

Stockertown Borough, Northampton County Annex

Hazard Mitigation Plan Points-of-Contact

Primary:

John Soloe
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Alternate:

Alex Henning
Public Works Director
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Municipal Profile

Stockertown Borough is located in the central part of Northampton County. It encompasses an area of approximately 1.0 square mile, and has a population of 927 (2010 Census). The borough is bordered by Plainfield Township to the north; Forks Township to the east; Tatamy Borough and Palmer Township to the south; and Upper Nazareth Township to the west.

The Bushkill Creek forms most of the borough's western and southern border with Palmer Township. The Little Bushkill Creek runs roughly parallel to the Bushkill Creek in the northwestern part of the borough, and then turns southeast to the middle of the borough, where it flows south to its confluence with the Bushkill Creek. There are a few small ponds along the Little Bushkill Creek, used by the Stockertown Rod & Gun Club.

PA Route 33 runs north-south through the western half of the borough. It interchanges with PA Route 191 (East Lawn Road / Industrial Boulevard). PA Route 191 runs east-west from near the midpoint of the borough's western border, and follows Main Street north after crossing PA Route 33. Main Street also travels southeast from the intersection of Industrial Boulevard.

Municipal Participation

1. Identify municipal stakeholders to be involved in the planning process such as, floodplain administrator, public works, emergency management, engineers, planners, etc., and include their specific role in the process.

John Soloe, Police Chief
Role:

Amy Richard, Council President
Role:

Alex Hennings, Director of Public Works
Role:

Keystone Engineers, Borough Engineers
Role:

Municipal Participation – continued

- Identify community stakeholders such as; neighborhood groups, religious groups, major employers / businesses, etc., that will be informed and / or involved in the planning process and describe how they will be involved.

None

- Describe how the public **will be engaged** in the current planning process examples, newsletters, social media, etc., **and how they were engaged** since the 2013 Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Newsletter
Public Meetings
Social Media

Compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

Topic	Identify source of information, if different from the one listed.	Additional Comments
1. Staff Resources		
Is the Community Floodplain Administrator (FPA) or NFIP Coordinator certified?	Community FPA	
Is floodplain management an auxiliary function?	Community FPA	Yes
Provide an explanation of NFIP administration services (e.g., permit review, GGIS, education or outreach, inspections, engineering capability)	Community FPA	Permit reviews
What are the barriers to running an effective NFIP program in the community, if any?	Community FPA	Budget / dollars
2. Compliance History		
Is the community in good standing with the NFIP?	State NFIP Coordinator, FEMA NFIP Specialist, or community records	Yes
Are there any outstanding compliance issues (i.e., current violations)?		No
When was the most recent Community Assistance Visits (CAV) or Community Assistance Contact (CAC)?		Unknown
Is a CAV or CAC scheduled or needed?		No
3. Regulation		
When did the community enter the NFIP?	NFIP Community Status Book	1970's
Are the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) digital or paper? How are residents assisted with mapping?	Community FPA	Both
Do floodplain regulations meet or exceed FEMA or State minimum requirements? If so, in what ways?	Community FPA	Exceed
Describe the permitting process	Community FPA, State, FEMA NFIP	Borough submitted, review, issue

Compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) – *continued*

Topic	Identify source of information, if different from the one listed.	Additional Comments
4. Insurance Summary		
How many NFIP policies are in the community? What is the total premium and coverage?	State NFIP Coordinator or FEMA NFIP Specialist	N/A
How many claims have been paid in the community? What is the total amount of paid claims? How many substantial damage claims have there been?	FEMA NFIP or Insurance Specialist	N/A
How many structures are exposed to flood risk within the community?	Community FPA or GIS Analyst	33% of the borough
Describe any areas of flood risk with limited NFIP policy coverage	Community FPA or FEMA Insurance Specialist	
5. Community Rating System (CRS)		
Does the community participate in CRS?	Community FPA, State, or FEMA NFIP	N/A
If so, what is the community's CRS Class Ranking?	Flood Insurance Manual (http://www.fema.gov/floodinsurancemanual.gov)	---
What categories and activities provide CRS points and how can the Class be improved?		---
Does the plan include CRS planning requirements?	Community FPA, FEMA CRS Coordinator, or ISO representative	No

Community Assets

Community assets are defined to include anything that is important to the character as well as the function of a community, and can be described in four categories, they are; people, economy, natural environment and built environment. Please identify the community assets and location under each category.

1. People

- Concentrations of vulnerable populations such as the elderly, physically or mentally disabled, non-English speaking, and the medically or chemically dependent.
50% of the population
- Types of visiting populations where large numbers of people are concentrated such as visitors for special events and students.

