

Stockertown Borough, Northampton County Annex

Hazard Mitigation Plan Points-of-Contact

Primary:

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Alternate:

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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 919 (2020 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.

Kenneth Zemencsik, Public Works Director / Deputy EMC
Role: Public Works Director

Charles Unangst, Hanover Engineering
Role: Engineer

Amy Richard, Council President
Role: Council President

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.

None

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 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Current: Newsletters, Public Meetings, Social Media

Past: Same

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	N/A
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	8/2/1974
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
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	As of 9/22/2023 – 1 policies & \$3,309 in premiums
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	As of 9/22/2023 – 4 claims & \$118,957.78 paid to claims
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	N/A

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

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)	N/A
What categories and activities provide CRS points and how can the Class be improved?		N/A
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.
None

2. Economy

- ✦ Major employers, primary economic sectors such as agriculture and commercial centers where losses would have a severe impact on the community.
None

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.
Homes along the creek bank
- ✦ Infrastructure systems such as water and wastewater facilities, power utilities, transportation systems, communication systems, energy pipelines and storage.
Maintenance buildings

Community Assets – *continued*

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

Borough public works maintenance building & storage

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

None

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

None

Capability Assessment

Capability	✓ Regulatory ✓ Tools ✓ Programs	Status			Department / Agency Responsible	Effect on Hazard Loss Reduction: -Supports -Neutral -Hinders	Change since 2024 Plan? + Positive - Negative	Has the 2024 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								
	Capital Improvement Plan									
	Economic Development Plan									
	Continuity of Operations Plan									
	Stormwater Management Plan / Ordinance	X	10/1/12							
	Open Space Management Plan (or Parks/Rec., Greenways Plan)			X						
	Natural Resource Protection Plan			X						
	Transportation Plan									
	Historic Preservation Plan									
	Floodplain Management Plan	X	10/1/12							All ordinance codified 10/1/2012
	Farmland Preservation	X	11/2025		DCNR	N	+			Conservation Preserve
	Evacuation Plan			X	Local EMC					
	Disaster Recovery Plan			X	Local EMC					
	Hazard Mitigation Plan	X	2024		County EMA			N/A		
	Emergency Operations Plan	X	11/2024		Local EMC	S				
	Zoning Regulations	X	10/1/12		Under Review	S				
	Floodplain Regulations									
	NFIP Participation									
	Building Code	X	10/1/12		Under Review					
	Fire Code	X	10/1/12							
	Other	X				S				Carbonate Bedrock Standards

Capability Assessment – continued

Capability	✓ Staff ✓ Personnel ✓ Resources	Yes	No	Department / Agency	Change since 2024 Plan? + Positive - Negative	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
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		3 rd party			
	Engineers or professionals trained in building and / or infrastructure construction practices (including building inspectors)	X		3 rd party			
	Emergency Manager	X		EMC			
	Floodplain administrator / manager						
	Land surveyors	X		3 rd party			
	Staff familiar with the hazards of the community	X					
	Personnel skilled in Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and / or FEMA's HAZUS program						
	Grant writers or fiscal staff to handle large / complex grants	X					Smaller grant writing capability
	Other						

Capability		Yes	No	Department / Agency	Change since 2024 Plan? + Positive - Negative	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
3. Financial Resources	Capital improvement programming						
	Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)						
	Special purposes taxes						
	Gas / Electricity utility fees						
	Water / Sewer fees	X		Borough Sewer Fund			
	Stormwater utility fees						
	Development impact fees	X		Borough			
	General obligation, revenue, and / or special tax bonds	X		Borough Funds			
	Partnering arrangements or intergovernmental agreements						
	Other						

Capability Assessment – continued

Capability	✓ Program ✓ Organization	Yes	No	Department / Agency	Change since 2024 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 2018 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
NewPro	Single Homes	42	Northeast of Longs Development	Steep slope issue	Preliminary sketch plans
Lezzers Lumber	Duplex	20	Bushkill Street	Sinkhole creek	Initial zoning inquiries

Natural & Non-Natural Event History

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 measures to combat COVID-19 Pandemic.
Remnants of Hurricane Ida	DR-4618-PA	Assistance to eligible individuals and families affected by this disaster.

