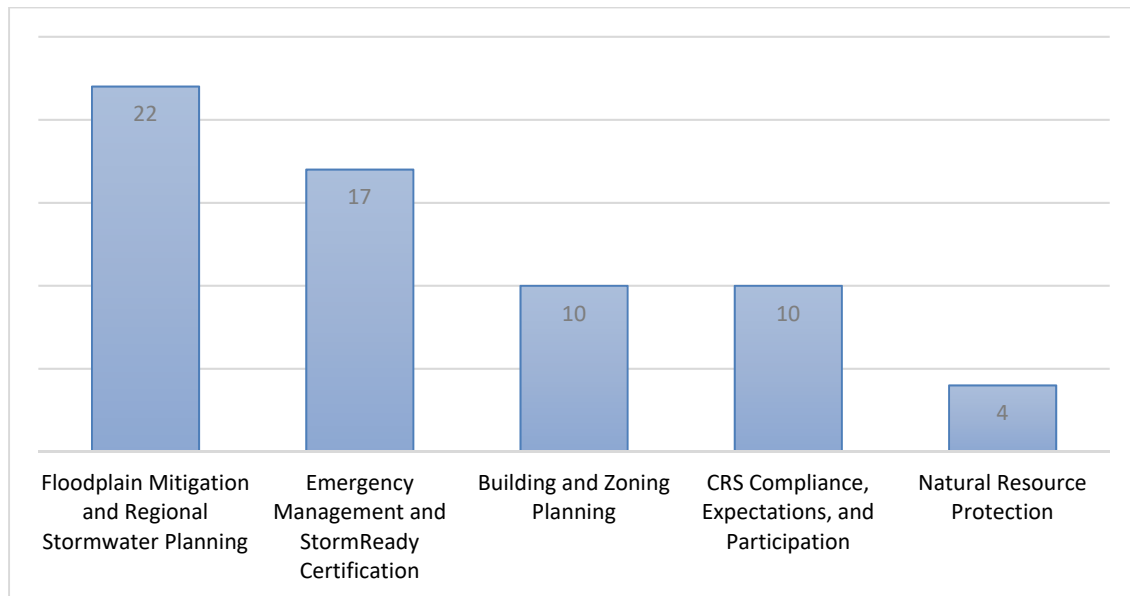
Status: Ongoing

Benefits: Developing sub-workgroups to oversee the plan maintenance and update process will increase the Workgroup participation, build and enhance relationships, enhance the output from this plan, and improve plan content by ensuring subject matter experts have the proper influence.

Next Steps: Look into establishing recommended sub-workgroups for future implementation to assist with the next plan update. Once established, decide who will participate in each sub-workgroup.

Survey Results:

Action Item #1: In 2018, the NHMP Workgroup identified topic areas for sub-workgroups which may be established to help organize the next plan update (likely starting in 2021). Which sub-workgroup[s] would your community likely join?





Action Item 2: Enhance Public Participation in Mitigation Workgroup

Action Item Description: The Natural Hazard Mitigation Workgroup membership should be enhanced to incorporate representatives of the public (i.e. residents) and private stakeholders.

