

Carver County 2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan



Carver County Minnesota

2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan

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Section 1 – Introduction

1.1 Hazard Mitigation Planning in Minnesota

Hazard mitigation planning refers to any sustained action to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to human life and property from natural disasters. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has made reducing hazards one of its primary goals, and a primary mechanism in achieving this goal is both the hazard mitigation planning process and the subsequent implementation of resulting projects, measures, and policies (FEMA, 2023b).

Since 1980, damages from natural disasters in the U.S. have exceeded \$2.72 trillion. 2023 saw a record 28 separate billion-dollar weather and climate disaster events in the United States, breaking the previous record of 22 events set in 2020. Minnesota alone has experienced 59 separate billion-dollar disasters since 1980 (NCEI, 2024). Hazard mitigation planning is an effective process to prepare communities and lessen the impact of loss of life and property from future disasters. Although mitigation efforts will not eliminate all disasters, government at all levels should strive to be as prepared as possible for a disaster for the well-being of its residents.

The Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) is a requirement of the Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. The development of a local government plan is required to maintain eligibility for federal hazard mitigation grant funding programs. To be eligible for future mitigation funds, communities must adopt an HMP.

Researchers at the National Institute of Building Sciences looked at the results of 23 years of federally funded mitigation grants provided by FEMA, the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Their findings revealed that for every \$1 spent on hazard mitigation funding in the nation, \$6 is saved in future disaster costs (Multi-Hazard Mitigation Council, 2019).

Carver County is vulnerable to a variety of natural hazards that threaten the loss of life and property. Hazards such as tornadoes, flooding, wildfires, blizzards, straight-line winds, and droughts can potentially inflict vast economic loss and personal hardship.

This planning document is accompanied by a website that allows for easy stakeholder and community engagement, as well as interactive maps, dashboards, and infographics.

A broad overview of this companion website's features is as follows:

- Homepage (featuring Declared Disasters dashboard, feedback forms, links to Carver County Emergency Management website, etc.)
- County Profile
- Risk Assessment & Natural Hazard Profiles
- Goals & Implementation
- Climate Change

[Carver County HMP Website](#)

1.1.1 Scope

U-Spatial, University of Minnesota, was contracted by Minnesota Homeland Security and Emergency Management using FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grant funds to work with Carver County Emergency Management to facilitate an update to the 2019 Carver County HMP. U-Spatial brings extensive geographic data analysis skills and hazard risk assessment expertise to the process. U-Spatial also employed the services of Hundrieser Consulting LLC for county and stakeholder outreach as well as mitigation action development related to this plan.

This HMP evaluates and prioritizes the major natural hazards affecting Carver County as determined by frequency of event, economic impact, deaths, and injuries. Mitigation recommendations are based on input from state and local agencies, the public, and national best practices.

This is a multi-jurisdictional plan that covers Carver County, including the cities of Carver, Chanhassen, Chaska, Cologne, Hamburg, Mayer, New Germany, Norwood Young America, Victoria, Waconia, and Watertown. The Carver County mitigation activities identified in this plan also incorporate the concerns and needs of townships, school districts, and other participating entities.

Members from each of these jurisdictions actively participated in the planning process by assisting with public outreach, attending planning team meetings, providing local information, identifying mitigation actions, and reviewing the plan document (see Appendix C). The information in these forms was used to help identify mitigation actions for local implementation (see also Section 2.2). Each jurisdiction will adopt the plan by resolution after the plan is approved by FEMA. County and local city resolutions will be added by Carver County after final approval by FEMA (see Appendix B).

Carver County has specified the following goals for this plan update:

- Include more recent data documenting the critical infrastructure and hazards faced by Carver County.
- Reformat and reorganize the plan to reflect definitions of hazards as expressed in the 2024 Minnesota State Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Reflect current hazard mitigation priorities in Carver County.
- Encourage recipients and sub-recipients of hazard mitigation grants to consider climate change adaptation, resiliency, and equity in their planning efforts.

1.1.2 Hazard Mitigation Definition

Hazard mitigation may be defined as any action taken to eliminate or reduce the long-term risk to human life and property from natural hazards. The benefits of hazard mitigation planning include the following:

- saving lives, protecting the health of the public, and reducing injuries
- preventing or reducing property damage
- reducing economic losses
- minimizing social dislocation and stress
- reducing agricultural losses
- maintaining critical facilities in functioning order

- protecting infrastructure from damage
- protecting mental health
- reducing legal liability of government and public officials

1.2 State Administration of Mitigation Grants

FEMA currently has two mitigation grant programs that the State of Minnesota administers: the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program. The HMGP and FMA programs are administered through the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Homeland Security Emergency Management (HSEM) Division. All applicants must have or be covered under an approved hazard mitigation plan. Eligible applicants include state and local governments, certain private non-profit organizations or institutions, and tribal communities.

Section 2 – Public Planning Process

2.1 Planning Team Information

The Carver County HMP planning team is headed by the Carver County emergency manager, who is the primary point of contact. Planning team members include representatives from public and governmental sectors. Table 1 identifies the planning team individuals and organizations that participated in virtual planning team meetings during the plan update process.

Note: Table 1 is not an exhaustive list of stakeholder participation in the Carver County HMP update. Additional participation by jurisdictional and other agency representatives is documented in Table 3 of this section, as well as in Section 3.4, Appendix C, and Appendix G. The meeting summaries in Appendix F provide a comprehensive overview of each session. This includes a complete list of invited planning team stakeholders and information on other significant opportunities for engagement during the plan update.

[Find the planning team members on the Carver County HMP website](#)

Table 1. Hazard Mitigation Planning (HMP) Team

Name	Agency/Organization	Participant Title
Benjamin Rutter	Carver County Emergency Management	Emergency Management Director
Alyssa Martinson	Carver County Emergency Management	Emergency Management Specialist
Patrick Barry	Carver County Sheriff's Office	Chief Deputy
Shelby Sovell	Carver County	Operations Engineer
Jason Mielke	Carver County - Land Management Department	Land Use Manager
Samantha Downs	Carver County	Community Health & Promotion Supervisor
Martin Walsh	Carver County	Parks and Recreation Director
Dave Hemze	Carver County	County Administrator
Peter Henschel	Carver County	CIO
Chad Riley	Carver County	IT Manager
Craig Prisland	Carver County	IT Sr. GIS Analyst
Sharon Heath	Carver County Public Health	Public Health Program Specialist- Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
Kristen Larson	Carver County Planning & Water Management	Planner
Jamey Hecksel	Carver County Public Works Dept.	Operations Supervisor - Highway
Richard Scott	Carver County Public Health	Deputy Division Director for Health Services
Heather Goodwin	Carver County Health and Human Services	Health and Human Services Director

Name	Agency/Organization	Participant Title
Terry Meiller	Carver Soil and Water Conservation District	Resource Conservationist
Tom Workman	Board of Commissioners	Commissioner
Sonja Wolter	Carver County	Risk Management Specialist
Lynn Tschudi	City of Carver	Finance Director
Brent Mareck	City of Carver	City Manager
Courtney Johnson	City of Carver	Mayor
Tim Walsh	Carver Fire Department	Deputy Fire Chief
Andrew Heger	City of Chanhassen	Fire Chief
Taylor Hubbard	City of Chaska	Mayor
Brian Jung	City of Chaska	Public Works Director
Zack Bonnema	City of Chaska Fire Dept.	Asst. Chief of Operations
Chad Vos	Cologne Fire Department	Chief
Chris Lund	City of Hamburg	Mayor
Jeremy Gruenhagen	City of Hamburg	City Clerk/Treasurer
Steven Siewert	City of Hamburg Fire Dept.	Chief
Nicholas Johnson	City of Mayer	City Administrator
Andy Maetzold	Mayer Fire Dept.	Chief 1
Twyla Menth	City of New Germany	City Clerk
Chris Barlau	City of New Germany	Public works/ Asst Fire Chief
Ryan Goede	New Germany Fire Dept.	Fire Chief
Trenton Klos	Victoria Fire Dept.	Deputy Fire Chief
David Shoger	Victoria Fire Department	Fire Chief
Shane Fineran	City of Waconia	City Administrator
Jon Haukaas	City of Waconia	Director of Public Services
Justin Sorenson	City of Waconia Fire Dept.	Fire Chief
Thomas Hanson	City of Watertown	Fire Chief / Emergency Manager
Dan Tolsma	City of Watertown	City Administrator
Leanne Kunze	Laketown Township	Clerk-Treasurer
Gerald Bruner	Watertown Twp.	Supervisor
Mary Olson	Dahlgren Township	Clerk
Matt Haga	Eastern Carver County Schools	Director of Technology, Safety, and Security
Seth Royston	Crown College	Security Manager
Erin Rathke	Eastern Carver County Schools	Superintendent
Joel Landskroener	Mayer Lutheran Middle and High School	Executive Director
Celi Haga	Eastern Carver County Schools	Chief of Staff/ Exec. Dir of Strategic Comms
Matt Thomas	Waconia Public Schools	Director of Communications
Enid Schonewise	Waconia Public Schools	Director of Human Resources

Name	Agency/Organization	Participant Title
Al Norby	Love INC Carver County	Executive Director
Grecia Lozano	Latino Voices	Executive Director
Emerson Brady	McLeod Cooperative Power	Operations Manager
Debra Thingstadboe	American Red Cross	TCMN Governmental Operations/External Relations
Mary Hernandez	Mi CASA	Executive Director
Mackayla Greer	180 Degrees	Program Administrator
Heather Tran	Carver County A Better Society	Founder
Angie Cruzen	Gather & Grow Waconia and Watertown	Executive Director
Melani Coleman	Latino Voices of Minnesota	Programs Director
Jon Dotterer	HSEM	Regional Program Coordinator
Joe Green	MN Valley Electric Cooperative	Key Accounts/Community Relations
Dalton Herding	Hennepin County	Senior Planning and Systems Integration Coordinator

2.2 Review of Existing Plans, Capabilities & Vulnerabilities

Carver County and its local communities utilized a variety of planning documents to direct plan development. These documents included a Comprehensive/Master Plan, Emergency Operations Plan, Transportation Plan, etc. (see Section 5.1.4 and Appendix D). The planning process also incorporated the existing natural hazard mitigation elements from previous planning efforts. In addition, the 2024 Minnesota All-Hazard Mitigation Plan was consulted.

In the development of the Carver County HMP, U-Spatial consultants reviewed and incorporated a variety of planning documents that direct community development and influence land use decisions for the county and its jurisdictions. In addition, U-Spatial consultants worked closely with the Carver County emergency management director and other key county staff and local city officials to collect feedback on local mitigation capabilities and vulnerabilities that either support or hinder the ability to mitigate against natural hazards countywide and at the local level.

Building codes offer a way to incorporate geographically relevant and best available building science with policies and programs. Carver County has adopted the Minnesota State Building Code. Carver County is responsible for issuing building permits for all townships as identified in the County's code of ordinances Chapter 150: Building Regulations. Cities review permits for construction activity within their jurisdiction. The Carver County Land Management Department includes the County Building Official.

The following is a summary of the assessment tools used to gather information on local capabilities and vulnerabilities during the planning process:

Capabilities Assessment (hazard-specific): In this assessment, detailed information was collected from Carver County on current plans and programs in place (i.e., existing programs, plans, or policies) as well as program gaps or deficiencies that currently exist to mitigate against damages caused by each natural hazard addressed in the plan. Section 4 identifies current gaps and deficiencies for mitigation,

and Section 5.3 describes the mitigation capabilities that are in place by Carver County to support mitigation.

Local Mitigation Surveys: As part of Carver County's 2025 HMP update, participating jurisdictions, key county personnel, and additional agency stakeholders were asked to fill out a Local Mitigation Survey (LMS) form. Questions in the LMS form addressed the following:

- Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment & Vulnerability Analysis
- Local Mitigation Capabilities Assessment
- Local Mitigation Projects
- Survey Participants

The purpose of the survey was to gather jurisdictionally specific information needed to support the update of the plan and to help inform development of local-level mitigation actions for the next five-year planning cycle (for the full Carver County LMS report, see Appendix C).

2.3 Planning Process Timeline and Steps

To update the 2019 Carver County HMP, U-Spatial consultants worked in coordination with Carver County Emergency Management and members of the planning team. The updated plan includes new data documenting the types of hazards faced by Carver County residents and emergency planning officials as well as new thinking on how to address these hazards.

2.3.1 Carver County Stakeholder Coordination

Two planning team meetings took place via Zoom video conference hosted by U-Spatial. Meeting participants included representatives from Carver County, city and township governments, neighboring jurisdictions, and other key stakeholders. Appendix F provides documentation of stakeholder outreach and participation in the plan update

Survey forms to acquire mitigation ideas and feedback remain available on the HMP website

To provide the opportunity for public input, Carver County issued two news releases announcing the plan update and inviting public review and feedback on the draft plan. The news release provided information on where to view the plan and submit comments. The Carver County HMP website, hosted by U-Spatial, and the feedback and mitigation action ideas survey will remain available through the five-year planning period to foster public engagement. Table 2 documents dates of Hazard Mitigation update meetings and public outreach. The public feedback period for the draft plan was open from 11/12/25 to 11/26/25, for a period of 15 days. Appendix G provides documentation of the public outreach for feedback on the draft plan by Carver County and jurisdictions.

At the close of the public outreach period, the U-Spatial consultants worked with the Carver County Emergency Manager and planning team to incorporate public feedback into the HMP.

For more information on the planning process, see Sections 5 and 6.

Table 2. Carver County hazard mitigation update meetings and public outreach

Event	Date	Appendix
Kickoff Webinar	6/13/24	Appendix F, Planning Team Meetings
News Release #1	9/5/24	Appendix G, Public Outreach & Engagement Documentation
Planning Team Meeting #1	1/9/25	Appendix F, Planning Team Meetings
Planning Team Meeting #2	10/8/25	Appendix F, Planning Team Meetings
News Release #2	11/12/25	Appendix G, Public Outreach & Engagement Documentation

2.3.2 Overview of Jurisdictional Participation

Throughout the planning process, Carver County and the U-Spatial team worked to engage representatives from the county and each city in the update of the plan. Key activities for jurisdictions included assisting with public outreach, participating in planning team meetings, providing local-level information, and reviewing and providing feedback to the plan update.

U-Spatial and Carver County actively used the following methods to engage jurisdictions in the HMP plan update process:

- **Zoom Video Conferencing:** Planning team meetings were conducted via Zoom video conferencing hosted by U-Spatial. Virtual meetings proved to be a beneficial addition to the planning process, resulting in a high turnout from jurisdictional representatives and other stakeholders, as well as providing the ability for presenters to collect, respond to, and document feedback from participants through Zoom functions such as surveys, chat, and Q&A.
- **Email Correspondence:** Email was a primary tool used to communicate with representatives from Carver County, municipal governments, and other stakeholders. Emails were used to distribute news releases for public outreach, to invite participation in meetings and to share meeting summaries, as well as to request local information and final review of the draft plan. Email proved to be an effective tool that resulted in increased jurisdictional participation and collection of locally specific information.
- **Surveys, forms, and polls:** Input tools such as surveys, forms, and tools were used throughout the process to efficiently collect information in a format that could directly be fed into the written hazard mitigation plan. Polls were used to elicit feedback during the planning team meetings. The Local Mitigation Survey (LMS) was used to ensure feedback from every jurisdiction for critical input such as building code use, NFIP adoption, and changes in vulnerabilities. Feedback forms were posted on the website for easy access during the plan review.
- **Phone Calls:** Phone calls were frequently used to conduct direct outreach or follow-up to jurisdictions to ensure participation or to collect information via one-on-one interviews. Phone calls proved to be an effective tool that resulted in increased jurisdictional participation and collection of quality information. Phone calls were especially useful in engaging very small communities that had limited staff or technological capabilities.

Cities participating in Carver County HMP update varied by population and associated government resources to participate in the planning process (e.g., personnel, time, and technology). Rural communities with smaller populations (under 500) typically had part-time elected officials, limited-to-no city staff, and reduced city hall hours in which to conduct business. Carver County and U-Spatial were sensitive to these local challenges and worked to help these local governments to participate using the methods that worked best to accommodate them, such as phone interviews to complete local mitigation survey forms (see Appendix C).

Table 3 provides an overview of each city's participation in the Carver County HMP update planning process and a reference to supporting documentation.

Table 3. Jurisdictional participation in planning process

Jurisdiction (2024 Est. Population, Esri)	News Release #1	Planning Team Mtg #1	Local Mitigation Survey	Mitigation Action Charts	Planning Team Mtg.#2	News Release #2 & Plan Review
Supporting Documentation	App. G	App. F	App. C	Sec. 5.3 App. H	App. F	App. G
Carver County (114,107)	X	X	X	X	X	X
City of Carver (6,787)	X	X	X	X	X	X
City of Chanhassen (26,334)	X	X	X	X	X	X
City of Chaska (29,922)	X	X	X	X	X	X
City of Cologne (2,115)	X	X	X	X	X	X
City of Hamburg (568)	X	X	X	X	X	X
City of Mayer (2,522)	X	X	X	X	X	X
City of New Germany (517)	X	X	X	X		X
City of Norwood Young America (3,939)	X		X	X		X
City of Victoria (11,929)	X	X	X	X		X
City of Waconia (13,626)	X	X	X	X	X	X
City of Watertown (4,767)	X	X	X	X	X	X
Neighboring Jurisdictions:						
Hennepin County		X				
McLeod County						
Scott County						
Sibley County						
Wright County						

Section 3 – Risk Assessment and Vulnerability Analysis

The goal of mitigation is to reduce or eliminate the future impacts of a hazard, including loss of life, property damage, disruption to local and regional economies, and the expenditure of public and private funds for recovery. Sound mitigation practices must be based on sound risk assessment. A risk assessment involves quantifying the potential loss resulting from a disaster by assessing the vulnerability of buildings, infrastructure, and people.

The risk assessments in this plan are based on widely accepted tools and databases, consultation with hazard mitigation planning expertise at FEMA and HSEM, and technical guidance from the MN DNR State Climatology Office. Geographic Information System (GIS) tools are used throughout to demonstrate geographically based risk and vulnerabilities.

3.1 Natural Hazard Identification

This assessment identifies the characteristics of natural hazard events, the severity of the risk, the likelihood of these events occurring, and the vulnerability of each jurisdiction’s population and assets.

See a list of all natural hazards covered in the 2025 HMP

The cornerstone of risk assessment is identifying the hazards that affect jurisdictions. Listed below are the natural hazards addressed in the 2024 Minnesota State Hazard Mitigation Plan:

Flooding	Lightning	Drought
Dam/Levee Failure	Winter Storms	Extreme Heat
Wildfires	Landslides (Erosion and	Extreme Cold
Windstorms	Mudslides)	Earthquakes
Tornadoes	Land Subsidence (Sinkholes	Coastal Erosion & Flooding
Hail	and Karst)	

3.1.1 Hazard Prioritization

As part of the plan update process, the planning team reviewed, updated, and prioritized the hazards faced by residents of Carver County, updated the existing mitigation actions published in the 2019 HMP, and proposed new mitigation actions.

The team examined the hazards identified in the 2019 HMP and adjusted them to reflect the definitions of natural hazards used in the 2024 Minnesota State Hazard Mitigation Plan.

While this HMP focuses on natural hazards, planning took place with the understanding that many non-natural hazards could occur due to natural disasters (e.g., disruption in electrical service due to downed powerlines from heavy snow, ice storms, or high wind events).

The prioritization of hazards for the Carver County HMP Update (Table 4) was based upon group review and discussion of the natural hazards that pose risk to the county during the HMP Planning Team Meeting #1. In the review of each hazard, the group was asked to consider if the risk to severe natural hazards had increased or decreased since the last plan, and if this affected their priority level to mitigate against that hazard. Appendix F provides the discussion notes from the meeting.

Table 4. Prioritization of hazards for 2025 Carver County HMP Update

Natural Hazards Addressed in the Last Plan	Current Priority
Flooding	High
Winter Storms	High
Windstorms	High
Tornadoes	High
Hailstorms	Moderate
Extreme Cold	Moderate
Extreme Heat	Moderate
Drought	Moderate
Wildfire	Low
Landslides	Low
Lightning	Low
Dam Failure	Low

3.1.2 FEMA- and Minnesota-Declared Disasters and Assistance

Another historical perspective is derived from FEMA-declared disasters. Between 1957 and August 2025, 13 federal disasters (DR) and four emergencies (EM) were declared in Carver County; see details on the [Carver County HMP website](#).

