

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY MITIGATION STRATEGIES

Northampton County is the southernmost county on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. There are 6 towns within the county. These towns include: parts of Belle Haven, Cape Charles, Cheriton, Eastville, Exmore and Nassawadox. The Towns were invited to contribute to the Eastern Shore of Virginia Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (ESHIRA) and Eastern Shore of Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan. Representatives from Exmore, Eastville, and Cape Charles participated in the ESHIRA development.

PLAN MAINTENANCE

The Coordinator of Emergency Services will review the Hazard Mitigation Plan every year prior to the July 1 deadline for the Local Capability Readiness Assessment (LCAR). The Coordinator will evaluate the plan and review progress made during the previous years on the goals and projects in the plan. The Coordinator will use the LCAR criteria for hazard mitigation to evaluate the hazard mitigation program. Progress will be reflected in the LCAR. The Coordinator will also recommend any revisions to the Board of Supervisors. By July 1, 2015, the Director of Emergency Services will assemble a Committee or represent Northampton County on a Committee to update the plan. Towns will also have an opportunity to participate in the Plan update. The Committee will work to complete the updates by the fifth year anniversary of the adoption of the plan. The community will have opportunity to comment on plan revisions and updates prior to the Board of Supervisors approving them.

Northampton County and the incorporated Towns have Comprehensive Plans. The Coordinator of Emergency Services will provide input and plan materials to the planning group responsible for updating the County Comprehensive Plan and any other relevant planning efforts, such as the Town's comprehensive planning. During updates of the Comprehensive Plan and other relevant planning efforts, the Hazard Mitigation Plan will be reviewed and appropriate material incorporated into the updates.

See Chapter 2, page 7 and 8 for additional information about plan maintenance and evaluation.

IDENTIFIED MITIGATION GOALS & STRATEGIES – NORTHAMPTON COUNTY

Goal 1 - Local Governments Guide a Comprehensive Mitigation Program Including Public Education and Ongoing Hazard Assessments

Strategy 1.1 - Increase the capacity of Northampton mitigation program through training and coordination with federal, state and local governments.

Goal 2 - Residents, Businesses, Local Governments, and other Community Partners Will Work Independently and Together to Minimize Community Disruption Through Planning and Mitigation Activities

Strategy 2.1 - Retrofit housing to reduce risk of coastal flooding.

Strategy 2.2 - Protect new housing by reducing the risk of damage from natural hazards.

Strategy 2.3 - Retrofit commercial and residential structures to reduce risk of the most critical natural hazard damage.

Goal 3 - Local Governments Encourage Self-sufficiency and Personal Responsibility for Managing Risk

Strategy 3.1 - Increase resident preparedness in the County.

Strategy 3.2 - Educate residents about flood insurance available and encourage participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

Goal 4 - Local Governments Will Work to Ensure That Infrastructure Will Continuously Function During and After a Hazard Event

Strategy 4.1 - Maintain traffic flow after a natural hazard event.

Strategy 4.2 - Ensure continuity of public water and wastewater systems.

Strategy 4.3 - Provide for adequate sheltering during an emergency.

Goal 5 - Local Governments Will Make Efforts to Reach Special Needs Populations

Strategy 5.1 - Improve communications with special needs residents before and after hazard events.

IDENTIFIED MITIGATION PROJECTS – NORTHAMPTON COUNTY

Goal 1 - Local Governments Guide a Comprehensive Mitigation Program including Public Education and Ongoing Hazard Assessments							
<i>Strategy 1.1 - Increase the capacity of Northampton mitigation program through training and coordination with federal, state and local governments.</i>							
Priority Rank	Northampton County – Goal 1: Description of Projects	Hazard(s) Addressed	Responsible Department	HMP Year / Start Timeline	Status as of 2011	Status as of 2016	Add'l. Info.
1	Set a regional compatibility standard for emergency communications	ALL	ESDPC	2006	Funding acquired, pending	Ongoing	
1	Upgrade communications systems and provide for backup in the event of a communication failure, provide for interoperability and redundancy	ALL	ESDPC	2011	Not Started	Ongoing	
1	Hire a Public Safety Director	ALL	North. Co. Admin.	2006 / 2007	Not Complete	Not Complete	Funding
1	Offer County staff free CERT training during office hours in the late afternoon or early morning with the employees using personal time one Saturday to complete the training.	ALL	Northampton Co. Emergency Services	2006 / 2007	Not Started	Not Complete	Funding, Staff
3	Institute a recruitment program for volunteer firefighters. Publicize details on how to volunteer on the County website.	Fire	Northampton Co. Admin.	2006 / 2007	Ongoing	Ongoing	
1	Prepare a letter and package of information to encourage the towns without identified floodzones (Nassawadox, Eastville, Cheriton) to join the National Flood Insurance Program allowing residents with storm water flooding problems to purchase flood insurance.	Flood	Northampton Co. Planning & Zoning	2007	Not Started	No longer needed.	This was discussed with all Towns during the HMP process

