

## Section II

### Risk Reduction

#### A. DESIGNATION OF COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION COORDINATOR

1. The Delaware County Director of Planning and Economic Development has been designated by the County Board of Supervisors as the County Hazard Mitigation Coordinator.
2. The County Hazard Mitigation Coordinator is responsible for coordinating County efforts in reducing hazards in Delaware County.
3. All County agencies will participate in risk reduction activities with the County Hazard Mitigation Coordinator.
4. The Hazard Mitigation Coordinator will participate as a member of the County Emergency Planning Committee.

#### B. IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS OF POTENTIAL HAZARDS

1. The County Emergency Planning Committee, in conjunction with the Director of the Department of Emergency Services will:
  - a) identify potential hazards in the County
  - b) determine the probable impact each of those hazards could have on people and property
  - c) delineate the geographic areas affected by potential hazards, plot them on maps, and designate them as hazard areas
2. Significant potential hazards to be identified and analyzed include natural, technological, and human-caused hazards.
3. To comply with (1) and (2) above, hazards that pose a potential threat have been identified and analyzed by the Emergency Planning Committee as part of the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services' County Emergency Preparedness Assessment (CEPA), most recently conducted in March of 2015.

## DELAWARE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

4. This hazard analysis component CEPA:
  - a) provides a basic method for analyzing and ranking the identified hazards, including identification of geographic areas and populations at risk to specific hazards
  - b) establishes priorities for planning for those hazards receiving a high ranking of significance
  - c) was conducted in conjunction with the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services
  - d) is to be reviewed and updated by the county as appropriate
5. The rating and ranking results of the hazard analysis are found in Table 1.
6. The complete CEPA results, are located in the Delaware County Department of Emergency Services
7. The Delaware County Hazard Mitigation Plan includes an extensive discussion of hazards that can impact Delaware County and as well as a detailed assessment of the risk posed to Delaware County communities by each hazard that has been identified. Specifically the Plan calculated a "risk ranking" for each identified hazard by assigning a numerical value for the probability of occurrence and multiplying that figure by a numerical sum of that assesses impact of the hazard.

**TABLE 1 – CEPA Hazard Analysis and Risk Scores for Delaware County Hazards**

Hazard	Likelihood	Consequence	Relative Risk Score
Flooding	Very High	Very High	25
Active Shooter	Very High	High	20
Ice Storms (1/2 inch +)	Medium	Very High	15
Cyber Attack	Very High	Medium	15
Severe Winter Snowstorms	High	Medium	12
Severe Wind / Tornado	Medium	High	12
HazMat Release	High	Medium	12
HazMat Release – In Transit	High	Medium	12
Major Transportation Accident	High	Medium	12
Major Fires (non-wildfires)	High	Medium	12
Water Supply Disruption	High	Medium	12
Invasive Species	High	Medium	12
Pandemic	Medium	High	12
Drought	Medium	Medium	9
Sustained Power Outage (three or more days)	Medium	Medium	9
Critical Infrastructure Failure	Medium	Medium	9
Waste Storage Facility Failure (liquid manure)	Medium	Medium	9
Hurricanes / Tropical Storm	High	Low	8
Animal Disease / Foreign Animal Disease	Low	High	8
Improvised Explosive Device (IED) / Vehicle Born IED	Low	High	8
Radiological Dispersal Device (RDD)	Low	High	8
Wildfire	Low	Medium	6
Extreme Temperatures	Medium		6
Biological Agent Release	Low	Medium	6
Food Contamination	Low	Medium	6
Radiological Release (Fixed-Site)	Low	Medium	6
Improvised Nuclear Device (IND)	Very Low	Very High	5
Earthquakes	Very Low	Very Low	1
Landslides	Very Low	Very Low	1

**C. RISK REDUCTION POLICIES, PROGRAMS AND REPORTS**

1. County agencies are authorized to:

- a) promote policies, programs and activities to reduce hazard risks in their area of responsibility

## DELAWARE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

b) Examples of the above are:

- encourage municipalities to adopt comprehensive community development plans, zoning ordinances, subdivision regulations, and building codes that are cognizant of and take into account significant hazards in the county
- promote compliance with and enforcement of existing laws, regulations, and codes that are related to hazard risks, e, g., building and fire codes, flood plain regulations
- encourage and assist water and wastewater treatment plants to replace chlorine use with a safer disinfectant
- encourage and participate in municipal stream channel maintenance programs
- encourage state and local DOT's to address dangerous conditions on roads used by hazardous materials carriers.