N/A

Community Assets – *continued*

2. Economy

Major employers, primary economic sectors such as agriculture and commercial centers where losses would have a severe impact on the community.

N/A

3. Natural Environment

Those areas / features that can provide protective functions that reduce the magnitude of hazard events such as, wetlands or riparian areas, and other environmental features important to protect.

Bushkill Creek
Feeder streams
Ponds

4. Built Environment

- Existing structures such as, concentrations of buildings that may be more vulnerable to hazards based on location, age, construction type and / or condition of use.

Wastewater treatment plant
Homes along the creek bank

- Infrastructure systems such as water and wastewater facilities, power utilities, transportation systems, communication systems, energy pipelines and storage.

Wastewater treatment plant
Maintenance buildings

- High potential loss facilities such as, dams, locations that house hazardous materials, military and / or civilian defense installations.

Wastewater treatment plant
Borough public works maintenance building and storage

- Critical facilities such as, hospitals, medical facilities, police and fires stations, emergency operations centers, shelters, schools and airports / heliports.

N/A

Community Assets – continued

- Cultural / historical resources such as, museums, parks, stadiums, etc.

N/A

Capability Assessment

Capability	✓ Regulatory ✓ Tools ✓ Programs	Status			Department / Agency Responsible	Effect on Hazard Loss Reduction: -Supports -Neutral -Hinders	Change since 2013 Plan? + Positive - Negative	Has the 2013 Plan been integrated into the Regulatory Tool/Program ? If so, how?	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
		In Place	Date Adopted or Updated	Under Development						
1. Planning & Regulatory	Comprehensive Plan									
	Capital Improvement Plan									
	Economic Development Plan									
	Continuity of Operations Plan									
	Stormwater Management Plan / Ordinance	X	10/1/2012							
	Open Space Management Plan (or Parks/Rec., Greenways Plan)			X						
	Natural Resource Protection Plan			X						
	Transportation Plan									
	Historic Preservation Plan									
	Floodplain Management Plan	X	10/1/2012							All ordinance codified 10/1/2012
	Farmland Preservation									
	Evacuation Plan			X	EMA Coordinator					
	Disaster Recovery Plan			X	EMA Coordinator					
Hazard Mitigation Plan	X	2/2019		County EMA				N/A		

Capability Assessment – continued

Capability	✓ Regulatory ✓ Tools ✓ Programs	Status			Department / Agency Responsible	Effect on Hazard Loss Reduction: -Supports -Neutral -Hinders	Change since 2013 Plan? + Positive - Negative	Has the 2013 Plan been integrated into the Regulatory Tool/Program ? If so, how?	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
		In Place	Date Adopted or Updated	Under Development						
1. Planning & Regulatory	Emergency Operations Plan	X	11/2019		EMA Coordinator	S				
	Zoning Regulations	X	10/1/2012		Zoning	S				
	Floodplain Regulations									
	NFIP Participation									
	Building Code	X	10/1/2012							
	Fire Code	X	10/1/2012							
	Other	X					S			Carbonate Bedrock Standards

Capability Assessment – continued

Capability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Staff ✓ Personnel ✓ Resources 			Department / Agency	Change since 2013 Plan? + Positive - Negative	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
		Yes	No				
2. Administrative & Technology	Planners (with land use / land development knowledge)	X		Planning Commission			
	Planners or engineers (with natural and / or human-caused hazards knowledge)	X		Keystone Engineers			
	Engineers or professionals trained in building and / or infrastructure construction practices (including building inspectors)	X		Keystone Engineers			
	Emergency Manager	X		EMC			
	Floodplain administrator / manager		X				
	Land surveyors	X		Keystone Engineers			
	Staff familiar with the hazards of the community		X				
	Personnel skilled in Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and / or FEMA's HAZUS program		X				
	Grant writers or fiscal staff to handle large / complex grants		X				
	Other						

Capability			Department / Agency	Change since 2013 Plan? + Positive - Negative	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
	Yes	No				
3. Financial Resources	Capital improvement programming		X			
	Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)		X			
	Special purposes taxes		X			
	Gas / Electricity utility fees		X			
	Water / Sewer fees	X		Borough Sewer Fund		
	Stormwater utility fees		X			
	Development impact fees	X		Borough		
	General obligation, revenue, and / or special tax bonds		X			
	Partnering arrangements or intergovernmental agreements		X			
	Other					