Minnesota Statutes Chapter 12A established a framework for state agencies to help communities recover from disaster. In 2014, Governor Mark Dayton signed legislation establishing the state's Disaster Assistance Contingency Account to assist local communities after a natural disaster when federal aid is not available. Damage required to declare a disaster is half the threshold of the federal/FEMA public assistance (only) program threshold (MN HSEM, 2019). Carver County has not been included in any State Disaster Declarations.

The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program, and the former Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program are FEMA-administered hazard mitigation assistance programs that provide funding for eligible mitigation planning and projects that reduce disaster losses and protect life and property from future disaster damages (FEMA, 2021). Table 5 lists the projects in the county funded by a hazard mitigation assistance program.

Table 5. Historical hazard mitigation funding awarded in Carver County

DR#	Fiscal Year	Subrecipient	Project Type	Project Cost	Federal Share
4182	2014	Chanhassen	302.1: Landslide Stabilization - Structural	\$261,916	\$196,437
1830	2009	Carver County	91.1: Local Multihazard Mitigation Plan	\$68,414	\$51,310
1370	2001	Watertown	401.1: Water and Sanitary Sewer System Protective Measures	\$0	\$0
1175	1997	Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative	400.1: Utility Protective Measures (Electric, Gas, etc.)	\$18,675	\$14,106

SOURCE: (FEMA, 2025)

3.2 Community Vulnerability

The degree to which a person is vulnerable to the impacts of a hazard depends on how well they can react before, during, and after a hazardous event. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry (ATSDR) defines social vulnerability as “...the resilience of communities when confronted by external stresses on human health, stresses such as natural or human-caused disasters, or disease outbreaks” (ATSDR, 2020). Exacerbating these stressors are the increasing number of extreme weather events attributed to Minnesota’s changing climate (MPCA, 2018).

The ATSDR created the CDC Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) to help identify vulnerable communities that need support in preparing for hazards or recovering from disaster. The CDC SVI is created at the census tract level using American Community Survey (ACS) five-year data.

The SVI is included in the FEMA National Risk Index (NRI) and presented in the Risk and Vulnerability dashboard on the webpage for each hazard. Additionally, summaries of at-risk populations in each jurisdiction are available on the county profile page. Vulnerable attributes of a population are addressed with each natural hazard.

The Risk and Vulnerability dashboard for each hazard also includes the FEMA Community Resilience Challenges Index (CRCI). The CRCI is a composite index of 22 community resilience indicators, including population and household characteristics, housing, healthcare, economic factors, and connection to community. The index value provides a relative composite value by census tract and is designed for emergency managers to target outreach strategies and understand the resilience challenges community members face (FEMA, 2024a).

[Explore population vulnerability on the Carver County HMP Website](#)

3.3 Climate Change

Minnesota’s climate change summary is informed primarily by the Midwest Chapter of the Fifth National Climate Assessment (NCA5) dated November 2023 and with interpretations from the MN DNR State Climatology Office (Wilson et al., 2023).

Rising global temperatures and the resulting increases in atmospheric moisture from evaporation of ocean waters have allowed Minnesota to become warmer, wetter, and more humid during the past several decades. The ten combined warmest and wettest years between 1895 and 2022 all occurred since 1998. Nights have warmed faster than days since 1970, and winter has warmed several times faster than summer. Even with the drought conditions of the early 2020s in Minnesota, heavy precipitation continues to show long-term increases, with damaging rain and snowfall events reported somewhere in the state each year of the decade through 2023. Despite no increase in the highest temperatures of summer, maximum annual heat index values (one measure of how hot it feels) have been rising across the state because of increased humidity during heat waves.

Even though periods of intense growing-season drought have defined the climate of the early 2020s in much of Minnesota, long-term increases in annual precipitation have continued because of heavy and even record-setting precipitation during the cold season. For instance, record-dry conditions during May through mid-August of 2021 led to parts of northwestern and northern Minnesota reaching “Exceptional Drought”—the worst category on the US Drought Monitor. A shift to a stormy pattern during the following winter and spring, however, produced unprecedented precipitation between December in May in the exact same areas, with historic flooding along the Rainy River.

The observed changes in our climate have altered growing seasons, damaged forests, challenged natural resource management, limited recreational opportunities, destroyed infrastructure, and affected the conditions of lakes, rivers, wetlands, and groundwater aquifers that provide water for drinking and agriculture. Climate models project that temperature and precipitation increases will continue in Minnesota through the 21st century, with hotter summers and increased drought severity during dry periods as well.

To help the public understand how the changing climate has affected and is expected to affect the behavior of common weather hazards in Minnesota, the MN DNR State Climatology Office developed graphical summaries of the scientific confidence associated with each hazard’s relationship to climate change (Table 6 and Table 7). Climate change in Minnesota has by far the strongest associations with (1) sharp declines in the frequency and severity of extreme cold outbreaks, tied to a persistent warming of winters, and (2) sharp increases in the frequency and intensity of extreme precipitation events. For instance, from 1970 through 2023, Minnesota’s winters warmed at a rate of almost one degree F per decade, and approximately three-four times faster than summer. During that same period, the coldest night of the year has warmed almost twice as fast as winter as a whole—up to two degrees F per decade (or 20 degrees F per century).

Despite major losses to cold extremes, the warming climate and increased abundance of atmospheric moisture has led to an uptick in many heavy snowfall metrics across Minnesota, leading to moderately high confidence that the changing climate is increasing heavy snowfall events—even as other winter characteristics decline. The intensity and frequency of tornadoes and severe convective storms are weakly connected at best to recent climate changes, and since the 1950s, despite superior detection and verification capabilities, the number of damaging tornadoes rated at least F-2 or EF-2 in Minnesota has shown no increases. Dramatic changes in the seasonal and geographical ranges of severe convective weather have, on the other hand, already affected Minnesota. In 2021, a damaging tornado crossed the Boundary Waters into Canada, becoming the latest on record so far north in the state.

Then, on December 15th, an outbreak of destructive thunderstorm winds and over 20 tornadoes struck the southeastern parts of the state, producing the latest tornadoes on record by 29 days.

The climatic picture is expected to change further beyond the 2020s and especially as Minnesota approaches the middle of the 21st century (Table 7). Dramatic losses in extreme cold and additional increases in heavy and extreme precipitation are expected to remain the state's leading climate change symptoms. Although Minnesota has not yet observed increases in the frequency, severity, or duration of summertime high temperatures or drought (through 2023), climate model projections summarized in NCA5 indicate that heat waves are all but certain to increase by mid-century. A 2018 study conducted by NOAA scientists indicates that by the 2050s, heat waves in Minnesota will be more attributable to climate change than to natural variability (Lopez et al., 2018).

Table 6. Confidence that climate change has already impacted common MN weather/climate hazards

Confidence	Hazard	Recent & Current Observations
Highest	Extreme cold	Rapid decline in severity & frequency
	Extreme rainfall and heavy snowfall	Becoming larger and more frequent
Moderately High	Humid heat waves	Some increase in maximum dew point and Heat Index values since 1980
Moderately Low	Tornadoes, hail, thunderstorm winds	Intensity and frequency unchanged, but seasons expanding aggressively
Low	Drought and dry spells	Intense & major episodes in early 2020s but no long-term trend
Lowest	Summer high temperature extremes	Highest temperatures still well within historical ranges, and number of hot days increasing only slightly in isolated locations

SOURCE: (BLUMENFELD, K. MINNESOTA STATE CLIMATOLOGY OFFICE, PERSONAL COMMUNICATION, DECEMBER 21, 2023)

Table 7. Confidence that climate change will impact common MN weather/climate hazards through 2070

Confidence	Hazard	Expectations through 2070
Highest	Extreme cold	Continued rapid decrease in severity and frequency
	Extreme rainfall	Unprecedented events more common
High	Heat waves	Summer high temperatures, maximum dew point and heat index values all projected to increase
Moderately High	Drought	Increased severity likely as summer heat increases; frequency and duration projections unclear
Moderately Low	Heavy snowfall	Greater extremes, but events less frequent as winter rain increases
	Tornadoes, hail, thunderstorm winds	Intensity and frequency unclear but continued seasonal expansion and larger “outbreaks” possible

SOURCE: (BLUMENFELD, K. MINNESOTA STATE CLIMATOLOGY OFFICE, PERSONAL COMMUNICATION, DECEMBER 21, 2023)

3.3.1 Climate Change Impacts and Resilience Planning

The NCA5 states that even if the world decarbonizes rapidly, the Nation will continue to face climate impacts and risks. Adequately and equitably addressing these risks involves longer-term inclusive planning, investments in transformative adaptation, and mitigation approaches that consider equity and justice. In the Midwest, rising temperatures, extreme precipitation, drought, and other climate-related events are impacting agriculture, ecosystems, cultural practices, health, infrastructure, and waterways. Communities, Indigenous Peoples, governments, and businesses are embracing adaptation approaches that include climate-smart agriculture, improved landscape management, innovative green infrastructure financing, and collaborative decision-making.

NCA5 includes these key messages for the Midwest region ([Chapter 24: Midwest](#)):

- Changes in precipitation extremes, timing of snowmelt, and early-spring rainfall are expected to pose greater challenges for crop and animal agriculture, including increased pest and disease transmission, muddier pastures, and further degradation of water quality. Climate-smart agriculture and other adaptation techniques provide a potential path toward environmental and economic sustainability.
- Increasing incidence of flooding and drought is expected to further alter aquatic ecosystems, while terrestrial ecosystems are being reshaped by rising temperatures and decreasing snow and ice cover. In response, communities are adapting their cultural practices and the ways they manage the landscape, preserving and protecting ecosystems and the services they provide.
- Climate change has wide-ranging effects on lives and livelihoods. Mitigation and adaptation strategies, such as expanded use of green infrastructure, heat-health early warning systems, and improved stormwater management systems, when developed in collaboration with affected communities, have the potential to improve individual and community health.
- Increases in temperatures and extreme precipitation events are already challenging aging infrastructure and are expected to impair surface transportation, water navigation, and the electrical grid. Shifts in the timing and intensity of rainfall are expected to disrupt transportation along major rivers and increase chronic flooding. Green infrastructure and public and private investments may mitigate losses, provide relief from heat, and offer other ways to adapt the built environment to a changing climate.
- Climate-related changes to water quantity and quality are increasing the risks to ecosystem health, adequate food production, surface water and groundwater uses, and recreation (high confidence). Projected increases in droughts, floods, and runoff events across the Mississippi River basin and the Great Lakes will adversely impact ecosystems through increased erosion, harmful algal blooms, and expansion of invasive species.

Key messages from the NCA5 are indicated in green throughout this document.

3.3.2 Health Impacts of Climate Change in Minnesota

Climate change already impacts our health, and these impacts are expected to worsen in the years ahead. The risks are especially high for Minnesotans who are less able to cope due to their age, income, housing insecurity, preexisting health conditions, and more.

Heat, air pollution (including wildfire smoke and allergens like pollen), extreme precipitation, floods, droughts, and ecosystem changes are all “climate hazards” that impact our health. Some of these climate hazards have a direct effect, like a heat-related illness from a heatwave, while some have an indirect impact, like exacerbation of asthma from mold growth in a flooded basement.

Heat

Minnesotans will experience a wide range of impacts from the increased frequency and severity of extreme heat events. Higher heat, increased humidity, and longer and more frequent extreme heat events can lead to direct health impacts of dehydration and heatstroke. Untreated heat stroke can lead to death. Heat-related illness directly accounted for 75 deaths in Minnesota from 2000–2022.

Heat can also worsen existing health conditions, such as respiratory and cardiovascular diseases. The people most at risk include those who are more exposed and those who may be more susceptible due to physiological reasons. People more likely to be exposed to heat include outdoor workers in agriculture and construction, student athletes, people who live in cities (due to the heat island effect), people without air conditioning, and unhoused persons.

People at higher risk because of physiological reasons include those with underlying medical conditions, pregnant people, older adults, infants, and young children.

Just as one example of the devastating effects of heat, in the summer of 2011, Minnesota had six days when the heat index was 105 degrees F or higher—and that same summer there were 1,302 emergency department visits and 3 deaths due to heat. What makes these numbers tragic is that heat-related illnesses are preventable.

Air Pollution

In general, we breathe clean air in Minnesota, according to federal standards. But on some days and in some locations, air is unhealthy due to ozone or fine particulate matter. Greenhouse gas emissions can increase air pollution, and rising temperatures can also affect the formation and release of pollutants. Unhealthy air days are expected to become more frequent, and more intense due to climate change.

Climate change is likely to increase three main air contaminants in Minnesota: ozone, particulate matter (including wildfire smoke), and allergens. These air pollutants can cause or exacerbate cardiovascular and respiratory diseases, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), allergies, and asthma.

Pollen is intensifying with climate change, and can trigger allergies, asthma attacks, and affect other respiratory conditions. In Minnesota, asthma affects one in 16 children (6.4%) and one in 13 adults (7.4%). People with asthma need to be especially aware of pollen sources and seasons to prevent an allergy-related asthma attack.

There are three pollen seasons in Minnesota: trees, grasses, and weeds. Trees are the first to release pollen, typically starting in early April, grasses usually ramp up pollen release in early June, and weeds typically begin releasing pollen in mid-June and continue until the first hard frost. Research shows that the growing season for ragweed pollen, which is highly allergenic, has increased by 15 to 25 days in and around Minnesota. The lengthening pollen season is strongly related to climate change characteristics, such as lengthening of the frost-free season and later timing of the first fall frost.

Indirect health effects from air pollution can include reduced visibility on a high smog day, reduced productivity at work or school due to allergies or asthma, and reduced productivity and degradation of crops and water sources, which can lead to economic burdens.

Those most at risk include:

- Children, because they have developing lungs, are outside more, and they play vigorously and inhale more air per pound of body weight compared to adults.
- Adults over 60, because their bodies are aging.
- People with chronic respiratory or cardiovascular disease because they are more susceptible to air pollution.
- Individuals living near other sources of air pollution (such as roadways, freeways, and heavy industry), because they are chronically exposed to air pollution.
- People of color, because they are more likely to be exposed to more air pollution and have a disproportionate burden of heart and lung diseases, which may increase susceptibility.

Extreme Precipitation, Floods, Drought

Rain is falling more frequently in extreme, heavy, localized events, leading to some parts of our state experiencing flooding while other areas experience drought.

Increased frequency and severity of heavy rainfalls can lead to flooding, which results in both direct and indirect health impacts like:

- Injury or even death from drowning.
- Illnesses from being exposed to contaminated drinking water or recreational sources.
- Mental health stress from experiencing the trauma of the event or later from being displaced or dealing with damaged homes and business.
- Respiratory ailments from exposure to mold from flooded basements.
- Carbon monoxide poisoning from exposure to carbon monoxide when using secondary power sources, like generators.
- Flooding can also disrupt economic and social networks and put a strain on essential services.

The people most at risk are Minnesotans who are more likely to be exposed to flood waters, like those who live in a flood plain or near water bodies, or people who cannot easily evacuate or recover from flooding destruction, such as people who do not have reliable transportation, people who can't use the stairs when elevators are out of service, people in wheelchairs, people with disabilities, older adults, and lower income people.

Heavy rain events can cause standing water in backyards or basements. Many homeowners have experienced wet basements, which is mentally and financially stressful, and if mold starts to grow that can become a health problem.

Localized flash flooding can also be a problem where our infrastructure is undersized, and people get caught off guard by flooded roads. This is an important public health safety concern as almost half of flash flood fatalities occur in vehicles. It takes as little as six inches of fast-moving water to knock over and carry away an adult, and as little as 12 inches can carry away a small car.

Another public health concern with precipitation changes exacerbated by climate change is waterborne disease outbreaks. Heavy downpours can lead to a host of problems, including increased

runoff and sewage overflows, which can cause outbreaks of waterborne diseases such as E. coli and Cryptosporidium. Runoff can carry viruses and other disease-causing agents into wells and recreational waters, contaminating them and causing health problems.

Zoonotic Diseases

Zoonotic diseases or zoonoses are caused by germs like viruses, bacteria, parasites, and fungi that spread between animals and people. Increases in temperatures and changes in rain patterns are changing our ecosystems, which can affect the spread of diseases carried by insects, ticks, rodents, birds, and other animals.

Diseases from ticks include Lyme disease, Anaplasmosis, and Babesiosis. As temperatures increase, disease-transmitting ticks will become active sooner and stay active longer, allowing more time to develop and feed on hosts. Ticks thrive in warm humid environments.

Additionally, there may be a decreased die off over the winter months if temperatures do not get very cold. An increase in winter temperatures can also lead to new tick species moving into and surviving in Minnesota, which can lead to the introduction of new diseases.

People more at risk for diseases carried by insects, ticks, and rodents are people who spend more time outdoors or are more exposed to these pests.

Harmful Algal Blooms

An increase in water temperatures can lead to blue-green algal blooms, which contain toxins that can pose harmful health risks. People or pets who drink or swim in water with dangerous levels of harmful algal bloom (HAB) contamination may experience stomach illness, skin irritation, allergic responses, and damage to the liver and nervous system. In extreme cases, dogs and other animals have died after drinking water containing these toxins.

Harmful algal blooms in Minnesota lakes result from several factors including runoff from fertilizers, discharges from waste treatment plants, warmer waters, and higher temperatures. While HABs can occur naturally, the frequency of outbreaks is increasing in part because human activities create favorable conditions for the blooms.

Zoonotic diseases and HABs can have an indirect health effect when they threaten the livelihoods of people who work in recreation-dependent economies that revolve around camping, fishing, and hunting.

Mental Health

Climate change threatens our mental health through direct exposure to a climate-related disaster (e.g., flooding); through the disruption to a major determinant of health, such as a loss of livelihood or a cultural tradition; and through awareness or uncertainty of climate change as an existential threat. These experiences may overlap and lead to compounded impacts on an individual or even an entire community, such as family farmers burdened with decadal drought who are more likely to commit suicide.

Existing research has associated several mental health conditions with climate change, such as psychological distress, grief reactions, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, interpersonal conflicts, drug or alcohol abuse, loss of identity, and suicidal ideation.

Vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, communities of color, and other marginalized communities are most at risk of climate change-related mental health impacts.

3.3.3 Climate Change Adaptation

Climate change adaptation is important for increasing the resilience of communities and the environment. The shocks caused by more extreme weather events and the stressors of longer-term changes to the climate affect all natural systems. For human communities, these impacts challenge the surroundings in which they live, the critically important ecosystem services upon which they depend, public health, local facilities and infrastructure, the safety of their residences, and the viability of their livelihoods. Development trends can further exacerbate both climate impacts and population vulnerability. Communities are only as resilient as the most vulnerable within them.

3.3.4 Climate Change Data and Tools in Minnesota

The University of Minnesota Extension and the University of Minnesota's Water Resources Center coordinate the Minnesota Climate Adaptation Partnership (MCAP), which brings together federal and state agencies, organizations, and individuals statewide with an interest in climate adaptation. MCAP received funding after the 2021 legislative session to develop high-resolution (2.6 mile/4km grid) dynamically downscaled climate projections utilizing the University of Minnesota's Supercomputing Institute. This data is being made publicly accessible via the new [Minnesota CliMAT—Climate Mapping and Analysis Tool](#). This interactive online tool provides highly localized climate projections for Minnesota. MN CliMAT is based on data from the latest generation of global climate models, called [CMIP6](#). With the dynamically downscaled climate projection data, users can visualize even how small cities will likely be impacted in the coming decades (Liess, S. et al., 2023).

More resources are available on the [climate change page](#) of the Carver County website

3.4 Jurisdictional Change in Risk or Vulnerability Assessment

Jurisdictions in Carver County have varying vulnerabilities to and concerns about impacts to their communities. Interviews with jurisdictional representatives in addition to the Local Mitigation Survey resulted in some specific concerns (see Appendix C). Participants were asked to provide feedback on how their community's vulnerability to natural hazards had either increased (due to changes such as development) or decreased (due to local mitigation efforts) over the past five years.

At the local jurisdictional level, several communities did note an increase in development over the last five years as a factor for an increase in vulnerability to severe weather or disaster events.

3.4.1 Jurisdictional Responses

As part of the Local Mitigation Survey form, Carver County Emergency Management and each city jurisdiction were asked to provide a vulnerability assessment that described what structures, systems, populations, or other community assets were susceptible to damage and loss from specific hazard events. This information was used to help tie local vulnerability back to the exposure of people,

buildings, infrastructure, and the environment to the natural hazards listed in Table 4 and to assist local governments in development of related local mitigation actions to reduce risk.

The following is a compilation of common responses taken directly from jurisdictional representatives as preserved in Appendix C: Question 2 – Local Vulnerabilities. Responses here are edited only for clarity.

Carver County

Warning Sirens: Most rural areas in the county are not covered by outdoor warning sirens due to their distance from communities that do have them.