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1	Recommend that the Town of Cape Charles identify potential shelter locations within the town in case the town becomes isolated during an emergency.	ALL	Northampton Co. Emergency Services	2006	Not Started	Not Started	
1	Evaluate and develop a priority list of residential and commercial properties that qualify for the HMGP	Flood	A-NPDC & localities	2011	Ongoing	Ongoing	
Completed Projects							
---	Produce Responder Bilingual Cards with English on back. An example of the type of message to be included is "Do not drink the water."	ALL	Health Department and the Eastern Shore Disaster Preparedness Coalition (ESDPC)	2006 / 2006	Complete*	Complete	
---	Obtain more changeable warning signs	ALL	VDOT	2006 / 2006	Complete	Complete	
---	Create a formal waiting list of residential and commercial projects for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.	ALL	Northampton Co. Admin.	2006	Complete	Complete	
---	Upgrade communications systems and provide for backup in the event of a communication failure, provide for interoperability and redundancy	ALL	ESDPC	2006 / 2009	Complete	Ongoing	

*Spanish Health and Emergency Preparedness informational brochures have been produced and are available to the Hispanic population through a variety of outlets.

Eastern Shore of Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan

Goal 2 - Residents, Businesses, Local Governments, and other Community Partners Will Work Independently and Together to Minimize Community Disruption Through Planning and Mitigation Activities							
<i>Strategy 2.1 - Retrofit housing to reduce risk of coastal flooding.</i>							
<i>Strategy 2.2 - Protect new housing by reducing the risk of damage from natural hazards.</i>							
<i>Strategy 2.3 - Retrofit commercial and residential structures to reduce risk of the most critical natural hazard damage.</i>							
Priority Rank	Northampton County – Goal 2: Description of Projects	Hazard(s) Addressed	Responsible Department	HMP Year / Start Timeline	Status as of 2011	Status as of 2016	Add'l. Info.
1	The Town of Exmore has expressed interest in solving their drainage issues in their downtown. Produce a drainage and storm water study of the Town of Exmore's flooding issues in downtown.	Hazmat Incidences, Well Contamination, Storm Water Flood, Biohazard	Mayor of Exmore/Town Manager	2006 / 2016	Not Started	Ongoing	Actively seeking funding and contractor
1	Conduct a drainage survey of areas East and South of Eastville and the Town of Eastville	Storm Water Flood, Biohazard	Northampton Co. Planning & Zoning	2006 / 2008	Ongoing	Ongoing	
1	Conduct a drainage survey of countywide drainage issues; Develop a comprehensive drainage plan that identifies specific projects to improve drainage.	Storm Water Flood, Biohazard	Northampton Co. Planning & Zoning	2006 / 2009	Not Started	Not Started	Funding
1	Maintain a Conservation Preservation Zoning District encompassing coastal areas.	Flood, Erosion, Well Contamination	Northampton Co. Admin.	2006	Ongoing	Ongoing	
1	Enforce the primary dune ordinance.	Flood, Erosion, Well Contamination	Northampton Co. Planning & Zoning	2006	Ongoing	Ongoing	
1	Consider incentives in the zoning ordinance for developers who reserve land or take other measures to preserve both primary and secondary sand dunes.	Flood, Erosion, Well Contamination	Northampton Co. Planning & Zoning	2006 /	Not Started	Not Started	Staff
1	Enforce buffer zone widths set forth in the zoning ordinance along the bayside and seaside waterfront.	Flood, Erosion, Well Contamination	Northampton Co. Planning & Zoning	2006	Ongoing	Ongoing	