Capability Assessment – continued

Capability	✓ Program ✓ Organization	Yes	No	Department / Agency	Change since 2013 Plan? + Positive - Negative	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
4. Education & Outreach	Firewise Communities Certification						
	StormReady Certification						
	Natural disaster or safety-related school programs						
	Ongoing public education or information programs such as, responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, and environmental education.						
	Public-private partnership initiatives addressing disaster related issues.						
	Local citizen groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations, etc.						
	Other						

Capability		Degree of Capability			Change since the 2013 Hazard Mitigation Plan? If so, how?	Additional Comments
		Limited	Moderate	High		
5. Self – Assessment	Planning and Regulatory	X			None	
	Administrative and Technical	X			None	
	Financial	X			None	
	Education and Outreach	X			None	

Known or Anticipated Future Development / Redevelopment

Development / Property Name	Type of Development	Number of Structures	Location	Known Hazard Zone	Description / Status
None					

Natural & Non-Natural Event History Specific to Stockertown Borough

Type of Event and Date(s)	FEMA Disaster # (if applicable)	Local Damage(s) or Loss(es)
Pennsylvania COVID-19 Pandemic – 1/2020	DR-4506-PA	Emergency Protective measure to combat COVID-19 Pandemic.
Remnants of Hurricane Ida	DR-4618-PA	Assistance to eligible individuals and families affected by this disaster.

2013 Municipal Action Plan Status

Existing Mitigation Action (from 2013 Hazard Mitigation Plan)		Status					Additional Comments
		No Progress / Unknown	In Progress	Continuous	Completed	Discontinued	
1	Purchase and installation of an audible siren and community electronic sign to warn residents and provide emergency information.	N/A					
2	Retrofit structures located in hazard-prone areas to protect structures from future damage, with repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss properties as priority. Phase 1: Identify appropriate candidates for retrofitting based on cost-effectiveness versus relocation. Phase 2: Where retrofitting is determined to be a viable option, work with property owners toward implementation of that action based on available funding from FEMA and local match availability.	N/A					
3	Purchase, or relocate structures located in hazard-prone areas to protect structures from future damage, with repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss properties as priority. Phase 1: Identify appropriate candidates for relocation based on cost-effectiveness versus retrofitting. Phase 2: Where relocation is determined to be a viable option, work with property owners toward implementation of that action based on available funding from FEMA and local match availability.	N/A					
4	Maintain compliance with and good-standing in the NFIP including adoption and enforcement of floodplain management requirements (e.g. regulating all new and substantially improved construction in Special Hazard Flood Areas), floodplain identification and mapping, and flood insurance outreach to the community. Further, continue to meet and/or exceed the minimum NFIP standards and criteria through the following NFIP-related continued compliance actions identified below.	N/A					

2013 Municipal Action Plan Status – continued

Existing Mitigation Action (from 2013 Hazard Mitigation Plan)		Status					Additional Comments
		No Progress / Unknown	In Progress	Continuous	Completed	Discontinued	
5	Conduct and facilitate community and public education and outreach for residents and businesses to include, but not be limited to, the following to promote and effect natural hazard risk reduction: Provide and maintain links to the HMP website, and regularly post notices on the County/municipal homepage(s) referencing the HMP webpages. Prepare and distribute informational letters to flood vulnerable property owners and neighborhood associations, explaining the availability of mitigation grant funding to mitigate their properties, and instructing them on how they can learn more and implement mitigation. Use email notification systems and newsletters to better educate the public on flood insurance, the availability of mitigation grant funding, and personal natural hazard risk reduction measures. Work with neighborhood associations, civic and business groups to disseminate information on flood insurance and the availability of mitigation grant funding.	N/A					
6	Begin the process to adopt higher regulatory standards to manage flood risk (i.e. increased freeboard, cumulative substantial damage/improvements).	N/A					
7	Determine if a Community Assistance Visit (CAV) or Community Assistance Contact (CAC) is needed, and schedule if needed.	N/A					
8	Have designated NFIP Floodplain Administrator (FPA) become a Certified Floodplain Manager through the ASFPM, and pursue relevant continuing education training such as FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis.	N/A					
9	Participate in the Community Rating System (CRS) to further manage flood risk and reduce flood insurance premiums for NFIP policyholders. This shall start with the submission to FEMA-DHS of a Letter of Intent to join CRS, followed by the completion and submission of an application to the program once the community's current compliance with the NFIP is established.	N/A					
10	Archive elevation certificates	N/A					
11	Continue to support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updating of this Plan, as defined in Section 7.0	N/A					
12	Complete the ongoing updates of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans	N/A					
13	Create/enhance/maintain mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities for continuity of operations.	N/A					