Aboveground Power Lines: A majority of the power lines in the county are aboveground and subject to damage from ice storms, wind and falling tree limbs. Aboveground power lines are susceptible to coming down during severe storms, resulting in power outages.

Backup Power: Not all county and city facilities have backup power in the event of a severe winter storm that takes out power.

Communications: Not all residents have opted in to the Everbridge system or have updated phone numbers, and not all have their own weather radios or follow social media to receive important messages.

Severe Weather Shelters: Some manufactured home parks do not have a severe weather shelter even though it is required by state statute.

Storm Shelters/Community Safe Rooms: Additional storm shelter areas would enhance public safety.

City of Carver

Flooding: Our historic downtown area has some limited vulnerabilities to flooding from the Minnesota River. During periods of high water, certain businesses and roadways may be affected.

City of Chanhassen

Flooding: The southern portion of the community has some limited vulnerabilities related to flooding on the Minnesota River. Some businesses and roadways can be impacted when water levels rise.

Severe Weather: With ample outdoor and recreation space throughout the community and large summer events, a large number of people are exposed to the risk of severe weather.

Power Outages: Much of the downtown area and residential development to the North is still supplied by overhead power lines. These areas are susceptible to extended power outages during storms.

City of Chaska

Flooding: The downtown area is protected by a levy and multiple pumps. Should the pumps fail or otherwise unable to keep up with flooding levels, the downtown area would be impacted. Other lowland areas in town are impacted by high water, including the T.H. 41 Minnesota River Crossing.

Power Outages: Much of our community is supplied by overhead power lines and would be susceptible to severe weather. It should be noted that Chaska also has its own municipal electric department.

Mobile Home Parks: We have 2 mobile home parks that have storm shelters for residents for short-term shelter, but if residents were unable to return home for a long period of time, the shelters may not be adequate.

Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities: Chaska has experienced rapid growth in this end user group in recent years. Unknown what the individual facilities preparedness is for an event.

All Hazards: Specific user/physical facilities that could be impacted by severe weather events include the Carver County Government Center (including CCSO, Dispatch, and Jail), 212 Medical Center, Hazeltine National Golf Club, Multiple School buildings, Chaska Community Center, etc.

City of Hamburg

Power Outages: Above ground power lines coming down during severe weather events (wind storms, tornadoes, heavy snow, ice storms) could result in power outages. In general, the other possible hazards that could impact our community include extreme cold, extreme heat, blizzards, ice storms, windstorms, and tornadoes.

City of Mayer

Power Outages: Overhead power lines in the community are vulnerable to coming down during severe weather events like high winds, ice storms, tornadoes, and the like that can leave us with extended power outages.

City of New Germany

Power Outages: Above ground power lines coming down during severe weather events (wind storms, tornadoes, heavy snow, ice storms) could result in power outages. In general, other possible hazards that could impact our community include extreme cold, extreme heat, blizzards, ice storms, windstorms, and tornadoes.

City of Norwood Young America

Flooding: The ditch that goes through town is a vulnerability. In the past, it has caused the wastewater plant to flood. The South Street area of town and trailer court are more vulnerable as they are lower income. Friendship Park is at risk for flooding and needs mitigation.

City of Victoria

Flooding: Some lower lying neighborhoods have been affected by historic rain events.

Power Outages: There are still some areas of our community that have overhead lines that are more susceptible to damage from high winds or ice storms.

City of Waconia

All Hazards: We have some risk with any hazard that affects the Ridgeview Campus and a large number of senior care facilities and housing. Lake Waconia Regional Park and Lake Waconia are active destinations for summer and winter recreation. The Carver County Fair and other city events bring large numbers of people to the city during those events.

City of Watertown

Windstorms, Tornadoes: We have limited shelter for residents of our two mobile home parks.

Flooding: We experience frequent flooding near our downtown corridor. However, in recent years, only two commercial businesses are affected by flood operations.

Other Stakeholders**Carver Soil and Water Conservation District**

Flooding: There are several homes in rural areas that are at risk in flooding situations.

Carver County Watershed Management Organization (CCWMO)

Flooding: As part of the CCWMO's Watershed Management Plan, we are working to identify areas of public infrastructure that are vulnerable to flooding in extreme events (we know these areas exist and are working to quantify risks and locations)

3.4.2 Future Development

Because Carver County is vulnerable to a variety of natural hazards, the county government—in partnership with the state government—must make a commitment to prepare for the management of these events. Carver County is committed to ensuring that county elected and appointed officials

become informed leaders regarding community hazards so that they are better prepared to set and direct policies for emergency management and county response.

As part of the vulnerability assessment conducted for the Carver County HMP update, jurisdictions were asked to describe if there were any factors related to population growth, zoning, or development they felt have increased their community's vulnerability to future severe weather or disaster events. The following is a compilation of responses taken directly from jurisdictional representatives as preserved in Appendix C: Question 4 – Increase in Vulnerability. Responses here are edited only for clarity.

Carver County

The population of Carver County continues to grow at a steady rate and is expected to continue growing in the coming years. In 2000, the population was 70,205 and in 2020 the population reached 106,922. By 2030, the population is expected to reach around 135,960. Our county has a history of flooding. In the past, flooding has occurred due to snow melt, but we have become increasingly concerned with heavy rain events, which could pose new challenges to developments in the community. Recently, more schools have inquired about funding to build safe rooms.

City of Carver

The community continues to experience steady growth through both residential and commercial development. Many residential projects are focused on higher-density housing, including large apartment complexes that concentrate a greater number of people in a smaller area, increasing potential risk. On the commercial side, new development includes larger buildings.

City of Chanhassen

Growth in the community continues with both residential and commercial projects. Much of the residential development is focusing on higher-density projects, including large apartment buildings that place a larger volume of people at risk in a concentrated area. Commercial development has introduced larger buildings which house some critical infrastructure, such as a utility company.

City of Chaska

Population Growth - Commercial, Industrial, and Residential growth continues at a fast pace, placing increased demand on city services and infrastructure. We have also seen many more higher density projects take place.

Increased Senior Population - Chaska has seen a number of Senior living and Older Adult communities (Single-family & high density) develop in recent years. This population can be more vulnerable to severe weather incidents.

Increased number of Group Homes - Another growing and vulnerable population is the number of group homes in our community.

City of Hamburg

We have had no new development.

City of Mayer

Single-family home construction is continuous. We do not feel we have had an increase in vulnerability as a result of this growth.

City of New Germany

Our wastewater ponds are currently facing capacity issues, limited with new home construction since 2018, we have 4 new homes proposed for 2025 and one new commercial business.

City of Norwood Young America

Water management systems are being strained from increased population. Our Industrial Park is also expanding.

City of Victoria

The City of Victoria continues to grow at a fast pace. We have been building new multifamily and single-family homes. The additional population and development increases traffic, runoff, and pressure on city infrastructure.

City of Waconia

We continue to see growth in commercial, low, and high-density residential, placing an increased demand on all infrastructure. This growth is also pushing our water supply system to be at or over capacity on peak days.

City of Watertown

General growth and population are adding to our risk. Our infrastructure has recently been updated with this growth in mind.

In the development of local mitigation actions, all jurisdictions were encouraged to consider hazard mitigation strategies that would reduce risk in relation to future development, such as the update of local comprehensive plans, enforcement of ordinances, and incorporation of infrastructure improvements to reduce local vulnerabilities (see Appendix H).

The Carver County emergency management director will work to keep the jurisdictions covered by the HMP engaged and informed during the plan's cycle. By keeping jurisdictional leaders involved in the monitoring, evaluation, and update of the HMP, they will keep their local governments aware of the hazards that face their communities and how to mitigate those hazards through planning and project implementation.

Section 6 of this plan further outlines the process by which Carver County will address the maintenance of this plan, including monitoring, evaluation, and update of the plan, as well as implementation and continued public involvement.

Section 4 – Hazards

As part of the risk assessment, each natural hazard that poses risk to the county was independently reviewed for its past hazard history, relationship to future trends, and jurisdictional vulnerability to future events. The county also conducted a capabilities assessment to review the plans and programs that are in place or lacking (program gaps or deficiencies) for implementing mitigation efforts, as related to each natural hazard. An assessment was also conducted for local jurisdictions to identify the plans, policies, programs, staff, and funding they have in place to incorporate mitigation into other planning mechanisms (see Section 5.1 and Appendix C).

[Read more about natural hazard prioritization and view interactive information on all hazards](#)

The following hazard profiles address hazards that the Carver County Planning Team deemed moderate to high risk. Hazards determined to be low risk or without substantive mitigation actions are not required to be included.

4.1 Flooding

Flooding is the most significant and costly natural hazard in Minnesota. Nine of the 17 federal disaster declarations in Carver County included flooding.

After several years of drought and exceptionally mild winter, the first half of 2024 was extremely wet with frequent, heavy precipitation causing widespread flooding throughout Minnesota, resulting in a Federal Disaster Declaration (DR-4797-MN) affecting 22 counties, including Carver County (FEMA, 2024d).

4.1.1 Probability of Occurrence

From 1997 through May 2025, the NCEI Storm Events Database has recorded 32 flood and flash flood events. Carver County has experienced one flash flood event every 1.4 years and one riverine flood event every 1.6 years on average during this period.

[View interactive maps and see information about flooding history, risk, and vulnerability](#)

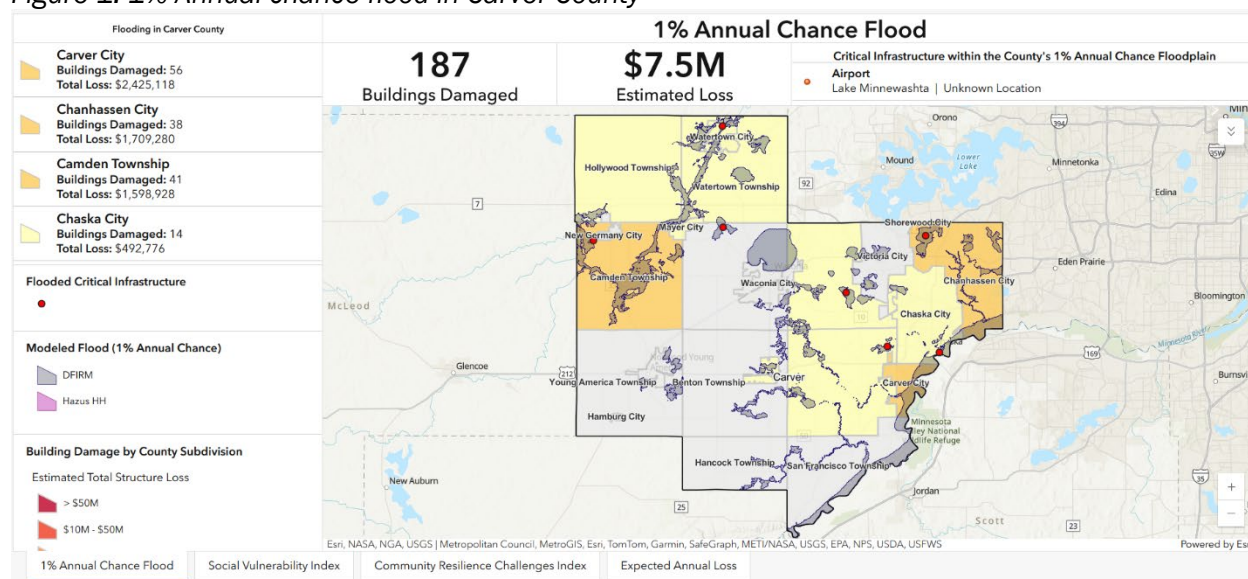
Minnesota HSEM has encouraged a potential risk and economic loss analysis for a 1% annual chance flood using the FEMA tool, Hazus for ArcGIS. A Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) defined the 1% annual chance flood boundary.

A raster layer (10m resolution) of flood water depths within the 1% annual chance flood boundary was calculated by taking the difference between the elevation of the ground and the surface of the flood water. Static base flood elevation (BFE) data was available for some areas in the flood boundary, but the water surface elevation (WSEL) had to be calculated for the rest of the flooded areas. The method of calculating the WSEL varied by the data available.

For this analysis, water surface elevations were calculated by interpolating three different datasets: the regulatory water surface elevation values of cross section lines (primary data), the elevation values of base flood elevation lines (secondary data), and the elevation at the flood boundary where cross section and base flood line data was not available.

The resulting Hazus 1% annual chance floodplain is shown in the Flood Vulnerability dashboard on the Carver County HMP website (Figure 1), where it is available in an interactive form.

Figure 1. 1% Annual chance flood in Carver County



4.1.2 Vulnerability

Potential economic loss estimates were based on county-specific building data. Carver County provided parcel tax and spatial databases that included building valuations, occupancy class, square footage, year built, and number of stories. The quality of the inventory is the limiting factor to a Hazus flood model loss estimation. Best practices were used to use local data and assumptions were made to populate missing (but required) values.

[View at-risk populations in Carver County](#)

Hazus reports the percent damage of each building in the floodplain, defined by the centroid of each building footprint. After formatting the tax and spatial data, 52,122 points were input to Hazus to represent buildings with a total estimated building plus contents value of \$26.2 billion. Approximately 83% of the buildings (and 74% of the building value) are associated with residential housing. The estimated loss by occupancy class for the entire county is shown in Table 8.

The distinction between building attributes within a parcel was not known, so the maximum percent damage to a building in that parcel was used to calculate loss estimates for the entire parcel. The sum of all the losses in each census block were aggregated to visualize the loss (see [flood risk map on the HMP website](#)). Please note: It is possible for a building location to report no loss even if it is in the flood

boundary. For example, if the water depth is minimal relative to 1st-floor height, there may be 0% damage.

The distinction between building attributes within a parcel was not known, so the maximum percent damage to a building in that parcel was used to calculate loss estimates for the entire parcel. The sum of all the losses in each census block were aggregated to visualize the loss (see [flood risk map on the HMP website](#)). Please note: It is possible for a building location to report no loss even if it is in the flood boundary. For example, if the water depth is minimal relative to 1st-floor height, there may be 0% damage.

Table 8. Summary of 1% annual chance flood loss estimation by occupancy class

General Occupancy	County Total Buildings	County Building and Contents Value	Floodplain Total Buildings	Floodplain Building + Contents Value	Buildings with damage	Building + Contents Loss
Residential	43,367	\$19,432,147,202	124	\$36,142,050	110	\$3,037,421
Commercial	1,240	\$1,779,795,238	26	\$8,822,000	26	\$1,874,847
Other	7,515	\$5,026,603,328	58	\$17,848,800	51	\$2,554,672
Totals	52,122	\$26,238,545,768	208	\$62,812,850	187	\$7,466,940

SOURCE: (FEMA, 2024c)

Hazus Critical Infrastructure Loss Analysis

Critical facilities and infrastructure are vital to the public, and their incapacitation or destruction would have a significant negative impact on the community. These facilities and infrastructure were identified on the [HMP website](#) and verified by Carver County.

Buildings identified as essential facilities for the Hazus flood analysis include hospitals, police and fire stations, and schools (often used as shelters). Essential facilities are vulnerable to structural failure, extensive water damage, and loss of facility functionality during a flood, thereby negatively impacting the communities relying on these facilities' services. Fortunately, none of Carver County's essential facilities included in the Hazus flood analysis are located within the 1% annual chance floodplain.

Extreme precipitation resulting in flooding may overwhelm water infrastructure, disrupt transportation, and cause other damage. Particularly where stormwater, sewage and water treatment infrastructure is aging or undersized for more intense rainstorms, extreme rain events may pose both health and ecological risks in addition to costly damage (USGCRP, 2018b).

It is important to identify other critical infrastructure within the 1% annual chance floodplain, given the higher risk of the facility or infrastructure being incapacitated or destroyed during a flood. In Carver County, the following facilities were determined to be at risk in the 1% annual chance flood:

- Lake Minnewashta Airport (unknown location)
- Lake Pierson Airport (unknown location)
- Goose Lake Airport (unknown location)
- Electric Transmission Substation (unknown location)
- Electric Transmission Substation (unknown location)
- MCES Chaska WWTP (unknown location)

This infrastructure is mapped in the [Carver County HMP website](#). This flood analysis did not evaluate flooding bridges, roads, or other linear features.

There is another other important asset within the 1% annual chance flood boundary that is worth further flood risk review. Buildings considered include places where critical leaders' offices may be, historical resources, hazardous waste storage, and places where populations may be exposed, such as campgrounds or mobile home parks. In Blue Earth County, the asset vulnerable to a 1% annual chance flood is the City of Watertown Public Works hazardous waste facility. This vulnerability should be reviewed in more detail.

Community Vulnerability

Potential economic losses were estimated by Census Minor Civil Division. The City of Carver would suffer estimated losses of \$2.4 million in the 1% annual chance flood. The City of Chanhassen and Camden Township both have estimated losses of over \$1.5 million. All jurisdictions with buildings identified in the 1% annual chance flood zone can also be viewed on the Carver County HMP website.

The status of jurisdictional participation in the National Flood Insurance Program and any repetitive loss properties are detailed in Section 5.1.1. National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

Section 3.4 provides jurisdictional responses to localized vulnerabilities to specific hazards.

4.1.3 Flooding and Climate Change

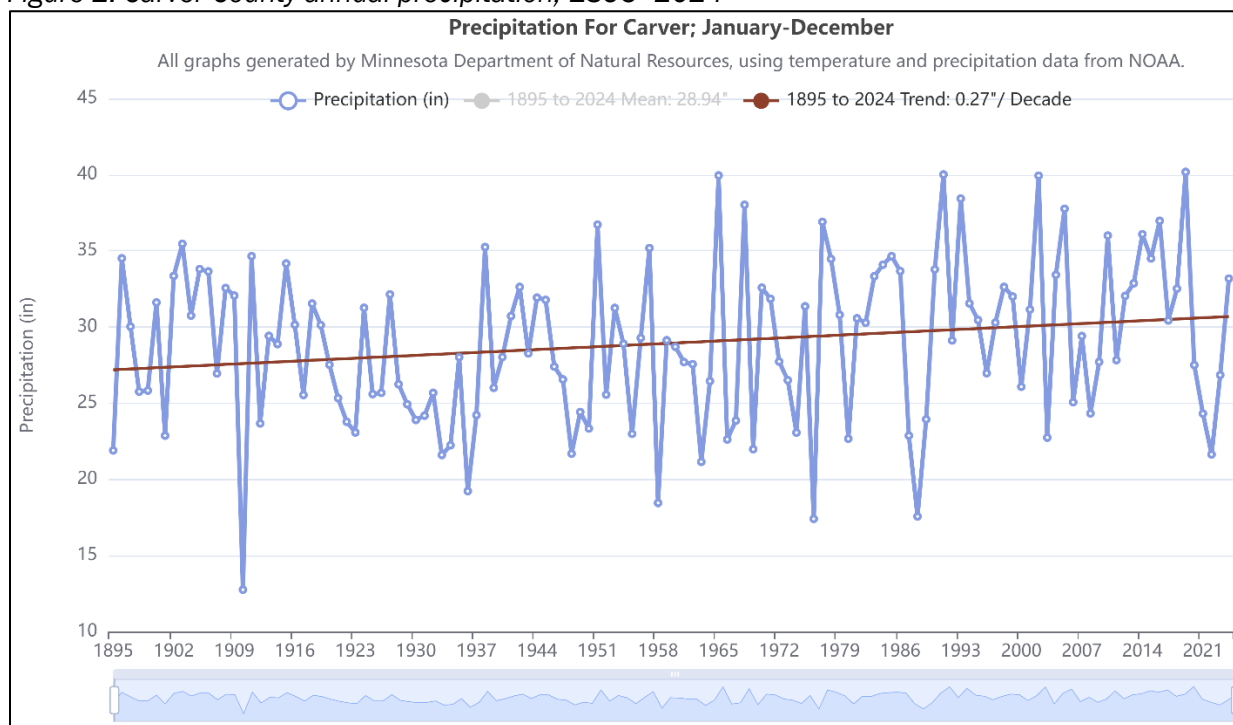
Higher temperatures globally have evaporated more surface and ocean water into the atmosphere, which, in turn, has provided more potential moisture for precipitating weather systems. In Carver County, the result has been increased precipitation, with annual totals increasing at an average rate of 0.27 inches per decade since 1895 (see Figure 2).

Snow cover will decrease and melt earlier and heavier rainfall is leading to increasing flooding (Payton et al., 2023). Additional increases in heavy and extreme precipitation are expected to remain the state's leading climate change symptoms. Heavy rains are now more common in Minnesota and more intense than at any time on record. Long-term observation sites have seen dramatic increases in one-inch rains, three-inch rains, and the size of the heaviest rainfall of the year. Since 2000, Minnesota has seen a significant uptick in devastating, large-area extreme rainstorms as well. Rains that historically would have been in the 98th percentile annually (the largest 2%) have become more common (MN DNR, 2024).