2. The Delaware County Planning Board is responsible for land use management of county owned land and the review of land use management actions throughout the county, including:

- authorizing County land use management programs
- advising and assisting local governments in the county in developing and adopting comprehensive master plans for community development, zoning ordinances, subdivision regulations and building codes
- assisting and advising the Local Planning Boards in the review process of local zoning and subdivision actions
- participation in SEQRA review of proposed projects in the County the County

3. In all of the above activities, the County Planning Board will take into account the significant hazards in Delaware County.

4. The Director of the Department of Emergency Service and the County Hazard Mitigation Coordinator will identify specific hazard reduction actions that could be taken for those hazards determined by the hazard analysis to be most significant.

## DELAWARE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

5. For each hazard reduction action identified, the following information is to be included:
  - a) a description of the action
  - b) a statement on the technical feasibility of the action
  - c) the estimated cost of the action
  - d) the expected benefits of the action and the estimated monetary value of each benefit
  - e) an estimate of the level of community support for the action
6. This information will be consolidated into a Risk Reduction Report.
7. The Risk Reduction Report will prioritize and make recommendations concerning the identified actions.

### D. EMERGENCY RESPONSE CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT

1. Periodic assessment of the county's capability to manage the emergencies that could be caused by the hazards identified in the County is a critical part of Risk Reduction. Delaware County conducted a capability assessment for 28 critical capabilities as part of the NYS DHSES Comprehensive Emergency Preparedness Assessment in March of 2015.
2. The Director of the Department of Emergency Services, on a periodic basis will:
  - a) assess the county's current capability for dealing with those significant hazards that have been identified and analyzed, including but not limited to:
    - the likely time of onset of the hazard
    - the impacted communities' preparedness levels
    - the existence of effective warning systems
    - the communities' means to respond to anticipated casualties and damage
3. To assist the Planning Committee in its assessment, the Director of the Department of Emergency Services will conduct annual tabletop and periodic full scale exercises based upon specific hazards and hazard areas.

### E. TRAINING OF EMERGENCY PERSONNEL

1. The Delaware County Director of the Department of Emergency Services has the responsibility to:
  - a) arrange and provide, with the assistance of the New York State Office of Emergency Management the conduct of training programs for County emergency

## DELAWARE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

response personnel

b) Encourage and support training for town and village emergency response personnel, including volunteers

c) such training programs will:

- include information on the characteristics of hazards and their consequences and the implementation of emergency response actions including protective measures, notification procedures, and available resources
- include Incident Command System (ICS) training, focusing on individual roles
- provide personnel with the training on a variety of skills necessary to help reduce or eliminate hazards and increase their effectiveness to respond to and recover from emergencies of all types
- be provided for crisis situations, that requires additional specialized training and refresher training
- administer State and county sponsored fire and EMS training programs.

2. All county departments and agencies assigned emergency functions are responsible to participate in county drills and training courses.
3. Volunteers participating in emergency services such as fire and rescue operations, ambulance services, first aid and other emergency medical services, Red Cross, Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES), should be trained by these services in accordance with established procedures and standards

### F. PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

1. The Director of the Department of Emergency Services is responsible for:

- a) providing education on hazards to the young adult and adult public in the county
- b) making the public aware of existing hazards in their communities
- c) familiarizing the public with the kind of protective measures the county has developed to respond to any emergency arising from the hazard

2. This education will:

- a) cover all significant hazards

## DELAWARE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

- b) be available free of charge
  - c) be provided by the existing school systems in the county through arrangements with the superintendent of schools
  
  - d) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) pamphlets, books and kits dealing with all aspects of emergency management and materials developed by New York State
3. The NYS Office of Emergency Management and other State departments, as appropriate, will be made available for use in the program.

### G. MONITORING OF IDENTIFIED HAZARD AREAS

1. Local officials will develop, with the necessary assistance of other county departments, the capability to monitor identified hazard areas, in order to detect hazardous situations in their earliest stages.
2. As a hazard's emergence is detected, this information is to be immediately provided to the Department of Emergency Services or the Delaware County Warning Point / Delaware County Sheriff's Office, as appropriate.
3. When appropriate, monitoring stations may be established regarding specific hazard areas where individuals responsible to perform the monitoring tasks can be stationed.
4. Monitoring tasks include detecting the hazard potential and taking measurements or observations of the hazard. Examples of such are rising water levels, toxic exposure levels, slope and ground movement, mass gatherings, the formation and breakup of ice jams, shore erosion, and dam conditions.
5. All County hazard monitoring activity will be coordinated with, and make use of where available, local governments, private industry, school districts, utility companies, and volunteer agencies and individuals, as appropriate.

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