2013 Municipal Action Plan Status – continued

Existing Mitigation Action (from 2013 Hazard Mitigation Plan)		Status					Additional Comments
		No Progress / Unknown	In Progress	Continuous	Completed	Discontinued	
14	Identify and develop agreements with entities that can provide support with FEMA/PEMA paperwork after disasters; qualified damage assessment personnel – Improve post-disaster capabilities – damage assessment; FEMA/PEMA paperwork compilation, submissions, recordkeeping	N/A					
15	Work with regional agencies (i.e. County and PEMA) to help develop damage assessment capabilities at the local level through such things as training programs, certification of qualified individuals (e.g. code officials, floodplain managers, engineers).	N/A					

Notes:

1. Actions not carried through to the 2018 Action Plan are so noted.
2. To maintain National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) compliance, actions related to the NFIP were carried through to the 2018 Action Plan even if identified by the municipality as completed.

2018 Mitigation Action Plan

Mitigation Action		Mitigation Technique Category	Hazard(s) Addressed	Priority (H / M / L)	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding	Lead Agency / Department	Implementation Schedule	Applies to New and / or Existing Structures
1	Purchase and installation of an audible siren and community electronic sign to warn residents and provide emergency information.	Education & Awareness	All Hazards	High	Medium	Municipal Budget; Emergency Management grant programs	Borough EMC	Short-term (depending on funding)	N/A
2	Retrofit structures located in hazard prone areas to protect structures from future damage, with repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss properties as priority. Phase 1: Identify appropriate candidates for retrofitting based on cost effectiveness versus relocation. Phase 2: Where retrofitting is determined to be a viable option, work with property owners toward implementation of that action based on available funding from FEMA and local match availability.	Structure & Infrastructure	Flood	Medium - High	High	FEMA Mitigation Grant Programs and local budget (or property owner) for cost share	Municipality (via Municipal Engineer/NFIP Floodplain Administrator) with support from PEMA, FEMA	Long-term (depending on funding)	Existing
3	Purchase, or relocate structures located in hazard-prone areas to protect structures from future damage, with repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss properties as priority. Phase 1: Identify appropriate candidates for relocation based on cost effectiveness versus retrofitting. Phase 2: Where relocation is determined to be a viable option, work with property owners toward implementation of that action based on available funding from FEMA and local match availability.	Structure & Infrastructure	Flood	Medium - High	High	FEMA Mitigation Grant Programs and local budget (or property owner) for cost share	Municipality (via Municipal Engineer/NFIP Floodplain Administrator) with support from PEMA, FEMA	Long-term (depending on funding)	Existing

2018 Mitigation Action Plan – continued

	Mitigation Action	Mitigation Technique Category	Hazard(s) Addressed	Priority (H / M / L)	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding	Lead Agency / Department	Implementation Schedule	Applies to New and / or Existing Structures
4	Maintain compliance with and good standing in the NFIP including adoption and enforcement of floodplain management requirements (e.g. regulating all new and substantially improved construction in Special Hazard Flood Areas), floodplain identification and mapping, and flood insurance outreach to the community. Further, continue to meet and/or exceed the minimum NFIP standards and criteria through the following NFIP-related continued compliance actions identified below.	Local plans & Regulations	Flood	Medium - High	High	Municipal Budget	Municipality (via Municipal Engineer/NFIP Floodplain Administrator) with support from PEMA, ISO FEMA	Ongoing	New & Existing

2018 Mitigation Action Plan – continued

Mitigation Action	Mitigation Technique Category	Hazard(s) Addressed	Priority (H / M / L)	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding	Lead Agency / Department	Implementation Schedule	Applies to New and / or Existing Structures
<p>5 Conduct and facilitate community and public education and outreach for residents and businesses to include, but not be limited to, the following to promote and effect natural hazard risk reduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide and maintain links to the HMP website, and regularly post notices on the County/municipal homepage(s) referencing the HMP webpages. - Prepare and distribute informational letters to flood vulnerable property owners and neighborhood associations, explaining the availability of mitigation grant funding to mitigate their properties, and instructing them on how they can learn more and implement mitigation. - Use email notification systems and newsletters to better educate the public on flood insurance, the availability of mitigation grant funding, and personal natural hazard risk reduction measures. - Work with neighborhood associations, civic and business groups to disseminate information on flood insurance and the availability of mitigation grant funding. 	<p>Education & Awareness</p>	<p>All Hazards</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Low-Medium</p>	<p>Municipal Budget</p>	<p>Municipality with support from Planning Partners, PEMA, FEMA</p>	<p>Short-term</p>	<p>N/A</p>