This precipitation increase is found in all seasons, but spring and summer are becoming wetter at faster rates than fall and winter. Whereas temperature increases have been greatest in the northern parts of the state, precipitation increases have been well distributed geographically, and have somewhat favored southern Minnesota, which has better access to moisture from the Gulf of Mexico and is more frequently near the "low-level jet" airflow (a relatively fast-moving zone of winds in the lower atmosphere) that influences precipitation production.

Key Message #1 in the Water Chapter of the NCA5 states that climate change will continue to cause profound changes in the water cycle.

Figure 2. Carver County annual precipitation, 1895–2024



SOURCE: (MN DNR, 2025B)

4.1.4 Program Gaps and Deficiencies

Carver County Emergency Management identified existing program gaps and deficiencies that make its residents more vulnerable to flooding. The following gaps and deficiencies should be addressed with new mitigation efforts to reduce that vulnerability:

Road Infrastructure: Flood mitigation for county and township roads (e.g., culvert replacements, road repair) is an ongoing need. The county and many of the townships have limited funding for road infrastructure. Carver County continues to assist with road infrastructure mitigation projects to reduce the impacts of localized flooding.

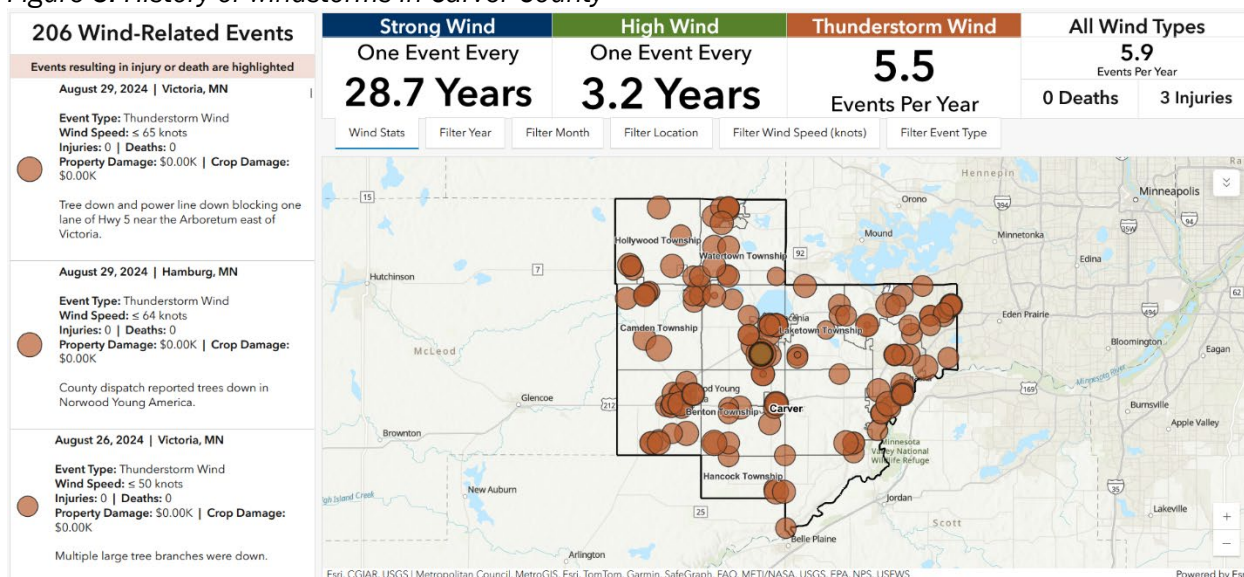
Funding: The county needs funding assistance to improve roads and culverts that experience repetitive flooding. Significant State and Federal funding is needed to construct infrastructure projects to prevent, reduce, and mitigate the impacts of high rain events and flooding.

4.2 Windstorms

A windstorm is a wind strong enough to cause damage to trees and buildings and typically exceeding 34 mph (Pielke, 2012). Windstorm events encompass a variety of types of damaging wind. The history of windstorms in Carver County is shown in Figure 3; an interactive version of this map can be found on the Carver County HMP website.

[View interactive maps and see information about windstorm history, risk, and vulnerability](#)

Figure 3. History of windstorms in Carver County



4.2.1 Probability of Occurrence

To determine the probability of future wind-related events in Carver County, records of previous wind-related events (strong wind, high wind, and thunderstorm wind) in Carver County were examined since 1996, the period of record all wind events have in common. The relative frequency of all wind-related events from January 1996 to May 2025 is 5.9 per year. These relative frequencies can be used to infer the probability of these events occurring in the future.

4.2.2 Vulnerability

The likelihood of a windstorm event does not vary geographically within the county, but the vulnerability of its residents is not constant. Vulnerability to injury from all kinds of windstorms decreases with adequate warnings, warning time, and sheltering in a reinforced structure. Therefore, residents living in rural areas, living alone or with limited mobility, or living in a manufactured home may be more vulnerable. Also at a higher risk to windstorms are those who work outdoors or do not have permanent housing.

Structural vulnerability depends in part upon the construction of a building and its infrastructure. Residents of mobile homes are more vulnerable to fatality or injury from windstorms because mobile homes are not able to withstand high winds as well as other structural dwellings, with 50 mph (43.4 knots) being the lower limit of wind speeds capable of damaging mobile homes (AMS, 2004). Steps to mitigate these vulnerabilities have been taken by the state, requiring all mobile home parks to provide an evacuation plan, and parks with at least 10 homes licensed after March 1, 1988 to provide a storm shelter (MDH, 2020). However, mobile home parks often do not provide the required storm shelters (Sepic, 2017). Building codes have also changed to improve the strength of new mobile home construction but there are still many older mobile homes in use that do not meet these new standards.

Section 3.4 provides jurisdictional responses to localized vulnerabilities to specific hazards.

4.2.3 Windstorms and Climate Change

Lack of high-quality long-term data sets makes assessment of changes in wind speeds very difficult (Kunkel et al., 2013). In general, one analysis found no evidence of significant changes in wind speed distribution. Other trends in severe storms, including the number of hurricanes and the intensity and frequency of tornadoes, hail, and damaging thunderstorm winds, are uncertain. Since the impact of more frequent or intense storms can be larger than the impact of average temperature, climate scientists are actively researching the connections between climate change and severe storms (USGCRP, 2018a).

According to the NCA5 Key Message #5 in the Climate Trends chapter, extreme events are becoming more frequent.

4.2.4 Program Gaps and Deficiencies

Carver County Emergency Management identified program gaps and deficiencies that make its residents more vulnerable to summer storms, including windstorms. The following gaps and deficiencies should be addressed with new mitigation efforts to reduce that vulnerability:

Above-Ground Power Lines: Most powerlines throughout Carver County are above ground, exposing them to potential damage from high wind events. The county and local jurisdictions continue to work with electric utility providers to convert overhead powerlines to underground or to implement other measures to reduce risk of power failure.

Public Education: Ongoing public education is needed during tornado season to inform the public about tornado watches/warnings and what to do when outdoor warning sirens are activated. Carver County and local jurisdictions also need to continue to encourage residents to be aware of and ready for severe storm events that can lead to long-term power outages.

Storm Shelters and Tornado Safe Rooms: There are areas throughout Carver County without viable storm shelters or tornado safe rooms where there are populations vulnerable to high wind and storm events, such as mobile home parks and campgrounds. A coordinated approach is needed to identify where storm shelters or tornado safe rooms are needed and to evaluate whether new construction or a retrofit of facilities is possible. Finding funding for the implementation of such construction projects is also a barrier.

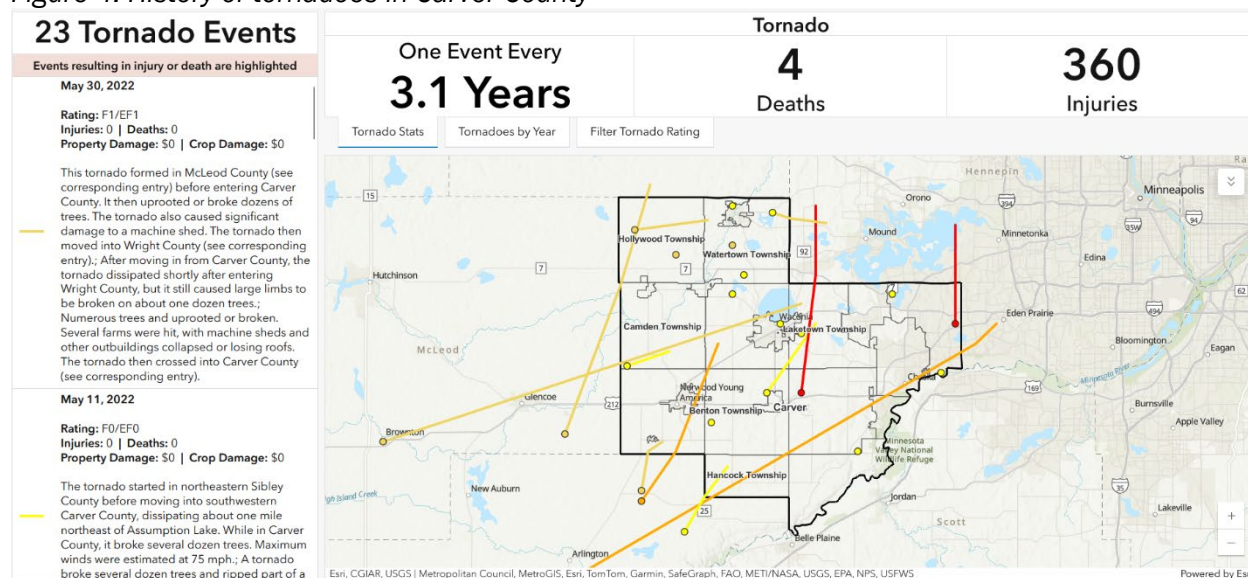
4.3 Tornadoes

With wind speeds reaching up to 300 mph, tornadoes are one of nature's most violent storms (Hogeback, 2020). The history of tornadoes in Carver County is shown in Figure 4; an interactive version of this map can be found on the Carver County HMP website.

Carver County experienced tornadoes as recently as June 28–29, 2025 when five tornadoes caused damage to trees, powerlines, and various minor damage to farm outbuildings.

[View interactive maps and see information about tornado history, risk, and vulnerability](#)

Figure 4. History of tornadoes in Carver County



4.3.1 Probability of Occurrence

Estimating the probability of future tornadoes in Carver County was done using two methods. The first method summed the total number of tornadoes that either touched down in or traveled through the county. This sum was divided by the number of years tornado data was recorded, resulting in the annual relative frequency of tornado occurrences in the county. Based on records in the NCEI Storm Events Database through May 2025, there has been an average of one tornado every 3 to 4 years in Carver County. These 23 tornadic events through May 2025 occurred in 16 of the 75 years on record.

Because tornadoes often cross county lines and tornadic frequency may be better understood using events from a larger area, a second method was used to describe the frequency of tornadic events within a 50-mile radius of any location within the county. A grid of 900 square-meter cells was used to cover Minnesota and 50 miles beyond its border. From the center of each cell, the number of tornadoes that intersected a 50-mile radius was counted. Each cell was assigned a total tornado line count, which was then divided by the tornado dataset's period of record, resulting in the annual relative frequency of tornadoes occurring within 50 miles of the respective cell.

For any location in Carver County, there was an annual frequency of 4–6 tornadoes within a 50-mile radius. The historical frequency was only slightly lower in the extreme northwestern corner of the county. These relative frequencies can be used to infer the probability of these events occurring in the future.

4.3.2 Vulnerability

The likelihood of a tornado does not vary significantly across geography within Carver County; however, certain populations may be more vulnerable and less resilient to the impacts of a tornado. In general,

tornado casualties decrease when people receive adequate warnings with sufficient time to seek shelter in a reinforced structure. Because communication is critical before a tornadic event, certain residents may be more negatively impacted by a tornado, including those living in rural areas, individuals with limited mobility, people who do not live near an outdoor warning siren, or those who do not use social media. Section 3.4 provides jurisdictional responses to localized vulnerabilities to specific hazards.

[View at-risk populations in Carver County](#)

People living in mobile homes are particularly vulnerable to tornadoes because they cannot withstand the strong winds produced by a tornado. An analysis by the Associated Press of NOAA storm data found that since 1996, 53% of tornado fatalities in the United States were people who remained within or attempted to flee from mobile homes (Borestein et al., 2023). While Minnesota law requires most mobile home parks to have storm shelters, many do not (Raiche, 2022).

4.3.3 Tornadoes and Climate Change

Minnesota's climate is undergoing distinct changes, but as reported by the MN DNR State Climatology Office, these changes are only weakly connected to increases in tornadoes or severe convective storms. Minnesota, like all parts of the U.S., has seen increases in the weakest class of tornadoes (rated F-0 or EF-0), but these increases are known to be linked to improved spotting, detection, and verification procedures within the National Weather Service.

When examining tornadoes that cause significant structural damage and are rated EF-2 or above, Minnesota has seen no recent trends towards increasing frequencies—whether measured as raw counts, or as days with one or more of these tornadoes (MN DNR, 2019).

The tornado trends in Minnesota match those found nationally. NCA5 states that while the average annual number of tornadoes appears to have remained relatively constant, there is evidence that tornado outbreaks have become more frequent, tornado seasons are extending into later in the fall, and that tornado strength has increased (Marvel et al., 2023). An October 10, 2021 tornado in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness became the latest on record so far north in the state. Then, on December 15, 2021, an outbreak of destructive thunderstorm winds and over 20 tornadoes struck the southeastern parts of the state, producing the latest tornadoes on record by 29 days (Blumenfeld, K. Minnesota State Climatology Office, personal communication, December 21, 2023).

According to the NCA5 Key Message #5 in the Climate Trends chapter, extreme events are becoming more frequent.

However, climate scientists are unclear about whether the recent statistical behavior of these severe convective storm events has any relationship with the changing climate. This uncertainty results from the fact that tornadoes and their parent thunderstorms operate on smaller scales and more localized processes than the global climate. There has been some indication that, on a national basis, tornadoes are being clustered into fewer days, suggesting a greater tendency towards outbreaks. Scientific modelling studies indicate that the meteorological conditions supportive of severe thunderstorms should increase in the future, but it is unclear whether the specific conditions required for the formation of tornadoes, and particularly significant tornadoes, will increase (Kossin, 2017). Until more

studies are completed, the Minnesota State Climatology Office recommends assuming that tornadoes will remain an important and dangerous part of Minnesota's climate, even if they do not increase in frequency or severity in response to changing climatic conditions.

4.3.4 Program Gaps and Deficiencies

Carver County Emergency Management identified program gaps and deficiencies that make its residents more vulnerable to summer storms, including tornadoes, that should be addressed with new mitigation efforts to reduce vulnerability. These include:

Above-Ground Power Lines: Most powerlines throughout Carver County are above ground, exposing them to potential damage from high wind events. The county and local jurisdictions continue to work with electric utility providers to convert overhead powerlines to underground or to implement other measures to reduce risk of power failure.

Public Education: Ongoing public education is needed during tornado season to inform the public about tornado watches/warnings and what to do when outdoor warning sirens are activated. Carver County and local jurisdictions also need to continue to encourage residents to be aware of and ready for severe storm events that can lead to long-term power outages.

Storm Shelters and Tornado Safe Rooms: There are areas throughout Carver County without viable storm shelters or tornado safe rooms where there are populations vulnerable to high wind and storm events, such as mobile home parks and campgrounds. A coordinated approach is needed to identify where storm shelters or tornado safe rooms are needed and to evaluate whether new construction or a retrofit of facilities is possible. Finding funding for the implementation of such construction projects is also a barrier.

4.4 Hail

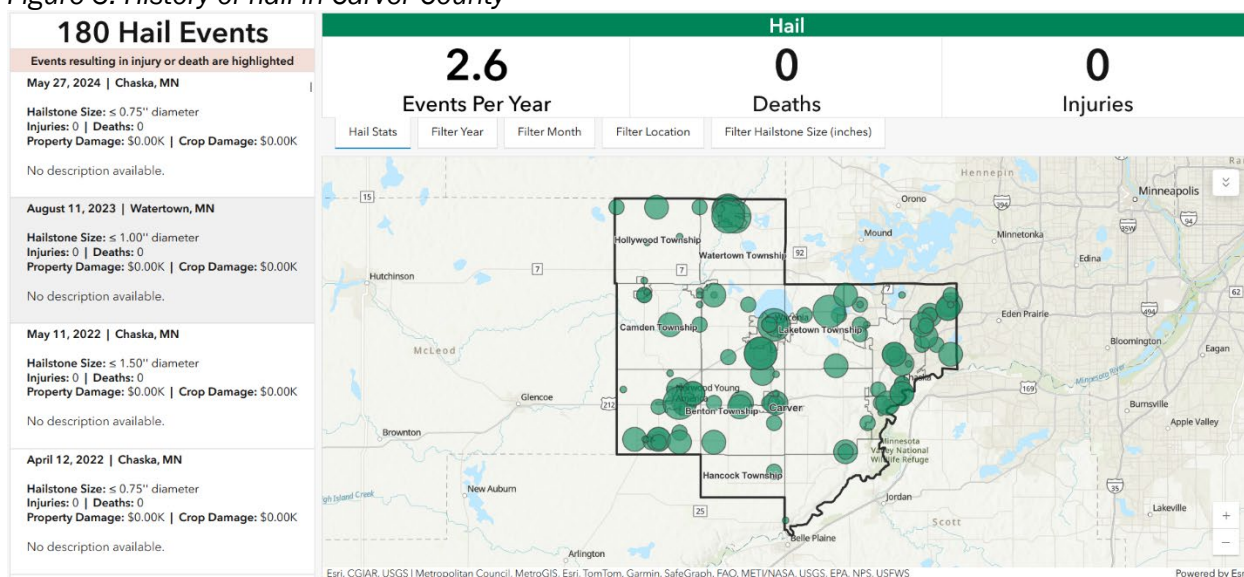
Hailstorms occur throughout the year though are most frequent between May and August (NWS, 2020). Although hailstorms rarely cause injury or loss of life, they do cost Minnesota nearly \$16 million in property and crop damage each year (CEMHS, 2023). In 2017, 44% of properties in Minnesota were affected by damaging hail events (Samanta & Wu, 2017). The history of hail in Carver County is shown in Figure 5; an interactive version of this map can be found on the Carver County HMP website.

[View interactive maps and see information about hail history, risk, and vulnerability](#)

4.4.1 Probability of Occurrence

To determine the probability of future hailstorms in Carver County, records of previous hail events in the county were examined for the period of record. From January 1955 through May 2025, the relative frequency of hail events was 2.6 per year. This relative frequency can be used to infer the probability of hail events occurring in the future. Please note that public reports of hail are often secondary to those of thunderstorm winds or tornadoes because if either damaging winds or tornadoes occur, the damaging wind and/or tornado are more important to the reporter and may result in underreporting of hail events.

Figure 5. History of hail in Carver County



4.4.2 Vulnerability

Carver County's agricultural lands and structures are vulnerable to hail damage and its residents to injury and possibly death. Data from the Spatial Hazard Events and Losses Database for the United States (SHELDUS) was examined to identify the county's monetary losses due to hail damage to crops, property, injury, and death. From 1960 through 2022, Carver County reported over \$32 million (ADJ 2021) in hail damages, ranking 11th among Minnesota counties in total hail damages. Carver County's losses are primarily due to property damages reported at \$29.4 million, followed by \$3.5 million in crop damages. Crop indemnity payments due to hail totaled \$1.6 million for the period of record spanning 1989–2022 (CEMHS, 2023).

Within Carver County, the vulnerability of jurisdictions to hailstorms does not vary geographically. As with all summer storms, those who work outdoors or do not have permanent housing are at greater risk during hailstorms.

Section 3.4 provides jurisdictional responses to localized vulnerabilities to specific hazards.

4.4.3 Hail and Climate Change

Trends in severe storms, including the numbers of hail and damaging thunderstorm winds are uncertain. Since the impact of more frequent or intense storms can be larger than the impact of average temperature, climate scientists are actively researching the connections between climate change and severe storms (Marvel et al., 2023). The NCA reports that in Minnesota's neighboring Great Plains region, hail size, frequency of large hail, and length of hail season are projected to increase through the rest of this century (Knapp et al., 2023). The occurrence of very heavy precipitation has increased in Minnesota in recent decades, and future projections also indicate this will continue (Blumenfeld, K. Minnesota State Climatology Office, personal communication, December 21, 2023).

