

**WARREN COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL  
NATURAL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN  
PUBLIC FORUM SUMMARY HANDOUT**

**JANUARY 10, 2023  
4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.**

Each year natural hazards (i.e., severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, severe winter storms, flooding, etc.) cause damage to property and threaten the lives and health of Warren County residents. Since 1993, Warren County has been a part of five federally-declared disasters and experienced at least \$12.7 million in recorded property damages and \$21.7 million in recorded crop damages.

In the last 10 years alone (2012 – 2021), there have been 62 heavy rain events, 40 extreme cold events, 39 thunderstorms with damaging winds, 30 excessive heat events, 25 severe winter storms, 16 severe storms with hail one inch in diameter or greater, 15 flash flood events, 7 tornadoes, 5 riverine flood events, and 2 droughts verified in the County. While natural hazards cannot be avoided, their impacts can be reduced through effective hazard mitigation planning and implementation.

**What is hazard mitigation planning?**

Hazard mitigation planning is the process of determining how to reduce or eliminate property damage and loss of life from natural hazards. This process helps the County and participating jurisdictions reduce their risk by identifying vulnerabilities and developing mitigation actions to lessen and sometimes even eliminate the effects of a hazard. The results of this process are documented in a natural hazards mitigation plan.

**Why prepare a natural hazards mitigation plan?**

By preparing and adopting a natural hazards mitigation plan, participating jurisdictions become eligible to apply for and receive federal hazard mitigation funds to implement mitigation actions identified in the Plan. These funds, made available through the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, can help provide local government entities with the opportunity to complete mitigation projects that would not otherwise be financially possible.

**Who participated in the development of the Warren County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan?**

Recognizing the benefits that could be gained from preparing a natural hazards mitigation plan, Warren County invited all the local government entities within the County to participate. The following jurisdictions chose to participate in the Plan development with the County:

- |  |                                |  |
|--|--------------------------------|--|
| ❖ Alexis, Village of                                 | ❖ Monmouth, City of            | ❖ Roseville, Village of                      |
| ❖ Alexis Fire Protection District                    | ❖ Monmouth College             | ❖ Roseville Fire Protection District (RSP&E) |
| ❖ Central Warren (Kirkwood) Fire Protection District | ❖ Monmouth-Roseville CUSD #238 | ❖ United CUSD #304                           |
| ❖ Immaculate Conception School                       |                                |  |

# WARREN COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL NATURAL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN

## How was the Plan developed?

The Warren County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan was developed through the Warren County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Planning Committee. The Planning Committee included representatives from each participating jurisdiction, as well as agriculture, business, education, emergency services, and healthcare. The Planning Committee met five times between November 2021 and January 2023.

## Which natural hazards are included in the Plan?

After reviewing the risk assessment, the Planning Committee chose to include the following natural hazards in the Plan:

- ❖ severe storms (thunderstorms, hail, lightning, heavy rain)
- ❖ severe winter storms (snow & ice)
- ❖ extreme cold
- ❖ excessive heat
- ❖ floods (riverine & flash)
- ❖ tornadoes
- ❖ drought
- ❖ earthquakes

## What is included in the Plan?

The Plan is divided into sections that cover the planning process; the risk assessment; the mitigation strategy, including the jurisdiction-specific mitigation action lists; and plan maintenance and adoption. The majority of the Plan is devoted to the risk assessment and mitigation strategy.

The risk assessment identifies the natural hazards that pose a threat to the County and includes a profile of each hazard, which describes the location and severity of past occurrences, reported damages to public health and property, and the likelihood of future occurrences. It also provides a vulnerability analysis that estimates the potential impacts each natural hazard would have on the health and safety of the residents of Warren County, as well as the buildings, critical facilities, and infrastructure in the County.

The key component of the mitigation strategy is a list of the projects and activities developed by each participating jurisdiction to reduce the potential loss of life and property damage that results from the natural hazards identified in the risk assessment. These projects and activities are intended to be implemented *before* a hazard event occurs.

## What happens next?

Any comments received at today's public forum and during the public comment period will be reviewed and, where applicable, incorporated into the draft Plan before it is submitted to the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for review. Once IEMA and FEMA have reviewed and approved the Plan, it will be presented to the County and each participating jurisdiction for formal adoption. After adopting the Plan, each participating jurisdiction will be eligible to apply for federal mitigation funds and can begin implementing the mitigation actions identified in the Plan.