2018 Mitigation Action Plan – continued

Mitigation Action		Mitigation Technique Category	Hazard(s) Addressed	Priority (H / M / L)	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding	Lead Agency / Department	Implementation Schedule	Applies to New and / or Existing Structures
6	Begin and/or continue the process to adopt higher regulatory standards to manage flood risk (i.e. increased freeboard, cumulative substantial damage/improvements).	Local plans & Regulations	Flood	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality (via Municipal Engineer/NFIP Floodplain Administrator) with support from PEMA, FEMA	Short-term	New & Existing
7	Determine if a Community Assistance Visit (CAV) or Community Assistance Contact (CAC) is needed, and schedule if needed.	Local plans & Regulations	Flood	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	NFIP Floodplain Administrator with support from PADEP, PEMA, FEMA	Short-term	N/A
8	Have designated NFIP Floodplain Administrator (FPA) become a Certified Floodplain Manager through the ASFPM and/or pursue relevant continuing education training such as FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis.	Local plans & Regulations	Flood	High	Low	Municipal Budget	NFIP Floodplain Administrator	Short-term (depending on funding)	N/A
9	Participate in the Community Rating System (CRS) to further manage flood risk and reduce flood insurance premiums for NFIP policyholders. This shall start with the submission to FEMA-DHS of a Letter of Intent to join CRS, followed by the completion and submission of an application to the program once the community's current compliance with the NFIP is established.	Local plans & Regulations	Flood	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	NFIP Floodplain Administrator with support from PADEP, PEMA, FEMA	Short-term	N/A
10	Obtain and archive elevation certificates for NFIP compliance.	Local plans & Regulations	Flood	High	Low	Municipal Budget	NFIP Floodplain Administrator	Ongoing	N/A

2018 Mitigation Action Plan – continued

Mitigation Action		Mitigation Technique Category	Hazard(s) Addressed	Priority (H / M / L)	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding	Lead Agency / Department	Implementation Schedule	Applies to New and / or Existing Structures
11	Continue to support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updating of this Plan, as defined in Section 7.0	All Categories	All Hazards	High	Low-High (for 5-year update)	Municipal Budget, possibly FEMA Mitigation Grant Funding for 5-year update	Municipality (via mitigation planning point of contacts) with support from Planning Partners (through their Points of Contact), PEMA	Ongoing	New & Existing
12	Complete the ongoing updates of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans	Local plans & Regulations	All Hazards	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality with support from PEMA	Ongoing	New & Existing
13	Create/enhance/maintain mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities for continuity of operations.	All Categories	All Hazards	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality with support from surrounding municipalities and County	Ongoing	New & Existing
14	Develop and maintain capabilities to process FEMA/PEMA paperwork after disasters; qualified damage assessment personnel – Improve post-disaster capabilities – damage assessment; FEMA/PEMA paperwork compilation, submissions, record keeping.	Education & Awareness	All Hazards	Medium	Medium	Municipal Budget	Municipality with support from County, PEMA, FEMA	Short-term	N/A
15	Work with regional agencies (i.e. County and PEMA) to help develop damage assessment capabilities at the local level through such things as training programs, certification of qualified individuals (e.g. code officials, floodplain managers, engineers).	Education & Awareness	All Hazards	Medium	Medium	Municipal Budget, FEMA HMA grant programs	Municipality with support from County, PEMA	Short-, long-term (depending on funding)	N/A

Notes:**Estimated Costs:**

- Where actual project costs have been reasonable estimated: Low = < \$10,000; Medium = \$10,000 to \$100,000; High = > \$100,000;
- Where actual project costs cannot reasonably be established at this time:
 - Low** = Possible to fund under existing budget. Project is part of, or can be part of an existing on-going program.
 - Medium** = Could budget for under existing work plan, but would require a reappropriation of the budget or a budget amendment, or the cost of the project would have to be spread over multiple years.
 - High** = Would require an increase in revenue via an alternative source (i.e., bonds, grants, fee increases) to implement. Existing funding levels are not adequate to cover the costs of the proposed project.

Potential Funding (FEMA HMA):

- **BRIC** = Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities
- **FMA** = Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program
- **HMGP** = Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
- **HSGP** = Homeland Security Grant Program
- **EMPG** = Emergency Management Performance Grant

Implementation Schedule:

- **Short Term** = 1 to 5 years
- **Long Term** = 5 years or greater
- **DOF** = Depending on Funding

Applies to New and/or Existing Structures:

- **N/A** = Not Applicable