

Lynn Township, Lehigh County Annex

Hazard Mitigation Plan Points-of-Contact

Primary:

Josh Bingham
Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator
640 West Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA 18101
610-782-4653
joshbingham@lehighcounty.org

Alternate:

Tammy M. White
Secretary / Treasurer
7911 Kings Highway, New Tripoli, PA 18066
610-298-2645
tammyw@ptd.net

Municipal Profile

Lynn Township is the largest township in Lehigh County, encompassing an area of 41.7 square miles. It is located in the northwestern corner of Lehigh County, and has an estimated population of 4,171 (2006-2010 American Community Survey). Lynn Township is bordered by; Heidelberg Township to the east; Weisenberg Township to the south; Albany Township (Berks County) to the west; and West Penn Township (Schuylkill County) to the north.

Lynn Township is within the Delaware River watershed, and is mostly drained by the Ontelaunee Creek, Kistler Creek, and Maiden Creek into the Schuylkill River. One exception to this drainage pattern is the area near the boundary with Weisenberg Township, which is drained by the Jordan and Switzer Creeks into the Lehigh River.

Route 143 is the primary east-west route through the township, running from lower Heidelberg Township, through the center of Lynn Township, and continuing into Berks County. Route 863 runs north from Upper Macungie Township, and terminates at a "T" with SR 143 in the center of Lynn Township. The other major north-south corridor in the township is SR 309, which runs from northern Philadelphia through the Lehigh Valley, and crosses over the eastern border of Lynn Township from Heidelberg Township, turning northwest towards Schuylkill County. Other local roads of note include Kistler Valley Road / Holbens Valley Road, which runs east-west across the southern portion of the township; and Mountain Road / Mosserville Road, which runs north-south in the northeastern corner of the township.

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.

Tammy White, Secretary / Treasurer
Role: Coordinating

Bruce Raber, Road master
Role: Public Works

Josh Bingham, Emergency Management Coordinator
Role: Coordinating

Chris Noll, Engineer
Role: Floodplain data

Municipal Participation – continued

2. 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.

Northwestern School District
 Churches – Jacobs, Ebenezer, Northern Valley, Seventh Day, Friedens
 New Tripoli Volunteer Fire Department
 Lynnport Volunteer Fire Department
 Kermit Kistler – John Deere equipment dealer

3. 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.

Newsletters
 Website
 Information posted at public places

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	
Provide an explanation of NFIP administration services (e.g., permit review, GGIS, education or outreach, inspections, engineering capability)	Community FPA	
What are the barriers to running an effective NFIP program in the community, if any?	Community FPA	
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

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

Topic	Identify source of information, if different from the one listed.	Additional Comments
3. Regulation		
When did the community enter the NFIP?	NFIP Community Status Book	1987
Are the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) digital or paper? How are residents assisted with mapping?	Community FPA	
Do floodplain regulations meet or exceed FEMA or State minimum requirements? If so, in what ways?	Community FPA	
Describe the permitting process	Community FPA, State, FEMA NFIP	
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	
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	
How many structures are exposed to flood risk within the community?	Community FPA or GIS Analyst	
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	No
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	

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.

Northwestern Elementary

Community Assets – *continued*

- Types of visiting populations where large numbers of people are concentrated such as visitors for special events and students.

Schools – students, events at school include students and general population

2. Economy

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

Schools
Farms and vineyards

Township property and fire stations

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.

Leaser Lake
Misc. unnamed waters / wetlands

Streams – Switzer, Ontelaunee, School and Kistler

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.

Township buildings because of construction type (pole buildings)

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

Sewer plant

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

Leaser Lake

Community Assets – continued

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

Medical center
Schools

2 fire stations
Township building

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

Ontelaunee Park – pavilions, historic buildings, garages

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	X	3/1/2001		Township Administration		X			Multi-municipal plan
	Capital Improvement Plan									
	Economic Development Plan									
	Continuity of Operations Plan									
	Stormwater Management Plan / Ordinance	X	4/2011		Township Administration		X			
	Open Space Management Plan (or Parks/Rec., Greenways Plan)	X	12/2009		Township Administration		X			
	Natural Resource Protection Plan									
	Transportation Plan									
	Historic Preservation Plan									
	Floodplain Management Plan	X								
	Farmland Preservation	X								
	Evacuation Plan									