According to the NCA5 Key Message #5 in the Climate Trends chapter, extreme events are becoming more frequent.

4.4.4 Program Gaps and Deficiencies

Carver County Emergency Management identified program gaps and deficiencies that make its residents more vulnerable to summer storms, including hailstorms, that should be addressed with new mitigation efforts to reduce vulnerability. These include:

Above-Ground Power Lines: Most powerlines throughout Carver County are above ground, exposing them to potential damage from high wind events. The county and local jurisdictions continue to work with electric utility providers to convert overhead powerlines to underground or to implement other measures to reduce risk of power failure.

Public Education: Ongoing public education is needed during tornado season to inform the public about tornado watches/warnings and what to do when outdoor warning sirens are activated. Carver County and local jurisdictions also need to continue to encourage residents to be aware of and ready for severe storm events that can lead to long-term power outages.

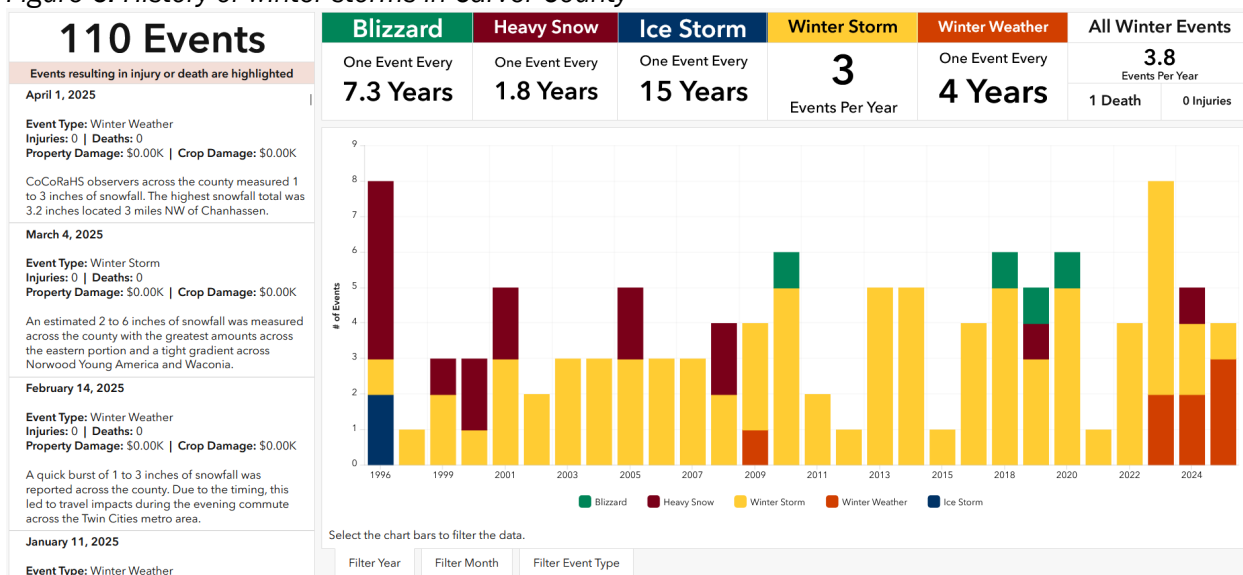
Storm Shelters and Tornado Safe Rooms: There are areas throughout Carver County without viable storm shelters or tornado safe rooms where there are populations vulnerable to high wind and storm events, such as mobile home parks and campgrounds. A coordinated approach is needed to identify where storm shelters or tornado safe rooms are needed and to evaluate whether new construction or a retrofit of facilities is possible. Finding funding for the implementation of such construction projects is also a barrier.

4.5 Winter Storms

Winter storms encompass a number of winter weather events, which the National Weather Service (NWS) organizes into the following categories: blizzard, heavy snow, ice storm, winter storm, and winter weather. Winter weather events are common in Minnesota and can be costly. According to the Spatial Hazard Events and Losses Database (SHELDUS), winter weather events in Minnesota have cost more than \$1.02 billion in damages since 1960 (CEMHS, 2023). The history of winter storms in Carver County is shown in Figure 6; an interactive version of this map can be found on the Carver County HMP website.

[View interactive maps and see information about winter storm history, risk, and vulnerability](#)

Figure 6. History of winter storms in Carver County



4.5.1 Probability of Occurrence

To determine the probability of future winter-related storm events in Carver County, records of previous events (blizzards, heavy snows, ice storms, winter storms, and winter weather) were summed and divided by the dataset's period of record, resulting in the annual relative frequency of winter-related storms. Based on records in the NCEI Storm Events Database through May 2025, the relative frequency of winter-related storm events in Carver County is 3.8 per year. This relative frequency can infer the probability of these events occurring in the future.

4.5.2 Vulnerability

Transportation systems, electrical distribution systems, and structures are vulnerable to winter storms throughout the county. These events do not vary geographically within the county; all jurisdictions are equally vulnerable. While it is highly likely these events will continue occurring annually, the amount of snow and ice and number of winter-related storm events to occur each year are unpredictable. People residing in climates such as these must always be prepared for situations that put their lives or property at risk. It is important that extra consideration be given to the vulnerable populations discussed in Section 3.2. Section 3.4 provides jurisdictional responses to localized vulnerabilities to specific hazards.

4.5.3 Winter Storms and Climate Change

Historically, winter storms have had a large impact on public safety in Minnesota. If the frequency of snowstorms and annual total snowfalls increase, as anticipated effects of Climate Change, the effects on public safety will also increase. Pressures on energy use, reduced reliability of services, potential outages, and potential rise in household energy costs are major climate change risks to public health that can occur from winter weather.

Table 7 in Section 3.3 discusses confidence that climate change will impact common Minnesota weather/climate hazards beyond 2025, there is some weak evidence that warming winters may make heavy snowfall events less frequent as winter warms.

4.5.4 Program Gaps and Deficiencies

Carver County Emergency Management identified several program gaps and deficiencies that make its residents more vulnerable to severe winter storms. The following gaps and deficiencies should be addressed with new mitigation efforts to reduce that vulnerability:

Above-Ground Power Lines: Most powerlines throughout Carver County are above ground, exposing them to impacts/damage from winter high wind and ice events, potentially leading to localized or extensive power outages.

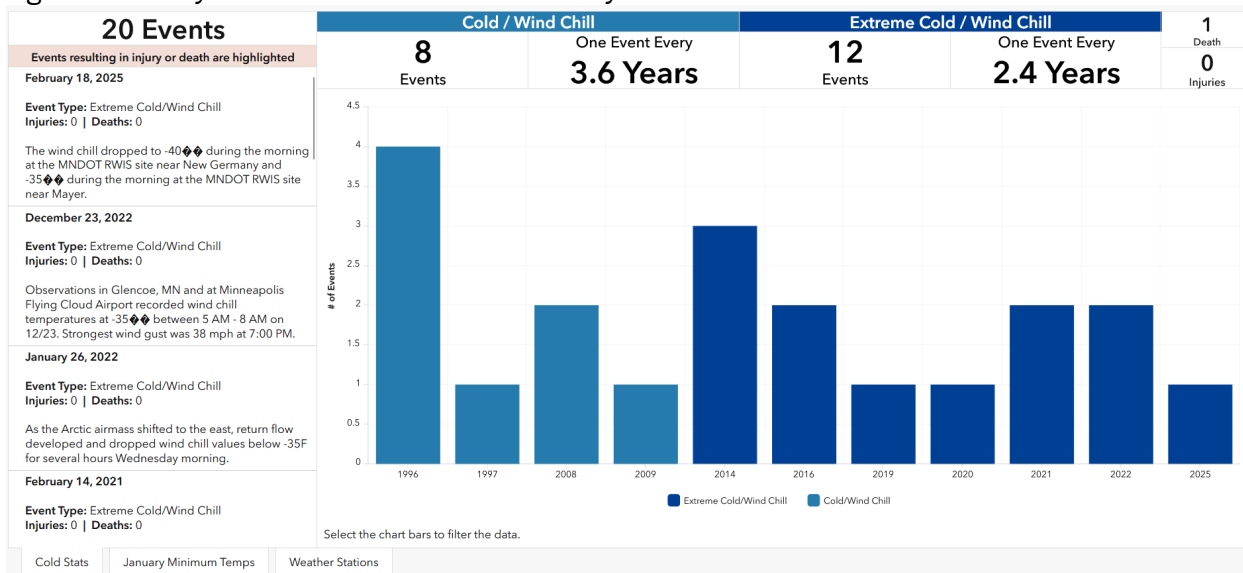
Public Education: Ongoing public education is needed to encourage residents to be ready for long-term power outages or to be snowed in during dangerous winter events such as ice storms and blizzards.

4.6 Extreme Cold

Due to Minnesota's position in the middle of the continent and subsequent climate, the state may experience extremely frigid temperatures in winter. Winter in Carver County can be especially dangerous when low temperatures and wind create arctic-like wind chills. The history of extreme cold in Carver County is shown in Figure 7; an interactive version of this dashboard can be found on the Carver County HMP website.

[View interactive maps and see information about extreme cold history, risk, and vulnerability](#)

Figure 7. History of extreme cold in Carver County



4.6.1 Probability of Occurrence

To determine the probability of future cold-related events in Carver County, records of previous cold/wind chill and extreme cold/wind chill events were summed and divided by the dataset's period of record, resulting in the annual relative frequency. Based on records in the NCEI Storm Events Database through May 2025, the relative frequency of extreme cold/wind chill events in Carver County is one every 2.4 years. (NCEI, 2025). This relative frequency can be used to infer the probability of these events occurring in the future.

4.6.2 Vulnerability

The risk of extreme cold does not vary geographically within the county. Citizens living in climates such as these must always be prepared for situations that put their lives or property at risk. The youngest and more elderly residents, homeless persons, individuals with chronic medical conditions, and those who are working or recreating outdoors are most at risk for frostbite and hypothermia (MDH, 2021).

[*View at-risk populations in Carver County*](#)

It is not always the depth of the cold that poses a threat but rather unpreparedness for the cold, such as an individual with a vehicle breakdown who lacks a personal winter safety kit in the vehicle. The cost of propane can make rural residents more vulnerable to issues with extreme cold. A propane shortage and resulting crisis, such as that which occurred in 2014, may increase the cost of heating homes and farms to a prohibitive amount (Eaton, 2014). The Minnesota Department of Commerce presents options and suggestions for homeowners who use propane [on their website](#).

The CDC publication “Extreme Cold: A Prevention Guide to Promote Your Personal Health and Safety” outlines preparation measures that individuals can take to reduce their vulnerability to extreme cold. Highlights in this document include advice about travel preparations, securing your home water supply, and safety during recreation (CDC, 2021).

Section 3.4 provides jurisdictional responses to localized vulnerabilities to extreme cold.

4.6.3 Extreme Cold and Climate Change

Although climate research indicates that Minnesota's average winter lows are rising rapidly, and our coldest days of winter are now warmer than we have ever recorded, cold temperatures have always been a part of Minnesota's climate, and extreme cold events will continue.

As the climate changes, an increase in extreme precipitation or storm events could lead to a higher risk of residents being exposed to cold temperatures during power outages or other storm-related hazards. Extreme and changing temperatures are already challenging aging infrastructure and are expected to impair surface transportation and the electrical grid.

Key Message #4 in NCA5 in the Midwest Chapter states that green infrastructure and public and private investments may mitigate losses, provide relief from heat, and offer other ways to adapt the built environment to a changing climate.

4.6.4 Program Gaps and Deficiencies

Carver County Emergency Management identified several program gaps and deficiencies that make its residents more vulnerable to extreme cold. The following gaps and deficiencies should be addressed with new mitigation efforts to reduce that vulnerability:

Generators for Backup Power to Critical Facilities & Shelters: Not all healthcare facilities utilized for the care of residents & visitors, including designated severe weather/emergency shelters (schools, churches, etc.) have backup power to run heating systems in the event of a power outage.

Public Education: Ongoing public education is needed to encourage residents to be prepared for extreme weather, including power outages during periods of extreme cold. Carver County Emergency Management continues to do public education through the local schools, senior and health care centers, and local government for severe weather awareness.

4.7 Extreme Heat

Extreme heat describes weather that is much hotter and/or humid than typical for a place and time of year. In the United States, extreme heat is the deadliest weather-related hazard and causes more deaths than flooding, tornadoes, and hurricanes combined. While heat waves are infrequent in a northern state like Minnesota, they can have severe consequences for residents who are not acclimatized to their effects (Runkle et al., 2022).

While Carver County has ranked extreme heat as a low-priority hazard, it is included in this plan due to its significant health impacts. The Minnesota Climate Action Framework states a goal for every county in Minnesota to profile the risk of extreme heat in its jurisdiction, regardless of its prioritization of this hazard. Minnesota Homeland Security and Emergency Management and the Minnesota Department of Health support this inclusion as a form of outreach. Counties do not need to have mitigation action addressing extreme heat unless the hazard is also a moderate or high priority for the county.

The National Weather Service (NWS) issues extreme heat watches, heat advisories, and extreme heat warnings based on the heat index, which is a combination of air temperature and relative humidity that determines how hot it feels. The heat index threshold differs based on locality, since people in colder climates are less prepared for heat events than people who live in warmer climates (NWS, 2025b).

More recently, the NWS has developed the HeatRisk tool to issue a forecast of heat-related impacts to occur over a 24-hour period. It is intended to provide risk guidance to decision-makers and heat-sensitive populations. Historical data from the HeatRisk tool, available back to 2015, provide a more comprehensive look at extreme heat events beyond those reported as Extreme Heat Events in the Storm Events Database. The HeatRisk tool takes into consideration:

- How unusual the heat is for the time of year
- The duration of the heat, including both daytime and nighttime temperatures
- If those temperatures pose an elevated risk of heat-related impacts based on data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (NWS, 2025a).

Impacts of extreme heat are far-reaching and can be severe. Some impacts include infrastructure failures, such as roads buckling and power outages; strain on essential services, such as increased demand for emergency medical services and law enforcement (Guo, 2017; Williams et al., 2020); and disruptions to important social and economic networks, such as school and event cancellations, which reduce access to education, physical activity, and community support.

[View interactive maps and see information about extreme heat history, risk, and vulnerability](#)

Carver County's agricultural lands and structures are vulnerable to heat damage. Residents can suffer from increased heat-related illnesses, exacerbation of pre-existing chronic conditions, and even death (Moss, 2017). In the United States, heat is estimated to result in \$100 billion in economic losses annually, primarily due to lost productivity, and it accounts for \$1 billion in direct healthcare costs each year (American Public Health Association, 2025). In 2022, extreme heat led to 682 emergency department visits, 63 hospitalizations, and two deaths in Minnesota (MDH, 2025).

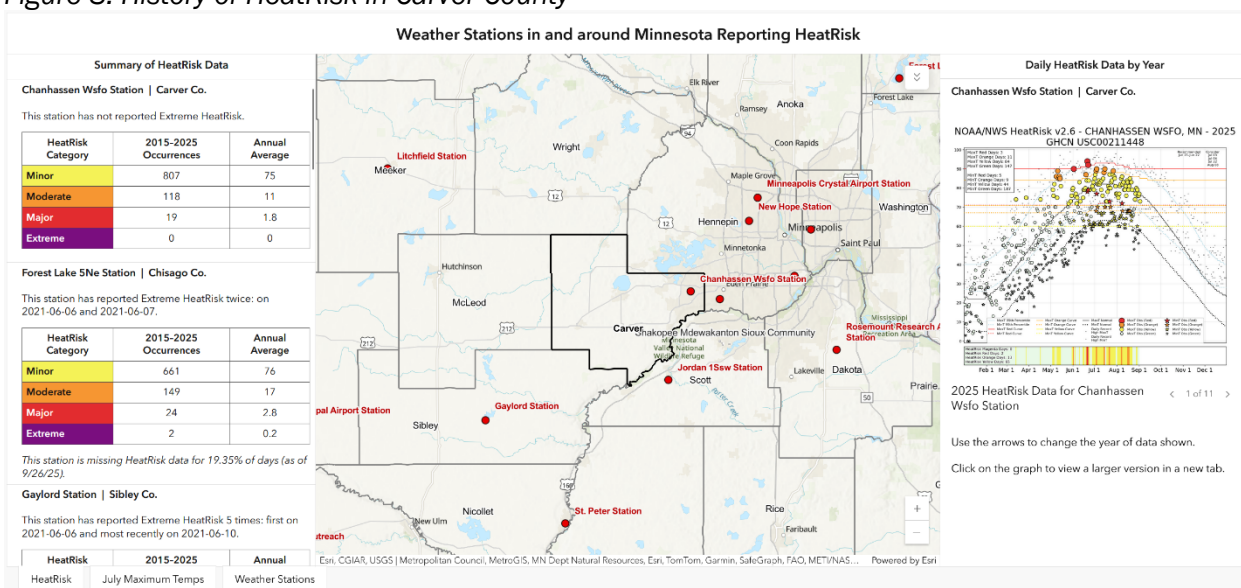
Extreme heat exacerbates poor air quality conditions because the stagnant air during a heat wave increases ozone and particulate pollution (Center for Science Education, 2025). Air pollution is particularly harmful for people over the age of 65, children under the age of five, outdoor workers, and people with respiratory or cardiovascular conditions. The [Minnesota Extreme Heat Toolkit](#) further details the health effects of poor air quality.

Data from the Spatial Hazard Events and Losses Database (SHELDUS) for the United States was examined to identify the county's monetary losses due to heat damage to crops. Ranking 64th among Minnesota counties in crop indemnity payments, heat-related losses for Carver County totaled over \$390,306 (2021 ADJ) for the period of record spanning 1989 to 2022 (CEMHS, 2023).

The history of extreme heat in Carver County is shown in Figure 8; an interactive version of this chart can be found on the Carver County HMP website. This dashboard summarizes the occurrences of days when each HeatRisk category threshold was met for each year from 2015–2024. For the purposes of hazard mitigation planning, we have considered days in the Major (Red) Category (a level of heat affects anyone without effective cooling and/or adequate hydration. Impacts are likely in some health systems, heat-sensitive industries, and infrastructure) and the Extreme (Magenta) Category (level of rare and/or long-duration extreme heat with little to no overnight relief affects anyone without effective cooling and/or adequate hydration. Impacts are likely in most health systems, heat-sensitive industries, and infrastructure) as extreme heat-related events.

While Carver County has ranked extreme heat as a low-priority hazard, it is included in this plan on the Minnesota Department of Health recommendation that every county consider this hazard in their HMP due to its significant health impacts.

Figure 8. History of HeatRisk in Carver County



4.7.1 Probability of Occurrence

To determine the probability of future heat-related events in Carver County, the average number of days exceeding the major or extreme HeatRisk categories is used to reflect heat events in the county. The Chanhassen Station experiences major HeatRisk days an average of 1.8 days per year, and the Jordan Station (Scott County) experiences major events an average of 1.2 days per year and extreme events 0.4 times per year based on the 11 years of record. This relative frequency can infer the probability of these events occurring in the future.

Based on records in the Midwestern Regional Climate Center (MRCC) that date back to 1991, the average daily maximum temperature for July in Carver County has historically been in the 82–83.9 °F range (MRCC, 2021), which is below the 90 °F for 2–3 days criteria for “extreme” heat events (FEMA, 2024b). However, the Jordan Weather Station reported daily maximum temperatures above 90 °F a total of 203 times, an average of seven days per year. This historical average can be used to infer future events, although climate change projections show an increase in the number of days that exceed 90 °F by mid-century (see Section 4.7.3).

4.7.2 Vulnerability

The Minnesota Department of Health updated the Minnesota Extreme Heat Toolkit in 2025 to help local governments prepare for extreme heat events. In their toolkit, they note extreme heat events are often dubbed “silent killers” because deaths and illnesses from these events are often misunderstood and underreported. In fact, extreme heat kills more people in the United States than all extreme weather events combined (Adams-Fuller, 2023). Minnesota does not have a mandated reporting system to report deaths and illnesses linked to extreme heat (MDH, 2025), but is important to not underestimate the danger of extreme heat events within the state.

High temperatures can be exacerbated by the urban heat island effect in developed areas, an effect that amplifies temperatures in areas with a higher concentration of impervious and paved surfaces.

These types of surfaces absorb more heat and hold it for longer than vegetation cover (EPA, 2019). Impervious surfaces are not spread evenly throughout the county, and attention should be given to cities or areas within the county where this type of surface cover is most dense. The city with the highest concentration of impervious surfaces is Chaska at 20.28% (MDH & University of Minnesota, 2019). The distribution of heat-trapping surfaces and their proximity to tree canopy are more important than their total area.