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1	Revise floodplain management regulations in accordance with new FEMA guidance	ALL	Northampton Co. Planning & Zoning	2011 / 2012	Ongoing	Ongoing	
1	Incorporate the Eastern Shore of Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan into the Northampton County Comprehensive Plan.	ALL	Northampton Co. Planning & Zoning	2011 / During next Comp. Plan update	Not Started	Ongoing; 2013 draft Plan in progress	
1	Mitigation of flood prone properties (to include, but not limited to acquisition, elevation, relocation, and dry and wet flood proofing of flood prone structures, and mitigation reconstruction for NFIP defined SRL properties only).	Flood	Northampton Co. Planning & Zoning, A-NPDC	2011 / Post-declared disaster	Not Started	Not Started	
Completed Projects							
---	Conduct a drainage survey of Cheapside	Storm Water Flood	Northampton Co. Planning & Zoning	2006 / 2007	Complete	Complete	
---	Manage a Residential Mitigation Project		Northampton Co. Emergency Services Coordinator	2006 / Post-declared disaster	Complete	Complete	
---	After any presidential declared disaster, manage Residential and Commercial Mitigation Projects that address the most critical damage that has occurred.	ALL	Northampton Co. Emergency Services Coordinator	2006 / Post-declared disaster	Complete	Complete	
---	Install storm shutters to withstand hurricane winds on the EOC building.	Wind	Northampton Co. Emergency Services Coordinator	2006 / 2009	Complete	Complete	

Eastern Shore of Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan

Goal 3 - Local Governments Encourage Self-sufficiency and Personal Responsibility for Managing Risk							
<i>Strategy 3.1 - Increase resident preparedness in the County.</i>							
<i>Strategy 3.2 - Educate residents about flood insurance available and encourage participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.</i>							
Priority Rank	Northampton County – Goal 3: Description of Projects	Hazard(s) Addressed	Responsible Department	HMP Year / Start Timeline	Status as of 2011	Status as of 2016	Add'l. Info.
1	Send out information encouraging residents to purchase contents and structure flood insurance to all homes and businesses located in the County's regulated flood zones.	Flood	Northampton County Planning	2006 / Yearly	Ongoing	Ongoing	
1	Provide preparedness information on the County's website.	ALL	Northampton Co. Emergency Services Coordinator	2006 / 2007	Complete, Ongoing	Complete, Ongoing	EverBridge alert system available
1	Provide updated preparedness information on the County's website to include materials for the Hispanic population.	ALL	Northampton Co. Emergency Services	2011 / 2007	Complete, Ongoing	Complete, Ongoing	
1	Send out information encouraging residents to purchase contents and structure flood insurance to all homes and businesses located in the County's regulated flood zones.	Flood	Northampton County Planning	2011 / Yearly	Not Started	Not Started	
Completed Projects							
---	Investigate whether Northampton should pursue a better CRS rating to reduce flood insurance premiums in the County.	Flood	Northampton Co. Admin.	2006 / 2008	Complete	-	

Northampton County Mitigation Strategies

Goal 4 - Local Governments Will Work to Ensure That Infrastructure Will Continuously Function During and After a Hazard Event							
<i>Strategy 4.1 - Maintain traffic flow after a natural hazard event.</i>							
<i>Strategy 4.2 - Ensure continuity of public water and wastewater systems.</i>							
<i>Strategy 4.3 - Provide for adequate sheltering during an emergency.</i>							
Priority Rank	Northampton County – Goal 4: Description of Projects	Hazard(s) Addressed	Responsible Department	HMP Year / Start Timeline	Status as of 2011	Status as of 2016	Add'l. Info.
1	Assess and identify emergency generator power serving public water and wastewater systems for adequacy.	Wind, Ice & Snow, Heatwave	Northampton Co. Public Works Dept.	2011 / 2011	Started	Complete	
1	Retrofit existing emergency shelters against flooding and wind including backup power supplies.	Flood, Wind	Northampton Co. Emergency Services	2011 / 2012	Not Started	Ongoing	
1	Identify and mitigate drainage problems at major intersections along Route 13 in Northampton County.	Storm Water Flood, Biohazards	VDOT	2011 / 2012	Started	Ongoing	
Completed Projects							
---	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Retrofit three lights for backup power to facilitate traffic movement during a large power outage. 2. The light serving the hospital at Rogers Drive (Rt. 606) and Route 13 in Nassawadox 3. A light at the following intersections, Rt. 13 and Rt. 178 in Belle Haven 4. The light at Stone Road (Rt. 184) and Route 13 serving the Town of Cape Charles. 	ALL	VDOT	2006 / 2009	Complete	-	

