



NORTHERN PIEDMONT

REGIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE



QR CODE TO
PROJECT WEBSITE

Background

The Northern Piedmont Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan aims to assess, reduce, and prepare for the impact of natural and man-made hazards in the region. The Plan Update involves the identification of vulnerabilities and prioritization of mitigation strategies to better prepare for, respond to, and recover from a hazardous event. Through collaboration and coordination, the Plan Update seeks to engage stakeholders, raise awareness, and facilitate measures to mitigate risk and build a safer, more resilient region for current and future generations.

Plan Development Overview

Subtask	Status	Notes
Task 1: Planning Process	Complete	Involves internal kickoff, planning team meetings (3 minimum), and public meetings (2 minimum).
Task 2: Risk Assessment	Complete	Update previously developed risk assessment with latest data for hazard profiles and risk assessment techniques.
Task 3: Capability Assessment	Complete	Project team to update previous capability assessment survey from last update. Communities to confirm changes and revise as needed.
Task 4: Mitigation Strategy	Complete	Update status of existing mitigation actions from previous plan and propose new actions based on need.
Task 5: Plan Maintenance Procedures	Complete	Includes analysis of previous methods/schedules of plan monitoring, evaluating, and updating.

Hazards Identified & Ranked

Hazards were identified by review of the historical occurrences, the 2020 RHMP, and the State HMP. The following hazards were included and profiled in the 2025 RHMP Update:

Flooding	Hurricanes & Coastal Hazards
Severe Winter Weather	Excessive Heat
Earthquake	Wildfire
Dam Failure	Drought
Tornadoes/Thunderstorms	Geological
Hazardous Substances	Radiological Emergency
Terrorism	Infectious Disease
Cyber Threat	Electromagnetic Pulse
Civil Disturbance (NEW)	Food Emergency (NEW)

The Priority Risk Index (PRI) was used to assess and rank the identified hazard based on factors like probability, impact, and warning time, as well as stakeholder input. This helped prioritize mitigation efforts by focusing on the risks that pose the greatest threat.

HIGH RISK	Cybersecurity Excessive Heat Tornadoes/Thunderstorms Flooding Infectious Disease
MODERATE RISK	Drought Hurricanes and Tropical Hazards Severe Winter Weather Earthquakes Geological Dam Failure Wildfires Hazardous Substances Terrorism Food Emergency
LOW RISK	Radiological Emergency Electromagnetic Pulse Civil Disturbance

Capabilities

A Capability Assessment was completed for each participating community to evaluate their existing tools, resources, and capacities for reducing risk. Regulatory, technical, and financial capacities were reviewed.

This helped identify strengths and gaps in local mitigation capabilities, guiding the development of effective and realistic strategies.

	Low Vulnerability	Moderate Vulnerability	High Vulnerability
High Capability	(Best Case Scenario)		
Moderate Capability			
Low Capability			(Worst Case Scenario)

Community capability is summarized below:

Community	Capability Score	Capability Ranking
Forsyth County	47	HIGH
Bethania	28	MODERATE
Clemmons	38	MODERATE
Kernersville	40	HIGH
Lewisville	34	MODERATE
Rural Hall	28	MODERATE
Tobaccoville	28	MODERATE
Walkerton	29	MODERATE
Winston-Salem	47	HIGH

Mitigation Action Plan

Before updating the Mitigation Action Plan, the mitigation goals were thoroughly reviewed to ensure they remain relevant, achievable, and aligned with the current risks and community priorities. This review was essential to confirm the updated actions directly support the overall objectives of reducing vulnerability and enhancing resilience.

Mitigation Goals	
GOAL #1	Protect the public health, safety, and welfare by increasing public awareness of hazards and encouraging collective and individual responsibility for mitigating hazard risks.
GOAL #2	Improve technical capacity to respond to hazards and to improve the effectiveness of hazard mitigation actions.
GOAL #3	Enhance existing or create new policies and ordinances that will help reduce the damaging effects of natural hazards.
GOAL #4	Protect the most vulnerable populations, buildings, and critical facilities through the implementation of cost-effective and technically feasible mitigation actions.
GOAL #5	Decrease the community's vulnerability to future hazard events.
GOAL #6	Increase the community's resilience so that recovery can be quicker and less costly.
GOAL #7	Reduce hazard risks to residents' lives and property.

Each participating community had an existing Mitigation Action Plan from the previous update. As part of the planning process, communities reviewed their existing actions, provided status updates on implementation progress, and identified any new actions they wanted to include in the plan update.

Mitigation Techniques:

PROPERTY PROTECTION

PREVENTION

NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION

EMERGENCY SERVICES

STRUCTURAL PROJECTS

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

Mitigation Actions Summarized

Community	Page Number	Number of Mitigation Actions
Forsyth County	9:35	13
Bethania	9:40	6
Clemmons	9:44	11
Kernersville	9:48	6
Lewisville	9:52	6
Rural Hall	9:56	5
Tobaccoville	9:59	6
Walkerton	9:63	6
Winston-Salem	9:67	7

Thank you!

For more information and to review Forsyth County's Mitigation Action Plan, please visit the Project Website by scanning the QR located in the header!