

Town of Shandaken Hazard Mitigation Plan



Proposed Mission:

The mission of the Town of Shandaken Flood Mitigation Plan is to identify and reduce the Town's vulnerability to floods and to implement actions to reduce the risk of floods to residents and businesses. In doing so, the Town seeks to create a well-informed and prepared community while protecting the quality of life of the community.

Please help us better serve your needs by completing our survey. Just [CLICK HERE](#) to take the survey.

[Flood Mitigation Plan Introduction](#)

Residents of the Town of Shandaken are well aware of their vulnerability to flooding. In order address this hazard and reduce the impact of flooding on the community the town is preparing a flood hazard mitigation plan. Hazard mitigation planning is a step toward addressing flooding and the effects on businesses and population and reducing future damages due to hazard events. Residents and businesses benefit from comprehensive hazard mitigation planning by using a sustained pro-active approach to reduce or eliminate long term risk to people and property from hazards. By utilizing mitigation planning, communities assess risks and identify actions to reduce their vulnerability and increase sustainability.

A Flood Mitigation Plan (FMP) is a living document that communities use to reduce their vulnerability to flooding. FMPs form the foundation for a community's long-term strategy to reduce losses and break the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage. They create a framework for risk-based decision making to reduce damages to lives, property, and the economy from future disasters.

An FMP is a subsection of a Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). In order to apply for or receive FEMA pre-disaster mitigation grant funding, eligible communities must have an approved HMP. Grant funding is available for projects to decrease risk to both public

and private property. For example projects such as home elevations and local flood mitigation projects are eligible for funding. These actions reduce flood damages in a community, so communities are able to recover more quickly from disasters.

As part of the 2009 Ulster County HMP, the Town of Shandaken has an approved plan so it is eligible for mitigation funding. The Town, however, wishes to re-examine its vulnerability to the flood hazard, create more detailed flood hazard analyses, evaluate progress on the mitigation strategies identified in the original plan, and add new mitigation actions/projects/initiatives so that they can continue to lower its flood hazard risk.

In addition, the Town is preparing an application to FEMA for the Community Rating System (CRS) Program of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). As part of the CRS, Town will be able to gather points in the system that will result in reduced NFIP flood insurance for residents and businesses.

The Office of the Supervisor of the Town of Shandaken is managing this effort, supported by the Shandaken Area Flood Assessment and Remediation Initiative (SAFARI) and Tetra Tech, Inc. (Morris Plains, NJ). This planning effort is expected to continue through Spring 2012.

[What is Hazard Mitigation?](#)

Hazard Mitigation is any action taken to reduce the loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters (natural, technological and man-made) (www.fema.gov). It is often considered the first of the four phases of emergency management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

Mitigation measures fall into the following six general categories, and address both public and private property:

Prevention: Measures such as planning and zoning, open space preservation, and development regulations, building codes, storm water management, fire fuel reduction, soil erosion, and sediment control.

Property Protection: Measures such as acquisition, relocation, storm shutters, rebuilding, barriers, flood-proofing, insurance, and structural retrofits for high winds and earthquake hazards.

Public Education and Awareness: Measures such as outreach projects, real estate disclosure, hazard information centers, technical assistance, and school age and adult education programs.

Natural Resource Protection: Measures such as erosion and sediment control, stream corridor protection, vegetative management, and wetlands preservation.

Emergency Services: Measures such as hazard threat recognition, hazard warning systems, emergency response, protection of critical facilities, and health and safety

maintenance.

Structural Projects: Measures such as dams, levees, seawalls, bulkheads, revetments, high flow diversions, spillways, buttresses, debris basins, retaining walls, channel modifications, storm sewers, and retrofitted buildings and elevated roadways (seismic protection).

How does this plan benefit the Town of Shandaken?

The hazard mitigation plan assists the Town of Shandaken with the following:

- An increased understanding of flooding that the Town faces.
- Reduced long-term impacts and damages to human health and structures and reduced repair costs.
- Development of a more sustainable and disaster-resistant community.
- Reduced flood insurance premiums.

Proactive mitigation leads to sustainable, more cost-effective projects. By contrast, reactive mitigation tends to lead to the "quick-fix" alternatives; it simply costs too much to address the effects of flooding and disasters only after they happen. A surprising amount of damage can be prevented if the Town anticipates where and how floods will occur, and take steps to reduce those damages.