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Goal 5 - Local Governments Will Make Efforts to Reach Special Needs Populations							
<i>Strategy 5.1 - Improve communications with special needs residents before and after hazard events.</i>							
Priority Rank	Northampton County – Goal 5: Description of Projects	Hazard(s) Addressed	Responsible Department	HMP Year / Start Timeline	Status as of 2011	Status as of 2016	Add'l. Info.
1	Work with the Department of Social Services, the Eastern Shore Area Agency on Aging, home health agencies and other organizations to identify special-needs residents and ensure that responsible parties are notified of potentially hazardous situations.	ALL	Northampton Co. Emergency Services	2011	Not Started	Not Started	
1	Establish and maintain a list of seasonal migrant housing locations.	ALL	ESDPC & Northampton Co. Emergency Services	2011	Not Started	Ongoing	
1	Consider plan for sheltering of domestic pets.	ALL	Northampton Co. Emergency Services	2011	Not Started	Still Considering	
Completed Projects							
-	Acquire and implement an updated communications system that can be used for citizen notifications.	ALL	Northampton Co. Emergency Services	2011	Not Started	Complete	

Northampton County Mitigation Strategies

IDENTIFIED MITIGATION PROJECTS – NORTHAMPTON COUNTY TOWNS

<u>Town</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Hazard(s) Addressed</u>	<u>Responsible Party</u>	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>HMP Year/Start Timeline</u>	<u>2011 Status</u>	<u>2016 Status</u>	<u>Add'l. Info.</u>
Cape Charles	Incorporate the Eastern Shore of Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan into the Cape Charles Town Plan.	ALL	Town Planning & Zoning Staff	2.1, 2.2	next Town Plan update	Not Started	Not Started	Lack of Communication
Cape Charles	Mitigate the Town's Infrastructure against flooding and wind.	Flood, Wind	Town Building/Code Enforcement + Planning & Zoning Staff	2.2	Post-Declared Disaster	Ongoing	Ongoing	
Cape Charles	Maintain records of stormwater flooding events.	Storm Water Flood, Biohazard	Town Public Works & Utilities Staff	2.2	2011	Ongoing	Ongoing	
Cape Charles	Take actions to improve Community Rating System ranking in order to decrease residents' flood insurance rates.	Flood	Town Building/Code Enforcement + Planning & Zoning Staff	2.2	2011	Ongoing	Ongoing	
Cape Charles	Mitigate risk to Town water supply by constructing new water tower on south side of Town.	Well Contam., Wind	Town Public Works & Utilities Staff	2.3	Unknown	Not Started	Not Started	Funding
Cape Charles	Implement coastal erosion mitigation actions into the Town's Beach Management Plan.	Erosion	Town Planning & Zoning Staff	2.2	2011	Ongoing	Ongoing	
Cape Charles	Promote Hazard Mitigation at local community events and meetings.	ALL	Town Staff, Manager, & Mayor	1.1, 3.2	2011	Ongoing	Ongoing	
Cape Charles	Educate residents, real estate agents, and lenders about recent changes to flood zones in the Town.	Flood	Town Building/Code Enforcement	1.1, 3.2	2016	-	Not started	Staff

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<u>Town</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Hazard(s) Addressed</u>	<u>Responsible Party</u>	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>HMP Year/Start Timeline</u>	<u>2011 Status</u>	<u>2016 Status</u>	<u>Add'l. Info.</u>
			+ Planning & Zoning Staff					
Cheriton	Incorporate the Eastern Shore of Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan into the Cheriton Town Plan	ALL	Town Staff	1.1	During next Town Plan update.	NA	Not Started	No Plan update yet
Cheriton	Cooperate with VDOT to mitigate stormwater drainage in Cheriton.	Storm Water Flood, Biohazards	Town Staff, VDOT	2.2, 4.1	2016	NA	Not Started	Funding, Coordination
Cheriton	Develop and implement a drainage plan to ensure appropriate repairs and regular maintenance to prevent stormwater flooding in the Town.	Storm Water Flood, Biohazards	Town Staff, or contracted entity	2.2, 4.1	2016		Not Started	Staff, Funding, Coordination
Cheriton	Promote Hazard Mitigation at local community events and meetings.	ALL	Town Staff	1.1, 3.1, 3.2	2016	NA	Not Started	Staff Expertise
Cheriton	Equip the Town Hall/Office with a generator.	Wind, Ice & Snow	Town Staff	4.3	2016	NA	Not Started	Funding
Cheriton	Develop and distribute multilingual emergency plan & preparedness handouts/signage.	ALL	Northampton County, Town	3.2, 5.1	2016	NA	Not Started	Coordination with County
Cheriton	Work with VDOT to ensure safety of major intersection at Route 13, which is featured in the VDOT Safety Study of April 2016. Most likely adding an arrow to the traffic light signal.	ALL	Town, VDOT	2.3, 4.1	2016	NA	Not Started	Funding, Coordination
Eastville	Incorporate the Eastern Shore of Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan into the Eastville Town Plan	ALL	Town Staff	2.1, 2.2	During next Town Plan update.	Not Started	Not Started	No Plan update yet
Eastville	Adopt minimum standards such that the Town can participate in the National Flood Insurance Program	Flood	Town Staff	1.1	2011	Not Started	Not Started	Staff Expertise