2018 Municipal Action Plan Status

Existing Mitigation Action (from 2018 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 as Initiatives below.	N/A					

2018 Municipal Action Plan Status – continued

Existing Mitigation Action (from 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan)		Status					Additional Comments
		No Progress / Unknown	In Progress	Continuous	Completed	Discontinued	
5	Conduct and facilitate community and public education for residents and businesses to include, but not be limited to, the following to promote and effect 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 and/or continue the process to adopt higher regulatory standards to manage flood risk (i.e. increased freeboard, cumulative substantial damage/improvements) and sinkhole risk (e.g. carbonate bedrock standards).	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/or 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	Obtain and archive elevation certificates for NFIP compliance.	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					

2018 Municipal Action Plan Status – continued

Existing Mitigation Action (from 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan)		Status					Additional Comments
		No Progress / Unknown	In Progress	Continuous	Completed	Discontinued	
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.	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 2023 Action Plan are so noted.
2. To maintain National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) compliance, actions related to the NFIP were carried through to the 2023 Action Plan even if identified by the municipality as completed.

2024 Mitigation Action Plan

Mitigation Action		Mitigation Action Category	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.	19	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.	1	Structure & Infrastructure	Flood	High	High	FEMA Mitigation Grant Programs and local budget (or property owner) for cost share	Municipality (via Municipal Engineer/NFIP Floodplain Administrator) w/ support from PEMA, FEMA	Long-term (depending on funding)	Existing

2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued

Mitigation Action		Mitigation Action Category	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	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.	2	Structure & Infrastructure	Flood	High	High	FEMA Mitigation Grant Programs and local budget (or property owner) for cost share	Municipality (via Municipal Engineer/NFIP Floodplain Administrator) w/ support from PEMA, FEMA pal	Long-term (depending on funding)	Existing
4	Maintain compliance with and good standing in the NFIP including adoption & enforcement of floodplain management requirements (e.g. regulating all new & substantially improved construction in Special Hazard Flood Areas), floodplain identification & mapping, & 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.	3	Local plans & Regulations	Flood	High	High	Municipal Budget	Municipality (via Municipal Engineer/NFIP Floodplain Administrator) w/ support from PEMA, ISO FEMA	Ongoing	New & Existing

2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued

Mitigation Action		Mitigation Action Category	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
5	<p>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. 	4	Education & Awareness	All Hazards	High	Low-Medium	Municipal Budget	Municipality w/ support from Planning Partners, PEMA, FEMA	Short-term	N/A

2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued

Mitigation Action		Mitigation Action Category	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) sinkhole risk (e.g. carbonate bedrock standards).	5	Local plans & Regulations	Flood; Subsidence / Sinkholes	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality (Mun. Engineer / NFIP Floodplain Adm.) w/ 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.	3	Local plans & Regulations	Flood	High	Low	Municipal Budget	NFIP Floodplain Administrator w/ 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.	6	Local plans & Regulations	Flood	Medium	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.	7	Local plans & Regulations	Flood	High	Low	Municipal Budget	NFIP Floodplain Administrator w/ support from PADEP, PEMA, FEMA	Short-term	N/A

2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued

Mitigation Action		Mitigation Action Category	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
10	Obtain and archive elevation certificates for NFIP compliance.	8	Local plans & Regulations	Flood	Low	Low	Municipal Budget	NFIP Floodplain Administrator	Ongoing	N/A
11	Continue to support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updating of this Plan, as defined in Section 7.0.	9	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) w/ support from Planning Partners (through their Points of Contact), PEMA	Ongoing	New & Existing
12	Complete the ongoing updates of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans.	10	Local plans & Regulations	All Hazards	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality w/ support from PEMA	Ongoing	New & Existing
13	Create/enhance/maintain mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities for continuity of operations.	11	All Categories	All Hazards	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality w/ support from surrounding municipalities and County	Ongoing	New & Existing
14	Develop & 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.	12	Structure & Infrastructure	All Hazards	Low	Medium	Municipal Budget	Municipality w/ support from County, PEMA, FEMA	Short-term	N/A

2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued

Mitigation Action		Mitigation Action Category	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
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).	13	Structure & Infrastructure	All Hazards	Medium	Medium	Municipal Budget, FEMA HMA grant programs	Municipality w/ 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 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):

- **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