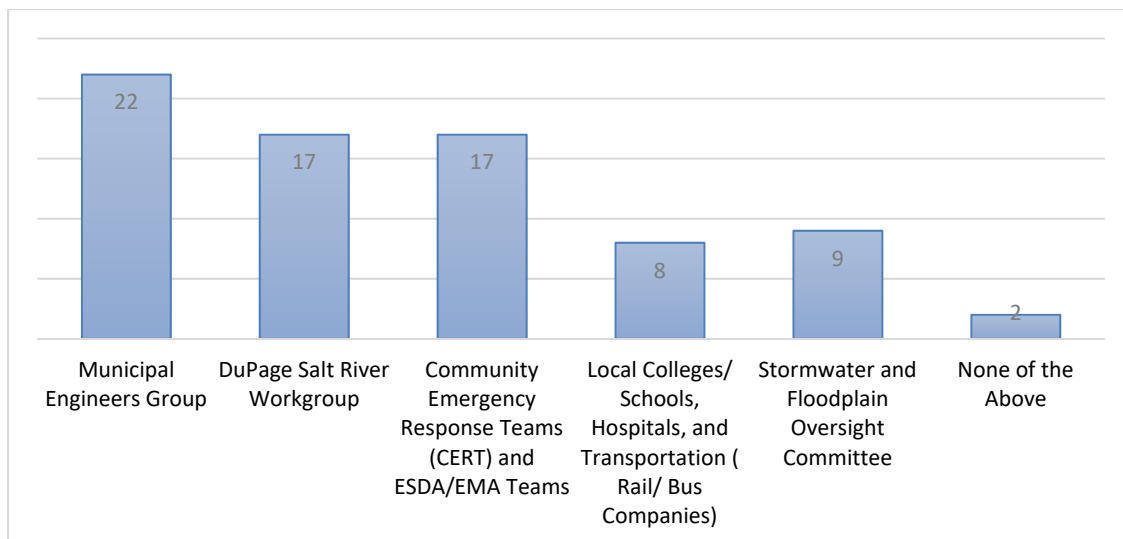
Status: Ongoing

Benefits: Including representatives of the public and private industry would broaden the plan's perspective, build and enhance relationships, and provide additional Community Rating System (CRS) points to municipalities that participate and adopt the plan.

Next Steps: Look into recommended public groups for participation in the next annual meeting and possible community engagement.

Survey Results:

Action Item #2: In order to meet the planning requirements of the NHMP, the Workgroup is exploring the idea of incorporating public representatives as members. In 2018, the Workgroup provided examples of pre-established groups to engage. Which groups does your community regularly engage with?





Action Item 3: National Weather Service StormReady® Participation

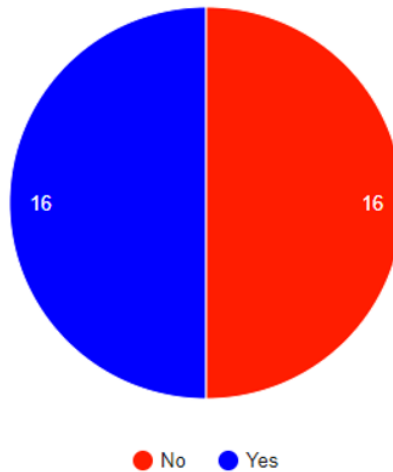
Action Item Description: DuPage County communities should participate in the National Weather Service (NWS) StormReady® program.

Status: Ongoing

Benefits: In addition to ensuring a community has up-to-date warning systems, which can prevent injuries and save lives, Storm Ready® certification has the potential to enhance a community's Community Rating System (CRS) rating.

Survey Results:

Action Item #3: Are you a StormReady® Certified Community?





Action Item 4: Critical Infrastructure Identification and Verification

Action Item Description: DuPage County communities should verify aspects of the 16 critical infrastructure sectors within their jurisdiction and share findings with the County to identify mitigation opportunities, to include advanced warning systems.

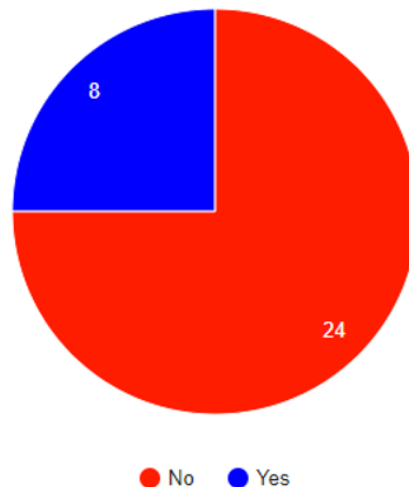
Status: Ongoing

Benefits: Identifying critical infrastructure and the hazards each may face will enhance a community's capability to complete a comprehensive threat and hazard identification process. In addition, allowing the County to compile data from all communities will enable the County as a whole to develop a more in-depth community profile, and could potentially enhance a common operating picture during incident response. When a community is aware of its critical infrastructure, and the potential hazards it can face, all aspects of planning becomes easier (i.e. hazard mitigation, financial and strategic, project cost-sharing, etc.).

