

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS POINTER

FEBRUARY 2022

HAZARD MITIGATION

What is Hazard Mitigation?

Hazard Mitigation is the cornerstone of emergency management. It is defined as “sustained action that reduces or eliminates long-term risk to people and property from natural hazards and their effects.”

Often, actions to enhance mitigation require an initial investment. Studies have indicated that these investments produce a solid return following a disaster. Estimates show that for every 1 dollar spent on mitigation, 6 dollars are saved from future losses.

The Mitigation Process

People today don't think much about putting on a seatbelt when they get in a vehicle; it is just what they do. But it was not always that way. It took well documented research and public outreach to convince people that wearing a seatbelt would greatly reduce the risk of injury or death in an accident. Eventually the practice became law in all fifty states. The process of identifying a hazard, developing measures to reduce the effects or eliminate a hazard, and then implementing those measures is called mitigation. Seatbelts are an example of how a physical aspect (the seatbelt), a policy aspect (seatbelt law) and an educational element (public outreach) were implemented to achieve the goal of risk reduction. Currently, local jurisdictions and taxing districts are updating the Ada County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (MHMP), which uses a similar type of process to address the natural hazards of our area.

Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

The Ada County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan discusses mitigation efforts for the entire county. This plan goes through an updating process every 5 years

to ensure that the latest information and analysis relevant to hazard mitigation in Ada County is captured in the plan. The next update is set to finish in 2022.

We Need Your Help

The process of updating the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan is a group effort involving various stakeholders from around the county. One of the most important stakeholders in this process is you, the public. We need your help to better understand the public's view of our most prevalent hazards, risk exposure, and community preparedness.

Right now, there is a survey available to help us gather public input. We are all in this together to mitigate the impact hazards may have in our neighborhoods, communities, and the entire county. Taking this survey will allow you to get involved in this important project.

Hazard Mitigation Survey

The Hazard Mitigation Survey is completely anonymous and allows the public to share their thoughts on how Ada County can become a safer, more resilient place to live, work, and play. The survey should take less than 10 minutes to complete and runs through February 28, 2022. Let your voice be heard! Click the button to take the Ada County Hazard Mitigation Survey today!



Ada County Emergency Management & Community Resilience

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