The distribution of impervious surfaces can be viewed in the [Extreme Heat Risk & Vulnerability dashboard](#) in the Exposure tab. The metro counties have an additional layer that demonstrates tree canopy, an effective mitigation of extreme heat: urban tree canopy of at least 40% can result in as much as 7–9 °F cooler temperatures (Ziter et al., 2019). The Metropolitan Council [Growing Shade Tool](#) provides data and resources to inform tree planting and canopy preservation for the Twin Cities region to realize benefits, such as cooler temperatures, improved air quality, cleaner stormwater, improved mental health, and enhanced biodiversity.

Rural areas have higher rates of heat-related emergency department visits compared with urban areas (MDH, 2024), and Americans living in rural areas are twice as likely as those in urban areas to have pre-existing health conditions that make them more vulnerable to extreme heat (Pohl, 2025). Rural agricultural regions can have higher rates of humidity due to moisture-producing crops like corn (Minnesota Supercomputing Institute, 2016), which produces evapotranspiration, or “corn sweat,” that can add as much as 5–10 °F to the dew point temperature (Steil, 2016).

Key Message #3 in the Midwest Chapter of the NCA5 lists strategies, such as expanded use of green infrastructure and heat-health early warning systems, have the potential to improve both individual and community health (Wilson et al., 2023).

Everyone is susceptible to extreme heat, but certain individuals are at a higher risk of developing heat-related illnesses. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), population groups more vulnerable to extreme heat include:

- Older adults (≥65 years old). The elderly cannot easily adjust to sudden changes in temperature and are more likely to have a chronic medical condition or take medication affecting their body’s ability to control its temperature.
- Infants and children. Young children and infants have limited control of their surroundings and rely on others to keep them cool and hydrated.
- Individuals with chronic health conditions. These individuals are less likely to respond to changes in temperature, may be taking a medication that exacerbates the effects of extreme heat, or have a condition that is a risk factor for heat-related illness (e.g., heart disease, mental illness, poor blood circulation, and obesity).
- People with low income. These individuals may not be able to afford to properly cool their home and may face transportation challenges when trying to access cooling shelters.
- Athletes and people working outdoors. Both groups are likely to exert energy while being exposed to the heat (CDC, 2020).

Table 9 shows characteristics that MDH has determined make individuals more at risk to adverse health effects from extreme heat, including how that vulnerability ranks among Minnesota counties.

The indicator's percentile rank within Minnesota determines the vulnerability level of Carver County for that indicator (e.g., the 81st – 100th percentile is associated with the highest vulnerability compared to other Minnesota counties). For more information on what makes individuals and communities more vulnerable, see the [Minnesota Extreme Heat Toolkit](#). Facilities where vulnerable populations may be concentrated, such as prisons, group homes, and childcare centers, are considered to be at higher risk during heat events.

Table 9. Populations vulnerable to extreme heat in Carver County

Vulnerability Indicator	Percentage of Population	Percentile Rank within Minnesota	Vulnerability Level
Adults with COPD	5.0%	3rd	Lowest
Adults with a self-care disability	2.5%	1st	Lowest
Adults with coronary heart disease	5.7%	7th	Lowest
Adults with diabetes	8.3%	0	Lowest
Families at less than 200% of poverty level	8.5%	0	Lowest
Households where a person age 65 or over lives alone	8.6%	1st	Lowest
Households with no computing device	2.5%	1st	Lowest
Households with no vehicle available	3.7%	13th	Lowest
Households with rent over 50% of income	2.7%	22nd	Low
Medicare beneficiaries who are electricity-dependent	3.0%	0	Lowest
Medicare–Medicaid-enrolled beneficiaries	1.2%	0	Lowest
People age 5 or over with limited English	2.4%	70th	High
People age 65 or over	13.8%	3rd	Lowest
People over age 16 who work outdoors	5.4%	12th	Lowest
People under age 5	6.0%	63rd	High
People who are experiencing homelessness	0.1%	26th	Low
People who are uninsured	2.2%	0	Lowest
People who do not identify as “White alone, not Hispanic or Latino”	13.9%	60th	Moderate

[View interactive information about at-risk populations in Carver County](#)

Warming temperatures will continue to increase the risk of extreme heat, especially among these already vulnerable populations. Section 3.4 provides jurisdictional responses to localized vulnerabilities to extreme heat.

4.7.3 Extreme Heat and Climate Change

Minnesota's annual average temperature has increased more than 3 °F since record-keeping began in 1895, and nine of Minnesota's hottest 16 years on record have occurred since the year 2000 (MCAP, 2024). In Carver County, the average temperature from July to September has increased 0.12 degrees Fahrenheit per decade since 1895 (MN DNR, 2025b)

Nights are warming at a much higher rate than days in Minnesota. In Carver County, nighttime minimum temperatures from July to September have increased at a rate of 0.26 degrees Fahrenheit per decade (MN DNR, 2025b).

While 94% of Minnesota households have some form of air conditioning (including central air, room units, dehumidifiers, and ceiling fans), only 68% have the central air conditioning that can provide reliable whole-house cooling (U.S. Energy Information Administration, 2023). Furthermore, homes with air conditioning equipment may not use it; for example, low-income homes might not turn on their units due to the associated costs, and homes in areas with higher crime rates may be reluctant to use window units for security reasons (EPA, 2006).

The average number of days per year with temperatures over 90 °F under a very high carbon emissions (SSP 585), mid-century (2040–2059) scenario is illustrated in the [Climate Dashboard](#) on the Plan website.

Climate models project that temperature and precipitation increases will continue in Minnesota through the 21st century, with hotter summers and increased drought severity during dry periods as well. Already, the maximum annual heat index values have been rising across the state, because increased humidity during heat waves (Blumenfeld, K. Minnesota State Climatology Office, personal communication, December 21, 2023).

Table 10 compares historical temperature averages to projections under a high emissions (SSP 585) scenario, demonstrating how many more days will reach above 90 °F and nights where the minimum does not go below 75.2 °F. The data in the table is taken from [Minnesota CliMAT](#), an interactive online tool that provides highly localized climate projections for Minnesota and visualize how even specific towns will likely be impacted in the coming decades (Liess, S. et al., 2023). While models differ on how many degrees of warming will be caused by climate change, all models agree that temperatures will continue to rise.

Table 10. Historical vs projected number of days reaching temperature thresholds in Carver County

	Historical (1995–2014)	Projected (2040–2059)	Change
Days Above 90	23.78	48.62	24.84
Nighttime Minimum > 75.2	1.00	6.11	5.12

Greenhouse gas concentrations will continue rising through the century, and the air's ability to trap heat from the Earth's surface will increase accordingly. Warming of the atmosphere will evaporate even more water into the air, further limiting the amount of cooling Minnesota will be able to achieve at night and during the winter. As warmer winters and warmer baseline conditions transition into summer, it will be much easier to attain extreme heat (MN DNR, 2025a).

4.7.4 Program Gaps and Deficiencies

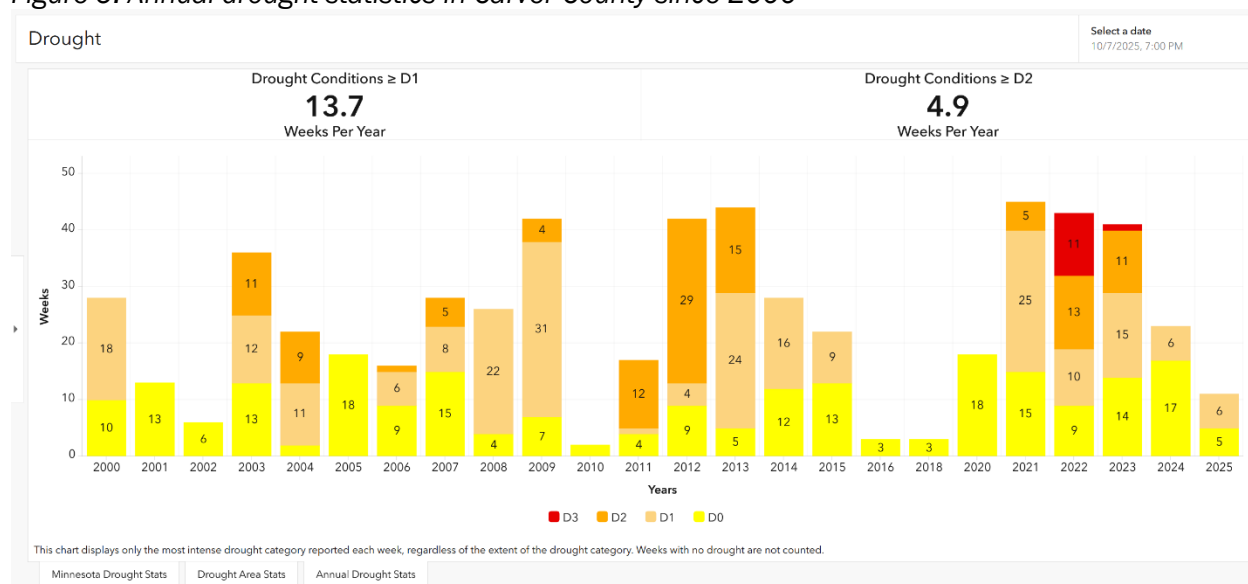
Carver County Emergency Management identified several program gaps and deficiencies that make its residents more vulnerable to extreme heat. The following gaps and deficiencies should be addressed with new mitigation efforts to reduce that vulnerability:

Generators for Backup Power to Critical Facilities & Shelters: Not all healthcare and other critical facilities utilized for the care of residents & visitors, including designated severe weather/emergency shelters (schools, churches, etc.) have backup power to run cooling systems in the event of a power outage.

4.8 Drought

There are numerous approaches to assessing drought conditions. The current gold standard for accurate drought conditions in the United States is the United States Drought Monitor (USDM). Annual drought statistics since 2000 can be seen in Figure 9; an interactive version of this dashboard can be found on the Carver County HMP website.

Figure 9. Annual drought statistics in Carver County since 2000



4.8.1 Probability of Occurrence

To determine the probability of future droughts in Carver County, records of previous droughts were summed and divided by the dataset's period of record, resulting in the annual relative frequency of droughts. The USDM database was examined from January 2000–October 7, 2025 for any occurrence of drought $\geq$ D1 in Carver County, regardless of the duration of the drought. According to the weekly reported data, the relative frequency of the county experiencing drought conditions $\geq$ D1 is 13.7 weeks per year, and the relative frequency of drought conditions $\geq$ D2 is 4.9 weeks per year (NDMC, 2025b). The relative frequency of past droughts can be used to infer the probability of similar droughts occurring in the future.

[See interactive information about drought, including history and the USDM Dashboard, on the Carver County HMP website](#)

4.8.2 Vulnerability

One way to identify county assets vulnerable to drought is by examining the impacts of previous droughts. Overseen by the National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC), the Drought Impact Reporter (DIR) is a comprehensive database that gathers drought-related reports from a variety of sources and identifies the sector(s) impacted by each drought. The NDMC (NDMC, 2025b) defines a drought impact as “[a]n observable loss or change that occurred at a specific place and time because of drought.” A drought meeting this definition is categorized based on the sector(s) the drought impacts; therefore, a single drought affecting multiple sectors will be counted once for each respective sector it impacted.

DIR records show 15 reported drought impacts in Carver County from 2000 to 2024, impacting six sectors with greatest impacts to the following sectors: agriculture; plants & wildlife; and relief, response & restrictions (NDMC, 2025a). Since droughts are regional in nature, jurisdictions within Carver County do not vary in their vulnerability to drought; however, the impact from droughts are not equal.

Drought conditions may impact soil moisture reserves, groundwater supplies, lake levels, and stream flows. Water-dependent industries that experience the greatest impacts include: agriculture, public utilities, forestry, and tourism (MN DNR, 2021). In addition, droughts may negatively affect an individual’s health by contributing to poor air quality caused by wildfire smoke and particulate matter, or a dusty environment. The 2021 drought resulted in elevated fire danger in roughly the northern two-thirds of the state, and record-high particulate readings across Minnesota due to the Canadian wildfires (Huttner, 2021). [Populations vulnerable to these conditions](#) include children, older adults, and those with respiratory issues.

According to the DIR, Carver County’s agriculture sector has been impacted by drought six times since the year 2000, and with 50.5% of Carver County’s land devoted to cultivated crops, the county’s agriculture community is also vulnerable to the economic impact a drought may have on crops. From 1989–2012, Carver County received \$16,546,667 (2021 ADJ) in crop indemnity payments due to drought, placing it as the 55th-highest-paid county in Minnesota (CEMHS, 2023).

Section 3.4 provides jurisdictional responses to localized vulnerabilities to specific hazards.

4.8.3 Drought and Climate Change

Droughts have been happening throughout Minnesota’s history. While the degree at which climate change will impact future droughts is not certain, an increase in efforts and resources are being devoted to project these impacts. In 2023, the NCA5 was completed by the U.S. Global Change Research Program. It provided a comprehensive scientific review of how climate change is impacting the U.S. as well as providing climate change projections.

According to the report, a warming climate is contributing to oscillations between extreme droughts and floods, threatening the agriculture and livestock in the Midwest which produces more than 30% of the world’s corn and soybeans (Wilson et al., 2023). Climate change is attributed to an estimated \$31.9 billion (2022 USD adjusted) of US crop indemnity payments over the last 30 years, with the largest portion of payments going to farmers affected by drought (Wilson et al., 2023). In Minnesota, drought alone represents 25% of the total crop indemnity payments made in the state (CEMHS, 2023).

Climate projections indicate an increase in annual precipitation of 0.2%–0.5% in the western Midwest and the increase in cumulative runoff is expected to continue through the midcentury (Wilson et al., 2023).

Key Message #5 in the Midwest Chapter of the NCA5 states that managing extremes is necessary to minimize impacts on water quality and quantity. The extreme variability between wet and dry periods is expected to negatively impact the water quality and quantity of the Mississippi River System and adversely affect dependent ecosystems and commerce (Wilson et al., 2023).

4.8.4 Program Gaps and Deficiencies

Carver County Emergency Management did not identify any program gaps or deficiencies that make its citizens more vulnerable to drought.

4.9 Dam Failure

The MN DNR Dam Safety Program has the mission of protecting the life and safety of people by ensuring that dams are safe. Minnesota's Dam Safety Program sets minimum standards for dams and regulates the design, construction, operation, repair, and removal of both privately and publicly (non-federal) owned dams (MN DNR, 2020). The federal government is responsible for regulating and maintaining dam safety of federally owned dams. No single agency regulates all federally owned dams. 42% of federal dams are owned and managed by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) and the Bureau of Reclamation. The remaining federal dams are owned and managed by other federal agencies, including the Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service, the Department of Defense, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, among others (Normand, 2019). The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Dam Safety Program is the largest dam safety program in the U.S. The Commission works with federal and state agencies to ensure and promote dam safety of over 3,000 dams across the U.S. The Commission inspects projects on an unscheduled basis to investigate potential dam safety problems; complaints about constructing and operating a project; safety concerns related to natural disasters; and issues concerning compliance with the term and conditions of a license (FERC, 2020).

Dam Inventory: The National Dam Inventory reports that there are 12 dams in Carver County. Dams are mapped on the [MN State 2024 HMP website](#). Carver County has zero dams classified as High Hazard Dams, one dam classified as a Significant Hazard Dam, ten dams classified as Low Hazard Dams, and one dam classified as having Undetermined hazard potential. The Minnesota Dam Safety Program office was consulted to identify dam incidents and concerns.

4.9.1 Probability of Occurrence

Extreme precipitation is only one factor contributing to dam failure, and the possibility of failure is dam-specific, relating to both environmental and structural conditions. There are no noted dam incidents in Carver County, and total dam failures are extremely unlikely if the dam is maintained in compliance with Minnesota's Dam Safety Program. The likelihood of failure in Carver County is low.

4.9.2 Vulnerability

Although dam regulatory authorities differ between various federal and state agencies, all authorities attempt to classify dams according to the potential impacts from a dam failure or mis-operation. In response to the numerous classification systems, FEMA's Interagency Committee on Dam Safety created a downstream hazard potential classification system that is adaptable to any agency's current system. Table 11 provides an overview of the main criteria agencies consider when determining a dam's downstream hazard potential. This classification system does not imply that the dam is unsafe, but rather categorizes dams based on the probable loss of human life and the impacts on economic, environmental, and lifeline interests (FEMA, 2004).

Table 11. Downstream hazard potential classification criteria

Hazard Potential Classification	Loss of Human Life	Economic, Environmental, Lifeline Losses
Class III (Low)	None expected	Low and generally limited to owner
Class II (Significant)	None expected	Yes
Class I (High)	Probable - one or more expected.	Yes (but not necessary for this classification)

SOURCE: (USACE, 2008)

Dams for which a hazard potential has not been designated, or is not provided, are classified as "Undetermined."

An Emergency Action Plan (EAP) is a document that identifies potential emergency conditions at a dam and specifies preplanned actions to be followed during a dam failure to minimize property damage or loss of life. An EAP is required for Class I dams and strongly recommended for Class II dams (MN DNR, 2020).

4.9.3 Dam Failure and Climate Change

Dams are designed based on assumptions about a river's annual flow behavior that will determine the volume of water behind the dam and flowing through the dam at any one time. Changes in weather patterns due to climate change may change the hydrograph or expected flow pattern. Spillways are put in place on dams as a safety measure in the event of the reservoir filling too quickly. Spillway overflow events are mechanisms that also result in increased discharges downstream. It is conceivable that bigger rainfalls at earlier times in the year could threaten a dam's designed margin of safety, causing dam operators to release greater volumes of water earlier in a storm cycle in order to maintain the required margins of safety. Such early releases of increased volumes can increase flood potential downstream.

Climate change may increase the probability of design failures. Some spillways may not be large enough to convey the increased flow pattern. An undersized spillway could lead to dam overtopping and failure.

The partial failure of the Rapidan Dam in Blue Earth County in June of 2024 highlighted the growing threat climate change poses to the country's aging infrastructure as extreme weather becomes more common and severe. The Rapidan Dam is a Significant Hazard Dam in "poor" condition. About 20% of Minnesota's Significant and High Hazard Potential Dams are in "fair" or "poor" condition, with a few in "undefined" condition, and about 70% of these dams were built before 1970 (USACE, 2024). These

older dams are growing increasingly taxed by extreme weather, especially in the Midwest (Harrison, 2024). Climate change is adding a new level of uncertainty that needs to be considered with respect to assumptions made during the dam construction.

While the Rapidan Dam partial failure did not result in mass inundation, it sent an estimated 11.6 million cubic yards of sediment downstream. The sediment was high in phosphorus and nitrogen because of nearby agricultural runoff. The impacts to the fish habitat and ecology of the stream may not be known for years (MPR News, 2024). The sediment loading behind older dams adds another compounding threat of dam failure to the stream and structures below.

4.9.4 Program Gaps and Deficiencies

Carver County Emergency Management did not identify any program gaps or deficiencies that make its citizens more vulnerable to dam failure.

Section 5 – Mitigation Strategy

The goal of mitigation is to protect lives and reduce the impacts of future hazard events, including property damage, disruption to local and regional economies, the amount of public and private funds spent on recovery, and to build disaster-resistant communities. Mitigation actions and projects should be based on a well-constructed risk assessment as provided in Section 3 of this plan and on the HMP website. Mitigation should be an ongoing process, adapting over time to accommodate a community's needs.

5.1 Community Capability Assessments

The capability assessment identifies current activities and existing planning tools used to mitigate hazards. The capability assessment identifies the policies, regulations, procedures, programs, and projects that contribute to reducing disaster damages. The assessment also evaluates these capabilities to determine whether the activities can be improved to more effectively reduce the impact of future hazard events. The following sections identify existing plans and mitigation capabilities within all of the communities:

- Appendix D: Lists the plans and programs in place in Carver County as related to hazard mitigation.
- Appendix C: As part of the Carver County HMP update, the county and city governments were asked to participate in filling out a “Local Mitigation Survey” (LMS) form to report on their current mitigation capabilities and program gaps. Appendix C provides the LMS reports gathered for Carver County.

Information from the capability assessments was used to support development of local mitigation actions for implementation over the next five years (see column *Comments on Implementation & Integration*).

5.1.1 National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

The NFIP is a federal program created by Congress to mitigate future flood losses nationwide through sound, community-enforced building and zoning ordinances and to provide access to affordable, federally backed flood insurance protection for property owners. The NFIP is designed to provide an insurance alternative to disaster assistance to meet the escalating costs of repairing damage to buildings and their contents caused by floods. Participation in the NFIP is based on an agreement between local communities and the federal government that states that if a community will adopt and enforce a floodplain management ordinance to reduce future flood risks to new construction in Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs), the federal government will make flood insurance available within the community as a financial protection against flood losses.