Next Steps: Continue to assess critical infrastructure through the 2020 Emergency Operations Plan update. Continue to develop a County-wide Geographic Information System (GIS) based community profile.

Survey Results:

Action Item #4: In 2018, your emergency management agency identified critical infrastructure within your jurisdiction, since that time has your community identified any additional critical infrastructure?





Action Item 5: Critical Facility Back-Up Generation Assessment

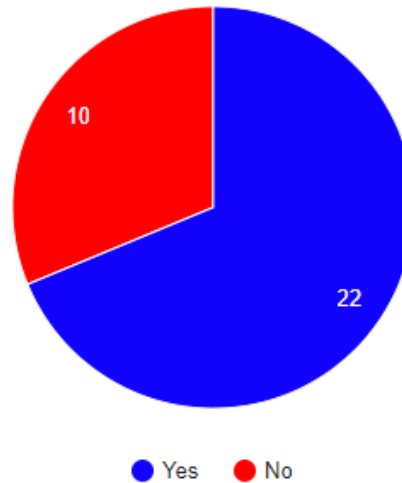
Action Item Description: DuPage County communities should identify backup generation capabilities and ensure facilities meet minimum emergency power requirements of current code.

Status: Ongoing

Benefits: Ensuring critical facilities have adequate back-up generation capabilities, including automatic switchover, and heat/air capabilities, helps to reduce potential life safety and public health issues. The benefits of using back-up generation may include preventing an evacuation of a facility and allowing government services to continue.

Survey Results:

Action Item #5: Within the past year, has your community analyzed back-up power capabilities for critical infrastructure within your jurisdiction (either new or existing)?





Action Item 6: Adopt County-Wide Public Outreach Monthly Topics

Action Item Description: DuPage County communities should adopt the Illinois Emergency Management Agency's (IEMA) monthly preparedness topics.

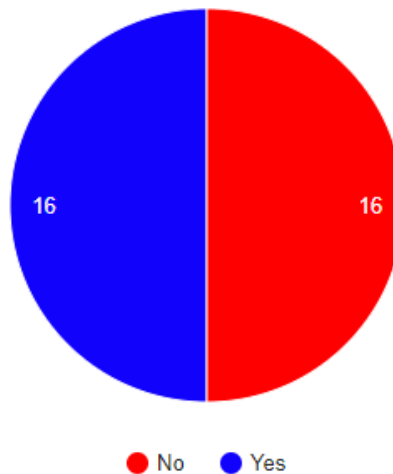
Status: Ongoing

Benefits: Having all communities share the same themed information to residents will serve as a force multiplier within the region, increasing public awareness and resiliency, and aligning County government through a "single voice" approach.

Next Steps: Continue to enhance preparedness messaging by utilizing national toolkits. (<https://www.ready.gov/toolkits>)

Survey Results:

Action Item #6: Does your community utilize the Illinois Emergency Management Agency's monthly preparedness topics when communicating with residents?





Action Item 7: Flood Control and Property Protection Projects

Action Item Description: DuPage County and its communities should continue to partner on flood control – both structural and green infrastructure – and property protection projects.

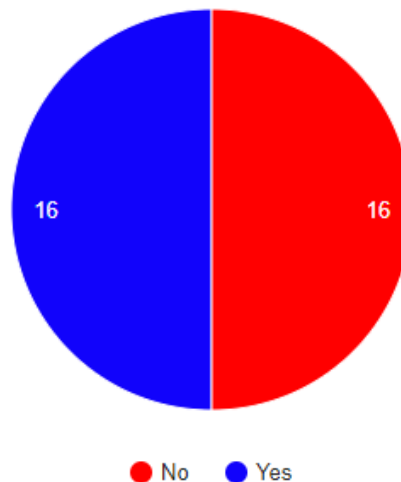
Status: Ongoing

Benefits: Flood control and property protection projects can benefit multiple communities by targeting the source of a problem. Enhanced project participation will increase overall benefits (i.e. cost-sharing, resources, etc.).