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<u>Town</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Hazard(s) Addressed</u>	<u>Responsible Party</u>	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>HMP Year/Start Timeline</u>	<u>2011 Status</u>	<u>2016 Status</u>	<u>Add'l. Info.</u>
Eastville	Cooperate with VDEQ to ensure adequate water supply and quality.	Well Contam., Drought, Heat Wave	Town Staff, VDEQ	2.2	2011	Started	Started	
Eastville	Upgrade aging water distribution lines in Eastville.	Well Contam., Drought, Biohazards	Town Staff	4.1	2011	Not Started	Not Started	Funding
Eastville	Cooperate with VDOT to mitigate stormwater drainage in Eastville.	Storm Water Flood, Biohazards	Town Staff, VDOT	2.2	2011	Not Started	Not Started	
Eastville	Promote Hazard Mitigation at local community events and meetings.	ALL	Town & County Staff	1.1	2011	Ongoing	Ongoing	
Exmore	Incorporate the Eastern Shore of Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan into the Exmore Town Plan	ALL	Town Manager & Clerk	1.1	2011 / During next Town Plan update.	Not Started	Partially Complete	The 2015 Plan refers to the HMP team and identifies some of the mitigation actions.
Exmore	Conduct public education and outreach efforts within Town to raise awareness and promote participation of the NFIP.	Flood	Town Staff	3.1, 3.2, 5.1	2011	Not Started	Not Started	Staff Expertise
Exmore	Replace the Town's aging public water supply wells.	Well Contam.	Town Staff	2.3, 4.2	2011	Not Started	To be completed in May, 2017	
Exmore	Cooperate with VDOT and the County to mitigate stormwater drainage in Exmore.	Storm Water	Town Staff, VDOT	2.2, 4.1	2011	Not Started	Not Started	Coordination

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		Flood, Biohazard						
Exmore	Produce a drainage and stormwater study of Exmore's flooding issues in downtown.	Storm Water Flood, Biohazard	Town Staff	2.2, 4.1, 4.2	2011	Not Started	Not Started	Funding, Coordination
Exmore	Upgrade aging water distribution lines in Exmore.	Well Contam.	Town Staff	4.2	2011	Not Started	Not Started	Funding
Exmore	Culvert Hadlock Lane ditch to mitigate erosion.	Erosion, Storm Water Flood, Biohazard	VDOT	2.2, 4.1	2016	Not Started	Not Started	Funding, Coordination
Exmore	Develop emergency plan to utilize treated gray water for fire suppression.	Fire, Well Contam.	Town Staff, County Emergency Management	4.3	2016	Not Started	Not Started	Funding, Staff Expertise
Nassawadox	Incorporate the Eastern Shore of Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan into the Nassawadox Town Plan	ALL	Town Staff	1.1	During next Town Plan update.	-	Not Started	No new plan yet
Nassawadox	Cooperate with VDEQ and others to ensure adequate water supply and quality.	Well Contam.	Town Staff, Riverside, VDEQ, GWC	4.2	2016	-	Not Started	Coordination
Nassawadox	Cooperate with VDOT to mitigate stormwater drainage in Nassawadox.	Storm Water Flood, Biohazard	Town, VDOT	2.2, 4.1	2016	-	Not Started	Coordination
Nassawadox	Develop and implement a drainage plan to ensure appropriate repairs and regular maintenance to prevent stormwater flooding in the Town.	Storm Water	Town, VDOT	2.2, 4.1	2016	-	Not Started	Staff Expertise, Coordination

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<u>Town</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Hazard(s) Addressed</u>	<u>Responsible Party</u>	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>HMP Year/Start Timeline</u>	<u>2011 Status</u>	<u>2016 Status</u>	<u>Add'l. Info.</u>
		Flood, Biohazard						
Nassawadox	Promote Hazard Mitigation at local community events and meetings.	ALL	Town	1.1, 3.1, 3.2	2016	-	Not Started	Staff
Nassawadox	Replace flat roofing of critical facilities and residential structures with pitched roofs built to (or to exceed) minimum wind standards.	Wind	Town, FEMA	2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 4.3	2016	-	Not Started	Funding
Nassawadox	Develop a location that could serve as the Town Hall and a staging area, equip this building with a generator.	ALL	Town, FEMA	4.3	2016	-	Not Started	Funding