Jurisdictional participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is outlined below.

Carver County

- Status: Participating
- Entry Date: 4/19/1973 (Emergency Entry); 02/01/1978 (Regular Entry)
- FEMA Map: FEMA Mapped High Risk Areas
- Current Effective Map Date: 12/21/2018
- Potential Buildings Damaged in Floodplain: 60
- Adoption of Current Floodplain Ordinance: 11/20/2018
- Adoption of latest DFIRM Map: 11/20/2018
- Floodplain Administrator: Jason Mielke, Land Use Manager (jmielke@co.carver.mn.us)

Carver

- Status: Participating
- Entry Date: 4/2/1971 (Emergency Entry); 09/08/1972 (Regular Entry)
- FEMA Map: FEMA Mapped High Risk Areas
- Current Effective Map Date: 12/21/2018
- Potential Buildings Damaged in Floodplain: 56
- Adoption of Current Floodplain Ordinance: 12/3/2018 (Effective 12/13/2018)
- Adoption of latest DFIRM Map: 12/3/2018
- Floodplain Administrator: Erin Smith, Community Development Director (esmith@cityofcarver.com)

Chaska

- Status: Participating
- Entry Date: 3/19/1971 (Emergency Entry); 09/08/1972 (Regular Entry)
- FEMA Map: FEMA Mapped High Risk Areas
- Current Effective Map Date: 12/21/2018
- Potential Buildings Damaged in Floodplain: 14
- Adoption of Current Floodplain Ordinance: 12/17/2018 (Effective 12/20/2018)
- Adoption of latest DFIRM Map: 12/17/2018
- Floodplain Administrator: Matt Podhradsky (mpodhradsky@chaskamn.gov)

Chanhassen

- Status: Participating
- Entry Date: 6/23/1975 (Emergency Entry); 7/2/1979 (Regular Entry)
- FEMA Map: FEMA Mapped High Risk Areas
- Current Effective Map Date: 12/21/2018 (Carver Co.); 11/4/2016 (Hennepin Co.)
- Potential Buildings Damaged in Floodplain: 38
- Adoption of Current Floodplain Ordinance: 12/10/2018 (Effective 12/20/2018)
- Adoption of latest DFIRM Map: 12/10/2018
- Floodplain Administrator: Joe Seidl, Water Resources Engineer (jseidl@chanhassenmn.gov)

Cologne

- Status: Not Participating
- Entry Date: NA
- FEMA Map: FEMA Mapped High Risk Areas
- Current Effective Map Date: 12/21/2018
- Potential Buildings Damaged in Floodplain: 1
- Adoption of Current Floodplain Ordinance: NA
- Adoption of latest DFIRM Map: NA
- Floodplain Administrator: NA

Hamburg

- Status: Not Participating
- Entry Date: NA
- FEMA Map: No Special Flood Hazard Areas
- Current Effective Map Date: 12/21/2018
- Potential Buildings Damaged in Floodplain: NA
- Adoption of Current Floodplain Ordinance: NA
- Adoption of latest DFIRM Map: NA
- Floodplain Administrator: NA

Mayer

- Status: Participating
- Entry Date: 5/29/2002 (Regular Entry)
- FEMA Map: FEMA Mapped High Risk Areas
- Current Effective Map Date: 12/21/2018
- Potential Buildings Damaged in Floodplain: 2
- Adoption of Current Floodplain Ordinance: 10/22/2018 (Effective 11/30/2018)
- Adoption of latest DFIRM Map: 10/22/2018
- Floodplain Administrator: Nicholas Johnson, City Administrator (cityadmin@cityofmayer.com)

New Germany

- Status: Not Participating
- Entry Date: NA
- FEMA Map: No Special Flood Hazard Areas
- Current Effective Map Date: 12/21/2018
- Potential Buildings Damaged in Floodplain: NA
- Adoption of Current Floodplain Ordinance: NA
- Adoption of latest DFIRM Map: NA
- Floodplain Administrator: NA

Norwood Young America

- Status: Participating
- Entry Date: 12/24/1975 (Emergency Entry); 5/13/1983 (Regular Entry)
- FEMA Map: FEMA Mapped High Risk Areas
- Current Effective Map Date: 12/21/2018
- Potential Buildings Damaged in Floodplain: NA
- Adoption of Current Floodplain Ordinance: 12/10/2018 (Effective 12/13/2018)
- Adoption of latest DFIRM Map: 12/10/2018
- Floodplain Administrator: Andrea Aukrust, City Administrator (cityclerk@cityofnya.com)

Victoria

- Status: Participating
- Entry Date: 6/17/1975 (Emergency Entry); 7/6/1984 (Regular Entry)
- FEMA Map: FEMA Mapped High Risk Areas
- Current Effective Map Date: 12/21/2018
- Potential Buildings Damaged in Floodplain: NA
- Adoption of Current Floodplain Ordinance: 11/13/2018 (Effective 12/6/2018)
- Adoption of latest DFIRM Map: 11/13/2018
- Floodplain Administrator: Dana Hardie, City Manager (dhardie@ci.victoria.mn.us)

Waconia

- Status: Participating
- Entry Date: 7/2/1974 (Emergency Entry); 1/5/1978 (Regular Entry)
- FEMA Map: FEMA Mapped High Risk Areas
- Current Effective Map Date: 12/21/2018
- Potential Buildings Damaged in Floodplain: NA
- Adoption of Current Floodplain Ordinance: 11/19/2018 (Effective 12/13/2018)
- Adoption of latest DFIRM Map: 11/19/2018
- Floodplain Administrator: Lane Braaten, Community Development Director (lbraaten@waconia.org)

Watertown

- Status: Participating
- Entry Date: 3/14/1975 (Emergency Entry); 11/01/1978 (Regular Entry)
- FEMA Map: FEMA Mapped High Risk Areas
- Current Effective Map Date: 12/21/2018
- Potential Buildings Damaged in Floodplain: 16
- Adoption of Current Floodplain Ordinance: 11/13/2018 (Effective 11/22/2018)
- Adoption of latest DFIRM Map: 11/13/2018
- Floodplain Administrator: Dan Tolsma, City Administrator (dtolsma@watertownmn.gov)

Following a damaging flood event, any impacted jurisdiction would work with the MN DNR to use a form to track cumulative improvements and repetitive losses in the floodplain. The affected jurisdiction would also review the [Minnesota Post-Flood Substantial Damage Playbook for Local Officials](#).

5.1.2 Repetitive Loss Properties

Repetitive loss properties are defined as properties with two or more flood insurance claims of \$1,000 or more in any rolling 10-year period. Property owners are asked to consider mitigation activities such as acquisition, relocation, or elevation, among other options. FEMA's Repetitive Loss (RL) properties strategy is to eliminate or reduce the damage to property and the disruption to life caused by repeated flooding of the same properties. Property owners are notified of their status by FEMA.

A Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) property is defined as a residential property that is covered under an NFIP flood insurance policy and:

- a) That has at least four NFIP claim payments (including building and contents) over \$5,000 each, and the cumulative amount of such claims payments exceeds \$20,000; or
- b) For which at least two separate claims payments (building payments only) have been made with the cumulative amount of the building portion of such claims exceeding the market value of the building.
- c) For both (a) and (b) above, at least two of the referenced claims must have occurred within any 10-year period and must be greater than 10 days apart.

Carver County has four RL properties and no SRL properties. Two of the properties are in the City of Carver, one is in Chaska, and the fourth is listed as generally within Carver County. Net payments for all four properties total \$87,275.

For more on the areas that flood repeatedly in Carver County, see the [Carver County Flooding page](#).

5.1.3 Previous Integration of Hazard Mitigation into Planning Mechanisms

Carver County and its incorporated communities are encouraged to integrate relevant information from this mitigation plan into their other planning mechanisms. This demonstrates local progress in mitigation efforts and strengthens the overall mitigation planning process. As part of this plan update, communities were asked to report whether and how information from the 2019 plan was incorporated into their existing plans, policies, programs, partnerships, or other documents. The following provides an overview of their responses.

Carver County

Carver County has actively integrated the 2019 Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan into its ongoing outreach efforts, planning processes, policies, and projects. The county has used its website and social media platforms to share emergency notification and preparedness information with residents. It has hosted training courses to strengthen understanding of the National Incident Management System and has updated the county's emergency operations plan to reflect current hazards and response strategies. Public education efforts have focused on promoting all-hazard emergency preparedness, encouraging the use of NOAA weather

radios, and increasing awareness of the county's outdoor warning siren policy. Carver County also participates in National Weather Service awareness campaigns and regularly hosts SkyWarn severe weather spotter training to enhance community readiness.

City of Carver

The City of Carver integrated the Carver County 2019 HMP with outreach efforts, plans, policies, and projects, including: Using the city website and social media platforms to inform residents of emergency notifications; enforcement of the city's floodplain ordinance and the regulations for new development. The city conducts regular maintenance of civil defense siren systems, as well as measuring impacts of new development areas. Fiberoptic communication is being added to all public infrastructure systems. The Public Services Department implemented stormwater improvements with CIP funding. We worked with our utility partners to put powerlines underground in areas of new development. Back-up generators have been installed at all lift stations. The city is actively working to reconstruct and FEMA certify its 1960's era flood levee system, with construction planned to begin in the fall of 2026.

City of Chanhassen

The city has integrated the Carver County 2019 HMP into our outreach efforts and projects. This includes encouraging residents to enroll in the county's mass notification system during outreach events while also encouraging participation in the fire departments Community Connect program. Social media efforts also include promoting severe weather awareness week and winter hazard awareness week. Larger community events are preplanned and have a written incident action plan associated with the event. This also includes dedicated forecasting from the local weather service office. Projects include upgrading all the siren controllers for the city's outdoor warning siren network.

City of Chaska

The city of Chaska has integrated the Carver County 2019 HMP through our ongoing public outreach efforts to raise awareness of storm events and personal preparedness. The City of Chaska Communications team leads our community outreach efforts. They utilize our city website, social media, Direct Mailings, and local media. We participate in Severe Weather Awareness and Winter Weather Awareness Week by sharing the messaging on our social media channels. The city has 7 outdoor warning sirens which are maintained and tested monthly in coordination with the Carver County Sheriff's Office to ensure we are ready to notify residents of high wind or tornado events. We have incorporated the plan into our local efforts to address flood mitigation through enforcement of our floodplain ordinance. In addition, the city has completed street reconstruction in the downtown area, which is protected by a levy and multiple pumps.

City of Cologne

The city of Cologne has integrated the Carver County 2019 HMP into our outreach efforts and projects. This includes encouraging residents to enroll in the county's mass notification system

through city newsletters and city website. Social media efforts also include promoting severe weather awareness week and winter hazard awareness week. New residents are also encouraged to enroll as part of their welcome packet info. Larger community events such as Glad Days are preplanned and have a written incident action plan associated with the event. Projects include continuing to plan for a backup generator for our community center to use as an emergency shelter if needed.

City of Hamburg

The City of Hamburg has incorporated the Carver County 2019 Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) into our ongoing outreach initiatives, plans, policies, and projects. Our efforts have included: Utilizing the city newsletter and website to encourage residents to sign up for emergency notifications; Participating in Severe Weather Awareness Week and sharing weather updates and hazard notices through our city website and Facebook page; 2021 - in coordination with Carver County, we installed backup generator power for the City Community Hall, which serves as our local emergency shelter; 2024 -The city implemented various curb and stormwater improvements on Brad Street, replaced the entire grinder station on Jacob Street, and cleaned and televised over 5,000 feet of our sanitary sewer lines as a continuing effort to identify and reduce I/I; 2025 - The city implemented outlet improvements for the stormwater outlet leading into the County Ditch on Martha Street are scheduled. These actions reflect our commitment to enhancing community safety and preparedness.

City of Mayer

The City of Mayer has incorporated the Carver County 2019 Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) into several different approaches to help reduce risk to future natural hazard events. We use our city website to raise awareness of the city's watering ordinance during the year and we work to promote awareness to residents of the restrictions and water conservation measures. The city's Planning and Zoning department enforces our floodplain requirements, shoreland overlay, and the City Code zoning requirements for new development. The city has adopted the MN State Building Code. The city contracts with MetroWest for inspection services for enforcement. In order to be prepared for power outages, all critical city facilities have generator backup units. We continue to maintain all generators to ensure they are operational. The city has 1 outdoor warning siren which is maintained and tested monthly in coordination with the Carver County Sheriff's Office.

City of New Germany

The city of New Germany has incorporated the Carver County 2019 HMP into our ongoing outreach initiatives. We have implemented Everbridge information into our newsletter for outreach to the public, we have also placed Everbridge information on our Social Media platform. The Fire Department building is currently in the process of installing a backup generator, City Hall generator was installed approximately 4-5 years ago, in conjunction with Carver Link. Our mobile generator has received extensive upgrades, and repairs to be ready for any areas that may need it during an outage, lift station, Water Treatment Plant, or Public Works. Recently we have placed new antennas and other severe weather equipment upgrades

on the weather sirens. The city had some previous issues with the sirens only sounding on sunny days (test days) and were not sounding off in actual storm weather. These issues have now been resolved, and we continue to promote severe weather awareness week to our residents through the city newsletter and social media. The Fire Department also supports October fire awareness week through the city newsletter and social media. We always thrive to get things out to the community that are very imperative to the residents to keep them safe and prepared for unwanted situations.

City of Norwood Young America

The City of Norwood Young America has integrated the Carver County 2019 Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) into our planning, infrastructure improvements, and public outreach efforts. The city continues to prioritize the reliability and resiliency of its utility systems through the implementation and enforcement of an Inflow and Infiltration (I/I) Reduction Program for the sanitary sewer system. Each year, the city completes an infrastructure project focused on upgrading essential systems, including water main replacements, sanitary sewer replacements, and storm sewer improvements.

In recent years, the city has upgraded two lift stations with back-up generator power and fully replaced an additional lift station to improve system reliability during power outages. The City is also in the process of designing and drilling a new municipal well to enhance water supply capacity and long-term sustainability.

To support stormwater management and mitigate flooding risks, the city conducts annual ditch cleaning and stormwater maintenance projects. In addition, the city has implemented a Wellhead Protection Plan to safeguard its drinking water sources.

The City's civil defense sirens are maintained under an annual service contract to ensure consistent inspection and functionality. The city is in the process of replacing two sirens within the next year and relocating one siren to improve coverage throughout the community.

Public communication and emergency notification efforts have been expanded through the use of the city's website and social media platforms, which are used to notify residents of emergencies such as water main breaks and snow emergencies. These improvements reflect the City's ongoing commitment to integrating hazard mitigation and emergency preparedness into daily operations and community engagement.

City of Victoria

The city of Victoria integrated the Carver County 2019 HMP into our existing outreach efforts, plans, policies, and projects, including: Using the city website and social media platforms to inform residents of emergency notifications; Participating in Severe Weather Awareness Week using our city website and Facebook page; Enforcement of the city's floodplain ordinance and the regulations for new development. In 2024 the city upgraded our outdoor warning siren fleet by adding an additional siren. Fiberoptic communication has been added to all public

infrastructure and parks. Our Public Works Department implemented stormwater improvements with CIP funding. We worked with our utility partners to put powerlines underground in areas of new development. Back-up generators have been installed at all new lift stations and retrofitted lift stations. A new production well has been installed in our southern-growth area.

City of Waconia

The city integrated the Carver County 2019 HMP into our existing outreach efforts, plans, policies, and projects, including: Using the city website to encourage residents to sign up for emergency notifications; Participating in Severe Weather Awareness Week using our city website and social media channels; Enforcement of the city's floodplain ordinance and the regulations for new development; requirement for new development to underground power supply through and to the development. Outdoor warning sirens are under maintenance and repair contracts to ensure operability and repairs are completed timely with and additional siren added on the northeast edge of the city to further expand coverage. Another siren location has been identified and is a planned addition to a new development on the southeastern edge of the city. We have integrated flood mitigation through continued upgrade and oversizing of the stormwater conveyance and treatment system through reconstruction, pond measurement & dredging, as well as reconditioning of existing structures. New facilities constructed, such as the fire station, have been built to withstand severe weather event to ensure operability and contain safe room features and redundant mechanical and power systems. Generators have been added at all critical facilities and high flow lift stations. They are on an annual maintenance plan and are run monthly. An EOC was added and built into the new fire station to provide a facility to staff a proper EOC should the need arise.

City of Watertown

The city has incorporated the county's past plan through our efforts to ensure we have emergency backup power in place in the event of severe storms. In 2025, the last generator was installed at our final lift station. This completes backup power considerations for all critical infrastructure facilities within our community.

5.1.4 Plans and Programs in Place to Address Natural Hazards

Carver County has numerous plans and programs in place to address natural hazards. Some of these programs are specific to a hazard and others address impacts and human safety for many types of events ("All-Hazards"). To group related natural hazards, "Summer Storms" encompasses Tornadoes, Windstorms, Lightning, and Hail. The plans and programs in place by Carver County to support mitigation for the hazards addressed in this plan are described as follows:

All Hazards

State Building Code Enforcement: The MN State Building Code is addressed in Carver County Ordinances, Chapter 150: Building Regulations. Carver County is responsible for issuing building permits for all townships as identified in the County's code of ordinances chapter 150 building regulations. Permits for construction activity within city jurisdictions are reviewed by

that city. The Carver County Land Management Department includes the County Building Official.

All Hazards Emergency Operations Plan: Carver County Emergency Management maintains an all-hazards Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) which lays out concepts and operating guidelines for all incident management and support functions that may be needed to ensure life safety, incident stabilization, and property preservation during an incident and the transition to recovery.

Emergency Notification System: Carver County maintains the Everbridge Emergency Notification System which allows residents and visitors to sign up (“opt-in”) to receive severe weather alerts targeted to their location, along with other local emergency alerts. A link to sign up for the system is located on the Carver County Emergency Management website. Carver County also uses IPAWS (Integrated Public Alert Warning System), which allows for targeted and county-wide emergency notifications to both residents and visitors (not an “opt-in” service).

Preparedness Outreach & Education: Carver County Emergency Management utilizes the Carver County website, Carver County Sheriff’s Office website, and local news media to communicate with the public on emergency preparedness, severe weather, and other hazard conditions throughout the year. The Carver County Emergency Management website provides information and resource links for public education on emergency preparedness. The county also receives all products/statements issued by the National Weather Service, and in turn shares or incorporates these into its community outreach and public education. Promotion of the use of NOAA weather radios occurs during the NWS Severe Weather Awareness Week as well as throughout the year. Carver County Emergency Management provides special presentations or other planning assistance as requested to local governments, schools, or other local organizations and facilities within the county. Carver County Emergency Management is a designated Weather Ready Nation (WRN) Ambassador.

Mass Care Sheltering: In the event of a disaster where temporary sheltering is needed, Carver County Emergency Management works in coordination with Carver County Health & Human Services, the American Red Cross, and local governments/Fire & EMS to provide mass care services as needed. The county EOP includes plans, procedures, and resources available for mass care sheltering.

Backup Power: Carver County works to ensure the continuity of operations of county government services and critical infrastructure in the event of an extended power outage. Local jurisdictions are encouraged to assess where backup power is needed and to obtain emergency generators.

Schools Support: Carver County Emergency Management coordinates with local school districts as needed on related emergency planning and preparedness, including support for specific trainings, exercises, equipment, and relay of county-level emergency notifications. School districts have their own policies, decision-making protocols, and communications plans

in place to determine the need to close school and to notify targeted audiences in the event of severe weather, extreme temperatures, or other events that pose risk to students and staff.

Regional Collaboration: Carver County Emergency Management works closely with the neighboring emergency managers on a range of planning, training, and exercises to support all-hazards preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery capabilities. Carver County Emergency Management also works closely with our regional National Weather Service (NWS) office, having access to all live and on-demand briefings, announcements, and educational opportunities, and contact information for direct collaboration as needed.

Building Permits: Carver County is responsible for issuing building permits for all townships as identified in the County's code of ordinances chapter 150 building regulations. Permits for construction activity within city jurisdictions are reviewed by that city.

Severe Winter Storms

Winter Weather Statements (Watch, Advisory, Warning, etc.): Carver County Emergency Management works to relay winter weather statements received from the NWS to help alert residents and visitors to hazardous conditions.

Winter Hazard Awareness Week: Carver County participates in the Winter Hazard Awareness Week campaign sponsored by MN HSEM and the National Weather Service each November. The week-long effort provides specific information each day covering the topics of winter weather, outdoor winter safety, indoor winter safety, and winter driving safety. Carver County Emergency Management promotes and shares information during the week via social media and area news media. Communities, schools, churches or other civic programs are encouraged to share locally.