Survey Results:

- Improved Stormwater Drainage
- Streambank Stabilization
- Flood Prone Property Buyouts
- Overhead Sewer Programs
- Storm Sewer Improvements

Action Item #7: Has your community participated in any flood control or property protection projects within the last year?





Action Item 8: Improve Building Code Ratings

Action Item Description: DuPage County communities should seek to improve their Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) rating.

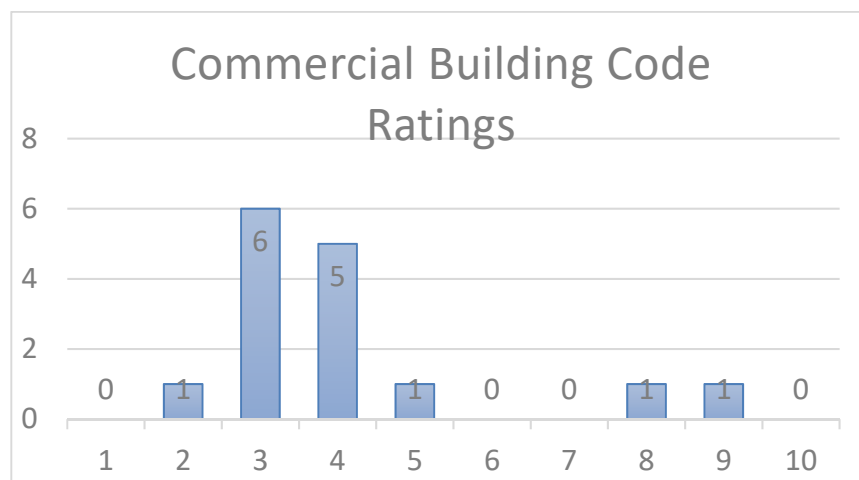
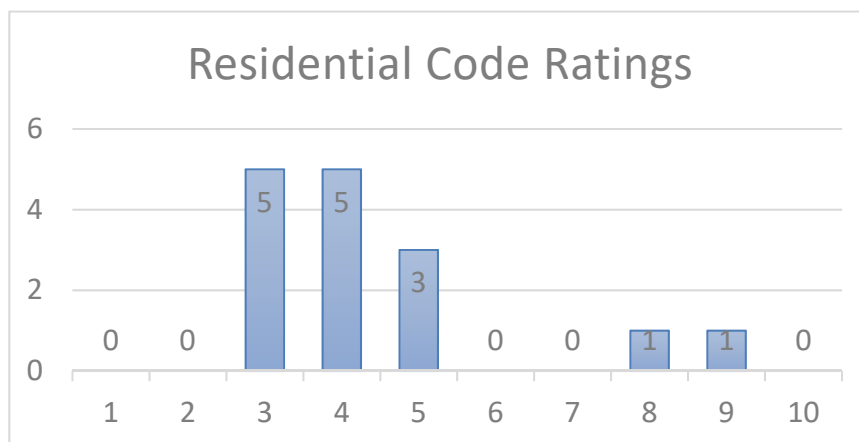
Status: Ongoing

Benefits: Improved building codes can reduce an existing buildings' vulnerability to natural hazards, ensure future developments will not be hindered by hazards, reduce potential public health and life safety issues, and enhance the overall welfare of a community.

Next Steps: Continue to adopt the most recent codes and provide staff with additional certifications and training.

Survey Results:

Action Item 8: What is your community's current Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) rating?





Action Item 9: Incorporate Mitigation Concepts into Future Planning

Action Item Description: DuPage County and its communities should incorporate hazard mitigation and climate change concepts into updated codes, ordinances, comprehensive plans, strategic initiatives, and capital improvement plans.