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	Disaster Recovery Plan	X							Updating Emergency Management Plan with Heidelberg Township	
	Hazard Mitigation Plan	X	2013				N/A			
	Emergency Operations Plan	X							Updating Emergency Management Plan with Heidelberg Township	
	Zoning Regulations	X								
	Floodplain Regulations	X								
	NFIP Participation									
	Building Code	X								
	Fire Code	X								
Other										

Capability Assessment – *continued*

Capability	✓ 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)						
	Planners or engineers (with natural and / or human-caused hazards knowledge)						
	Engineers or professionals trained in building and / or infrastructure construction practices (including building inspectors)	X		Administration	X		
	Emergency Manager	X		Administration	X		
	Floodplain administrator / manager						
	Land surveyors	X		Administration	X		
	Staff familiar with the hazards of the community	X		Administration/ Public Works	X		
	Personnel skilled in Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and / or FEMA's HAZUS program	X		Administration	X		
	Grant writers or fiscal staff to handle large / complex grants	X		Administration	X		
	Other						

Capability Assessment – continued

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		Township Administration			
	Special purposes taxes		X				
	Gas / Electricity utility fees		X				
	Water / Sewer fees		X				
	Stormwater utility fees		X				
	Development impact fees		X				
	General obligation, revenue, and / or special tax bonds		X				
	Partnering arrangements or intergovernmental agreements	X			None	Road master / Road crew	Heidelberg/Lynn / Weisenberg COG
	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	X		Fire Department, Emergency Management Coordinator	X	More money	
	Ongoing public education or information programs such as, responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, and environmental education.	X		Fire Department, Emergency Management Coordinator	X	More money	
	Public-private partnership initiatives addressing disaster related issues.	X		Fire Department, Emergency Management Coordinator	X	More money	
	Local citizen groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations, etc.	X		Fire Department, Emergency Management Coordinator	X	More money	
	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			
	Administrative and Technical		X			
	Financial	X				
	Education and Outreach			X		

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 Lynn Township

Type of Event and Date(s)	FEMA Disaster # (if applicable)	Local Damage(s) or Loss(es)
Winter Storm Jonas – 1/2016	DR-4267-PA	Heavy snow, drifting
Pennsylvania COVID-19 Pandemic – 1/2020	DR-4506-PA	Emergency Protective measures to combat COVID-19 Pandemic.

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	Replacement of old steel corrugated drain pipes with new smooth corrugated plastic pipe at many locations. The new piping will improve drainage and limit blockages that cause flooding and erosion onto and across Township dirt roads leading to damages and road closings. Improved drainage with the installation of the plastic pipes of various diameters will reduce costs to the township long term and improve road safety to the citizens of Lynn Township.			X			
2	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.			X			
3	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 Township homepage(s) referencing the HMP webpages. - Work with neighborhood associations, civic and business groups to disseminate information on flood insurance and the availability of mitigation grant funding.			X			
4	Continue to support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updating of this Plan, as defined in Section 7.0			X			
5	Complete the ongoing updates of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans			X			
6	Create/enhance/ maintain mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities for continuity of operations.			X			
7	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, record-keeping			X			
8	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).			X			

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	Replacement of old steel corrugated drain pipes with new smooth corrugated plastic pipe at many locations. The new piping will improve drainage and limit blockages that cause flooding and erosion onto and across Township dirt roads leading to damages and road closings. Improved drainage with the installation of the plastic pipes of various diameters will reduce costs to the township long term and improve road safety to the citizens of Lynn Township.	Structure & Infrastructure	Flood	High	Medium	FEMA Grant Programs with local budget for match	Township	Short-term (depending upon funding)	Existing
2	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	High	Low - Medium	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
3	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 Township homepage(s) referencing the HMP webpages. - Work with neighborhood associations, civic and business groups to disseminate information on flood insurance and the availability of mitigation grant funding.	Education & Awareness	All Hazards	High	Low-Medium	Municipal Budget	Municipality with support from Planning Partners, PEMA, FEMA	Short-term	N/A
4	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
5	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
6	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

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
7	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	High	Medium	Municipal Budget	Municipality with support from County, PEMA, FEMA	Short-term	N/A
8	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-term (depending upon funding)	N/A
9	Replace existing emergency school generator with a properly sized unit capable of sustaining sheltering-type actions when needed.	Structure & Infrastructure	Winter Storm, Utility Interruption	Medium	\$170,000	Grant with local match	School district, municipality, Emergency Management Coordinator	As funding becomes available	Existing

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 reapportionment 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