How can I get involved in the Flood Mitigation Plan Process?

- Take the Citizens Hazard Preparedness Survey.
- Review the Plan Draft and provide input.
- Attend public outreach activities held during the planning process.
- Contact the Town contacts if you are interested in mitigating your residential or commercial property.

Public Outreach Activities

Announcements for public outreach activities held during the plan update process shall be made here once they are scheduled.

Town Contact

Name	Agency	Tele phone	eMail
Robert A. Stanley	Town of Shandaken Supervisor	(845)688-7165	Shandakensupervisor@yahoo.com
Eric Hofmeister	Shandaken Hwy Superintendent	(845)688-9901	Shandakenhwydept@hvc.rr.com

Richard Stokes	Shandaken Flood Plain Admin.	(845)688-5008	Zeoshandaken@yahoo.com
----------------	------------------------------	---------------	------------------------

Planning Committee

The role of the Committee is to provide guidance and direction to the planning effort to ensure the resulting document will be embraced both politically and by the constituency within the planning area. The Committee will provide guidance and leadership, oversee the planning process, and act as the point of contact for all participating communities and the various interest groups in the planning area. The makeup of this committee was selected to provide a cross section of views to enhance the planning effort and to help build support for hazard mitigation.

The Committee that has been selected for this process is as follows:

Name	Affiliation
Robert A. Stanley	Town of Shandaken Supervisor
Eric Hofmeister	Town of Shandaken Highway Superintendent
Richard Stokes	Town of Shandaken Flood Plain Administrator/Code Enforcement Officer
John Horn	Town of Shandaken Planning Board Rep.
Elizabeth Higgins	Ashokan Watershed Stream Mgnt. Program, Program Manager
Gretchen Rae	Ashokan Watershed Stream Mgnt. Program, Comm. Educator
Cory Ritz	Ulster County Soil and Water District, Program Manager
Art Snyder	Ulster County Office of Emergency Management
Amanda LaValle & Aaron Bennett	Ulster County Office of the Environment
Dennis Doyle	Ulster County Planning Department

David Sheeley	Ulster County DPW
Keith Savoury & David Corrigan	NYS DOT
Elizabeth Reichheld	NYC – DEP – Watershed Program Manager
Dan Davis	NYC – DEP – Hydro-geologist
Doug DeKoskie	NYC – DEP – Project Engineer
Bill Rudge	NYS DEC – Region 3 – Regional Forester
Brian Drumm	NYS DEC- Region 3 – Biologist (Bureau of Habitat)
Mark Lewis	NYSDEC - Region 3 - Flood Plain Coordinator
Kelli Higgins -Roche	NYS DEC – Region 3 – Environmental Engineer
William Nechaman	NYS DEC – State - Flood Plain Coordinator
Faye Storms & Doris Nieves	S.O.S. (Save Our Shandaken) Community Group Representatives
Deron Davis	USDA/ NRCS Environmental Engineer
Candace Balmer	R-Cap Solutions

Resources and Links

New York State Office of Emergency Management – Mitigation Section:

<http://www.dhSES.ny.gov/oem/mitigation/>

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/index.html>

New York City Department of Environmental Protection:

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/home/home.shtml>

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Home Page: www.fema.gov

FEMA Hazard Mitigation Division:

www.fema.gov/about/divisions/mitigation/mitigation.shtm

FEMA – Region II: <http://www.fema.gov/about/contact/regionii.shtm>

Mitigation Planning

FEMA Hazard Mitigation Planning Page: <http://www.fema.gov/plan/mitplanning/>

Mitigation Planning Guidance Documents:

<http://www.fema.gov/plan/mitplanning/guidance.shtm#3>

Flood Insurance and Grant Programs

National Flood Insurance Program: www.fema.gov/business/nfip/index.shtm

FEMA Mitigation Grant Programs:

<http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/hma/index.shtm>

Regulatory

Hazard Mitigation Planning Laws, Regulations and Guidance:

<http://www.fema.gov/plan/mitplanning/guidance.shtm>

Hazard Information

FEMA Hazard Support: www.fema.gov/hazard/index.shtm

National Weather Service – National: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/>

National Weather Service Forecast Office – Binghamton, NY:

<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/bgm/>