Status: Ongoing

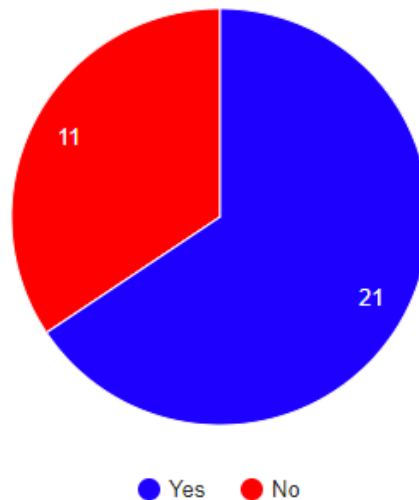
Benefits: Including hazard mitigation and climate change concepts into future planning efforts ensures these concepts will remain at the forefront of a community's activities.

Next Steps: Continue to encourage developing resiliency through planning and mitigation projects.

Survey Results:

- Converting Streetlights to LED Fixtures
- Using Permeable Pavers
- Requiring Green Infrastructure For New Development Projects
- Adoption of an Anti-Idling Pilot Program
- Adopted as a Member of the B20 Club to Recognize This Communities use of Bio-diesel Fuels

Action Item # 9: Within the last year, has your community included any hazard mitigation, sustainability, green infrastructure, or climate change concepts into plans or projects (either completed or in progress)?





Action Item 10: Participate in Tree City USA

Action Item Description: DuPage County communities should participate in the Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA program.

Status: Ongoing

Benefits: Participating in Tree City USA will enhance the County's natural resource protection capabilities, improve air quality, reduce costs for natural resource protection and other associated projects, improve property values, and reduce energy costs.

Survey Results:

Action Item # 10: DuPage Communities Participating in Tree City USA.

Community Name	Years Participated	Community Name	Years Participated
Addison	31	Lisle	27
Bartlett	2	Lombard	29
Bensenville	28	Naperville	29
Bloomingtondale	24	Roselle	33
Burr Ridge	25	Villa Park	34
Clarendon Hills	29	Warrenville	32
Downers Grove	35	Wayne	22
Elmhurst	39	Westmont	23
Glen Ellyn	35	Wheaton	33
Glendale Heights	22	Winfield	7
Hanover Park	34	Wood Dale	14
Hinsdale	27	Woodridge	28
Itasca	34		

***Statistics taken from data provided at: www.arborday.org.*



Action Item 11: Participate in Community Rating System (CRS) Program

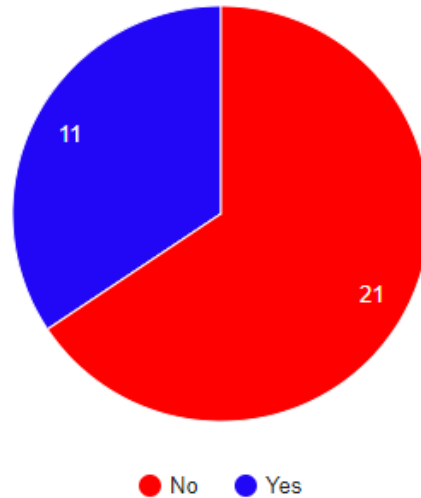
Action Item Description: DuPage County communities should participate in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Community Rating System (CRS).

Status: Ongoing

Benefits: Participating in the Community Rating System program can maintain a community's good standing in the National Floodplain Insurance Program (NFIP), can lower resident's insurance premiums, reduce life safety and public health issues, and reduce a community's vulnerability to hazards.

Survey Results:

Action Item #11: Does your community currently participate in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Community Rating System Program?





Action Item 12: Participate and Support Floodplain Management Studies

Action Item Description: DuPage County and its communities should continue to support floodplain management studies, and review and update watershed plans.

Status: Ongoing

Benefits: Conducting thorough studies allows for the development of in-depth plans and hazard mitigation projects, reducing life safety and public health issues, and protecting property and critical infrastructure.

Next Steps: Continue to engage in floodplain management studies.

Survey Results:

- Updated Floodplain Mapping
- Improvements to Minimize or Eliminate Floodplains
- St. Joseph's Creek Watershed Study
- DuPage River Feasibility Study
- Wetland Mitigation Studies

Action Item #12: Has your community participated in any floodplain management studies in the last year?