Snow Removal & Ice Control: The Carver County Highway Department conducts winter road maintenance on county roads in accordance with the Carver County Snow and Ice Control Policy. Other road jurisdictions conduct winter road maintenance on their respective road systems in accordance with each of their established policy and/or practice.

Severe Summer Storms

Severe Weather Statements (Watch, Advisory, Warning, etc.): Carver County works to relay severe spring and summer weather statements (such as for thunderstorms, windstorms, or tornadoes) received from the NWS to help alert residents and visitors to hazardous conditions.

Outdoor Warning Sirens: Outdoor warning sirens are located throughout the county and are tested monthly by the Carver County Sheriff's Office in coordination with local jurisdictions. Warning sirens are owned and maintained by the cities where they are located, with the exception of one siren in Baylor Park in Norwood Young America that is owned and maintained by Carver County.

Skywarn® Program: Carver County Emergency Management works with the National Weather Service to offer Storm Spotter training on an annual basis to local fire and law enforcement departments and area residents that wish to be trained as spotters. SkyWarn Storm Spotters help to keep their local communities safe by providing timely and accurate reports of severe weather to their local NWS office.

Severe Weather Awareness Week: Carver County participates in the Severe Weather Awareness Week campaign sponsored by MN HSEM and the NWS each April. The week-long effort provides specific information each day covering the topics of severe weather alerts and warnings, lightning, hail, floods, tornadoes (with statewide drills), and extreme heat. Each topic covered includes factsheets, checklists, data, and other resources. Carver County Emergency Management promotes and shares information during the week via social media with communities, schools, churches. Other civic programs are encouraged to share locally.

Vegetation Management: The Carver County Highway Department conducts vegetation management along county roads to reduce the risk of downed trees or branches resulting from severe spring and summer storm events. Local road authorities and electric utility providers also work to manage vegetation near power lines to reduce the risk of downed lines and power outages.

Extreme Cold

Emergency Notifications: Extreme cold temperature warnings are issued by the National Weather Service. Carver County Emergency Management works to relay extreme cold temperature warnings from the NWS to help alert residents and visitors to hazardous conditions. The Carver County Emergency Management Office also encourages residents to follow local news or NWS weather applications to receive severe weather and extreme temperature notifications.

Extreme Cold Safety Awareness: Carver County Emergency Management and Carver County Health & Human Services promote public awareness of personal safety measures to take during periods of extreme cold, such as sharing information via Facebook posts.

Emergency Sheltering: In the event of an extended power outage coupled with a period of extreme cold, Carver County Emergency Management will work with Carver County Health & Human Services and local Fire or EMS agencies as needed to assist vulnerable residents such as the elderly who may need temporary sheltering.

Extreme Heat

Emergency Notifications: Extreme heat temperature warnings are issued by the National Weather Service. Carver County Emergency Management works to relay extreme heat temperature warnings from the NWS to help alert residents and visitors to hazardous conditions. The Carver County Emergency Management Office also encourages residents to follow local news or NWS weather applications to receive severe weather and extreme temperature notifications.

Public Education and Awareness: Carver County Emergency Management and Carver County Health & Human Services promote public awareness of personal safety measures to take during periods of extreme heat, such as sharing information via Facebook posts.

Emergency Sheltering: In the event of an extended power outage coupled with a period of extreme heat, Carver County Emergency Management will work with Carver County Health & Human Services and local Fire or EMS agencies as needed to assist vulnerable residents such as the elderly who may need temporary sheltering.

Drought

Public Awareness & Outreach: In the event of extreme drought conditions, Carver County works in concert with the NWS, MN DNR, and local communities to raise public awareness of drought conditions and recommended water use restrictions as per MN DNR guidance.

Precipitation Monitoring: The Carver County SWCD participates in the MNGage Minnesota Volunteer Precipitation Observing Program, which is administered by the DNR Minnesota State Climatology Office. Data collected by volunteers is entered into a database for various studies and weather prediction simulations, including the assessment of drought severity and impacts.

Flooding

Floodplain Management: Carver County Ordinances, Floodplain Overlay District establishes the floodplain district and zoning regulations and conditional uses permitted within the floodway, flood fringe, and general floodplain districts within the county. The Carver County Land Management Department maintains and enforces the floodplain management ordinance for the county. The department also assists county residents in determining whether their property is affected by an officially mapped flood area. Carver County participates in the National Flood Insurance Program.

Shoreland Ordinance: Carver County Ordinances, Shoreland Overlay District establishes allowable uses and development standards in shoreland areas designated within the county.

Subdivision Ordinance: Carver County Zoning Ordinances, Carver County Ordinances, Chapter 151: Subdivisions, is established to regulate the subdividing of land in Carver County.

Transportation Plan: The Carver County 2040 Comprehensive Plan includes a transportation plan that outlines the priorities and scheduling of road, bridge, and other projects that include efforts that address localized flood risk reduction.

Minnesota Buffer Law: The Carver County SWCD administers the state Buffer Law and provides technical assistance on buffer compliance by landowners. Buffers benefit bank stabilization and reduce erosion and sedimentation into ditches, streams, rivers, and lakes.

Setback Ordinance: Carver County Ordinances, Chapter 152.129 Steep Slopes/Bluff Impact Zone addresses setback regulations for these sensitive areas.

Dam/Levee Failure

Carver County does not have any plans in place in regards to dam or levee failure.

5.2 Mitigation Goals

The goals and strategies for natural hazards in the 2024 Minnesota State Hazard Mitigation Plan were adopted for use in the Carver County Plan. This framework, as outlined below, will allow for integration of the mitigation actions that are listed by Carver County and its jurisdictions into the state plan. The state will then be able to develop a statewide strategy that will benefit all of Minnesota.

Flooding Goal: Reduce deaths, injuries, property loss and economic disruption due to all types of flooding (riverine, flash, coastal, dam/levee failure).

Wildfire Goal: Reduce deaths, injuries, property loss, natural resource and economic disruption due to wildfires (forest, prairie, grass, and peat bogs).

Windstorms Goal: Reduce deaths, injuries, property loss, and economic disruption due to windstorms.

Hail Goal: Reduce deaths, injuries, property damage, and economic disruption due to hailstorms.

Winter Storms Goal: Reduce deaths, injuries, property loss, and economic disruption due to winter storms (blizzard, ice, and ice storm).

Lightning Goal: Reduce deaths, injuries, property losses, loss of services, and economic disruption due to lightning.

Tornado Goal: Reduce deaths, injuries, property loss, and economic disruption due to tornadoes.

Drought Goal: Reduce economic loss and environmental impacts due to drought.

Extreme Heat Goal: Reduce deaths, injuries, and economic disruption due to extreme heat.

Extreme Cold Goal: Reduce deaths, injuries, and economic disruption due to extreme cold.

Dam/Levee Failure Goal: Reduce deaths, injuries, property loss, natural resource and economic disruption due to dam/levee failure.

Erosion/Landslide/Mudslide Goal: Reduce deaths, injuries, property loss, and economic disruption due to hillside, coastal, bluff: caused primarily by oversaturation of soil.

5.3 Mitigation Action and Project Strategies

The mitigation actions in this plan are summarized into four main strategy types, as described in the FEMA publications *Local Mitigation Planning Handbook* (2013) and *Mitigation Ideas: A Resource for Reducing Risk to Natural Hazards* (2013). Minnesota HSEM determined a fifth strategy type for use within the state: Mitigation Preparedness and Response. The strategies and example actions are listed in Table 12.

Table 12. Mitigation strategies and action types

Mitigation Strategy	Description	Example Mitigation Actions
Local Plans and Regulations	These actions include government authorities, policies, or codes, that influence the way land and buildings are developed and built.	• Comprehensive plans • Land use ordinances • Planning and zoning • Building codes and enforcement • Floodplain ordinances • NFIP Community Rating System • Capital improvement programs • Open space preservation • Shoreline codes • Stormwater management regulations and master plans
Structure and Infrastructure Projects	These actions involve modifying existing structures and infrastructure to protect them from a hazard or remove them from a hazard area. This could apply to public or private structures as well as critical facilities and infrastructure. This type of action also involves projects to construct manmade structures to reduce the impact of hazards. Many of these types of actions are projects eligible for funding through the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance program.	• Acquisitions and elevations of structures in flood-prone areas • Utility undergrounding • Structural retrofits • Floodwalls and retaining walls • Detention and retention structures • Culverts • Safe rooms
Natural Systems Protection	These are actions that minimize damage and losses and also preserve or restore the functions of natural systems.	• Sediment and erosion control • Stream corridor restoration • Forest management • Conservation easements • Wetland restoration and preservation
Education and Awareness Programs	These are actions to inform and educate residents, elected officials, and property owners about hazards and potential ways to mitigate them. These actions may also include participation in national programs, such as StormReady or Firewise Communities. Although this type of mitigation reduces risk less directly than structural projects or regulation, it is an important foundation. A greater understanding and awareness of hazards and risk among local officials, stakeholders, and the public is more likely to lead to direct actions.	• Radio or television spots • Websites with maps and information • Real estate disclosure • Presentations to school groups or neighborhood organizations • Mailings to residents in hazard-prone areas. • StormReady Certification • Firewise Communities
Mitigation Preparedness and Response	This is a State of Minnesota mitigation strategy with the intent of covering preparation and actions that protect life and property during a natural disaster.	• Emergency operations plan • Flood fight plans and preparedness • Dam emergency action plans • Warning • Backup power • Emergency capabilities

Local leaders work together with the Carver County emergency management director to assure that the hazards and mitigation actions included in this plan are accurate and addressed in their jurisdictions. Development of mitigation actions for the county and each city was informed by a community's hazard and risk assessment; identification of local vulnerabilities, and review of capabilities in place to address mitigation. Planning team members, local elected officials and staff from Carver County and each city actively participated in the development and review of mitigation action charts for implementation through participation in planning team meetings (see Appendix F) and development of Local Mitigation Surveys (see Appendix C). Additional jurisdictional and public feedback was incorporated following news releases inviting public input to the planning process (see Appendix G).

The Carver County risks and mitigation activities identified also incorporate the concerns and needs of townships, school districts, and other entities participating in this plan. Appendix H contains the jurisdictional mitigation action charts for participating cities.

[See Mitigation Actions for all jurisdictions and provide ongoing feedback on the HMP website](#)

The following is an overview of the mitigation action charts and a description of each element of the chart.

Number (#)

Each mitigation action is identified by a number.

Hazard

Each mitigation action is identified by the natural hazard it relates to. Actions that fall under “All Hazards” relate to both natural and non-natural hazards. “Severe Winter Storms” includes blizzards, heavy snow, ice storms, winter storms, and winter weather. “Severe Summer Storms” includes windstorms, tornadoes, lightning, and hail.

Mitigation Strategy

Each mitigation action is identified by one of the following five mitigation strategies.

- Local Planning and Regulations
- Structure and Infrastructure Projects
- Natural Systems Protection
- Education and Awareness Programs
- Mitigation Preparedness and Response Support

See Table 12 for a description of each mitigation strategy and related types of actions.

Mitigation Action

Each mitigation action provides a concise, action-oriented description of the action or project to be undertaken that will help to reduce or eliminate future risk, including in areas with existing or new development.

Status

The status of each mitigation action is indicated by one of the following categories:

- New – New actions that have been identified since the last plan.
- Existing – Actions that are carried over from the last plan or have been updated.
- In Progress – Actions from the last plan that are currently being acted upon.

Mitigation actions that have been completed or deleted from the 2019 Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan are identified and reported on in Appendix H. Completed and deleted mitigation actions are not carried over into the updated mitigation action chart.

Priority

In the review and discussion of selected mitigation strategies and actions, the planning team ranked mitigation actions by priority for implementation. Table 13 provides criteria that were taken into consideration in the process.

Table 13. Criteria for Mitigation Action Priority Ranking

Ranking	Criteria
High Priority	• Methods for reducing risk from the hazard are technically reliable. • The jurisdiction has experience in implementing mitigation measures. • Mitigation measures are eligible under federal grant programs. • There are multiple mitigation measures for the hazard. • The mitigation measure(s) are known to be cost-effective. • The mitigation measures protect lives and property for a long period or are permanent risk reduction solutions.
Moderate Priority	• Mitigation methods are established. • The jurisdiction has limited experience with the types of measures that may be appropriate to mitigate the hazard. • Some mitigation measures are eligible for federal grants. • There is a limited range of effective mitigation measures for the hazard. • Mitigation measures are cost-effective only in limited circumstances. • Mitigation measures are effective for a reasonable period.
Low Priority	• Methods for reducing risk from the hazard are not well-established, are not proven reliable, or are experimental. • The jurisdiction has little or no experience in implementing mitigation measures, and/or no technical knowledge of them. • Mitigation measures are ineligible under federal grant programs. • There is a very limited range of mitigation measures for the hazard, usually only one feasible alternative. • The mitigation measure(s) have not been proven cost-effective and are likely to be very expensive compared to the magnitude of the hazard. • The long-term effectiveness of the measure is not known or is known to be relatively poor.

Time frame

Each mitigation action identifies the anticipated timeframe for implementation within the next five-year planning cycle. If a mitigation action is considered an ongoing effort, the next five-year period in which the activity would occur is listed. If a mitigation activity has a defined period for implementation (i.e., a specific year), it will be noted.

Responsibility

Each mitigation action identifies what personnel, department, or agency will serve as lead for the administration or implementation of the action.

Comments on Implementation & Integration

Each mitigation action provides a description of how the jurisdiction will work to implement the mitigation action and incorporate the activity into other existing planning mechanisms. This can include description of methods for public outreach, enforcement of policies, development of plans, and coordination of key staff and partnership efforts.

Possible Funding

Each mitigation action identifies potential funding sources to support implementation of the mitigation activity, such as existing county or city funding, or state or federal funding. Projects that may be eligible for future FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant funding are noted.

5.3.1 Carver County Mitigation Action Chart

The Carver County Mitigation Action Chart is provided in Table 14 on the following page. Appendix H provides the mitigation action charts developed for each city participating in the HMP update. A report on the status of mitigation actions related to natural hazards included in the Carver County 2019 plan update can be found in Appendix E.

[See Mitigation Actions for all jurisdictions and provide ongoing feedback on the HMP website](#)

Table 14. Carver County Mitigation Action Chart, 2026–2031

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
1	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Utilize effective methods to share information with the community about severe weather, extreme temperatures, and personal preparedness.	Existing High 2026-2031	Carver County Emergency Management (CCEM)	CCEM utilizes the Carver County website, Carver County Sheriff's Office website, and local news media to communicate with the public on emergency preparedness, severe weather, and other hazard conditions throughout the year. CCEM participates in Severe Weather Awareness and Winter Weather Awareness Week by posting on our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages. We consistently communicate with city partners about upcoming weather hazards and send emergency notifications to the public when necessary. CC Public Health also does outreach and education on preparing for a public health emergency.	Internal: CCEM Budget External: FEMA EMGP
2	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Conduct outreach to encourage residents to opt-in for the county's emergency notification system.	Existing High 2026-2031	CCEM	Carver County provides information regarding our emergency notification system (Everbridge) on the county website. Additionally, we advocate and encourage the public to register to receive alerts during community events.	Internal: CCEM Budget External: FEMA EMGP
3	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Adopt and enforce regulations governing new construction to prevent damage to buildings and infrastructure from severe weather events.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	CC Land Management	Carver County adopts and enforces the MN State Building Code. Carver County is responsible for issuing building permits for all townships as identified in Carver County Ordinances, Chapter 150: Building Regulations. Permits for construction activity within city jurisdictions are reviewed by that city. The Carver County Land Management Department includes the County Building Official.	Internal: CC General Op. Funds
4	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Implement existing plans and policies in place that help to mitigate against the impacts of flooding and other natural hazards to future development.	Existing High 2026-2031	CC Land Management, CC Planning & Water Mgmt.	Carver County has several plans and policies in place that help to address hazard mitigation, including: Carver County 2040 Comprehensive Plan, Carver County Ordinances, Title XV: Land Usage, and Carver County Ordinances, Chapter 151: Subdivisions. Carver County participates in the National Flood Insurance Program and has a floodplain ordinance and shoreland ordinance in place. Other hazard specific ordinances include Carver County Ordinances, Chapter 152.131.1 Stormwater Management and Chapter 152.129 Steep Slopes/Bluff Impact Zone.	Internal: CC General Op. Funds, inter-departmental budgets

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
5	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Utilize departmental staff and elected officials to work together to accomplish identified mitigation efforts.	Existing High 2026-2031	Carver County inter-departmental + county government	Carver County Emergency Management coordinates with public works, Health & Human Services, risk management, commissioners, county administration, GIS, parks & recreation, environmental services, planning & water management, and land management. Carver County Emergency Preparedness Coordinator is part of the Carver County Health & Human Services Dept. The Carver County Water Management Organization leads planning, funding, regulating, educating and implementing the Carver County Water Management Plan.	Internal: CC General Op. Funds, inter-departmental budgets
6	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Develop and sustain partnerships with outside agencies, organizations, businesses, and neighboring jurisdictions to accomplish mitigation efforts.	Existing High 2026-2031	CCEM	CCEM regularly works with the National Weather Service and MN DNR to identify hazards in the community. We also work closely with the National Weather Service and MN Emergency Managers in HSEM Region 6, as well as participate in annual statewide EM conferences.	Internal: CCEM Dept. budget External: FEMA EMPG
7	All-Hazards	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure the county's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is updated and addresses policies & procedures needed to support EM functions prior to, during, and following a disaster.	Existing High 2026-2031	CCEM	Carver County Emergency Management maintains an all-hazards Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) which lays out concepts and operating guidelines for all incident management and support functions that may be needed to ensure life safety, incident stabilization, and property preservation during an incident and the transition to recovery.	Internal: CCEM Dept. budget External: FEMA EMPG
8	All-Hazards	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Expand the use of GIS resources that are available to support emergency management planning and response at the County and local level.	Existing High 2026-2031	CCEM in coord with I.T. Dept.	CCEM seeks to integrate GIS information and support into the County, city, and township emergency management planning efforts. For example, the County Information Technology Dept. maintains a GIS layer of floodplain areas that are available to all jurisdictions to support local planning for local floodplain management. The Carver County I.T. Dept will assist CCEM with special requests for EM-related data-mapping requests (i.e., critical facilities mapping).	Internal: CCEM, CC I.T. Dept. budgets
9	All-Hazards	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Identify critical infrastructure or facilities that need backup generators and work to obtain them.	Existing High 2026-2031	CCEM in coord with other county depts.	Carver County works to ensure the continuity of operations of county government services and critical infrastructure in the event of an extended power outage. Local jurisdictions are encouraged to assess where backup power is needed and to obtain emergency generators.	Internal: CCEM Dept., CC Public Works budgets External: Local Govt funding

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
10	All-Hazards	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure that plans, procedures, and designated facilities are in place to provide temporary sheltering due to a severe weather or other disaster event.	Existing High 2026-2031	CCEM, CC Public Health	CCEM has worked closely with the American Red Cross to identify approved shelters throughout the county. Additionally, the county has an agreement with Westwood Community Church in Chanhassen to set up a Family Assistance Center at their facilities if needed. CCEM will work with CC Public Health and local jurisdictions in the event of needing to open and staff temporary shelter facilities.	Internal: CCEM Dept., CC PH Dept. Budgets External: Red Cross Local Gov't funding
11	All-Hazards	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Encourage schools and other facilities that house seniors or other vulnerable populations to have emergency plans in place to deal with severe weather, extreme temperatures, and extended power outages.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	CCEM in coord with local jurisdictions	CCEM continues to work with local jurisdictions provide outreach to and support to schools and other facilities on emergency planning. Schools and long-term care (LTC) facilities are required to have such plans in place. CCEM provides direct training or planning support as requested.	Internal: CCEM Dept Budget External: Schools, Private LTC Facilities, Local Gov't funding
12	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Identify and work to secure internal as well as external funding (grant or loan sources) to help accomplish mitigation activities in the county.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	CCEM, Other County depts as related	We utilize the county budget and apply for additional grants as possible. On 12/3/2024, Carver County released its 2025 Annual Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan for 2026 and Beyond, which includes budgets for road and bridge projects. CCEM will work to assist communities to apply for outside grant funding for eligible mitigation projects as applicable, including from FEMA, MN DNR, USDA, and other state, federal, or local resources.	Internal: CC General Op. Funds / Long- Term Financial Plan 2026+ External: FEMA EMPG, FEMA HMGP, MN DNR FHM, USDA CF
13	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations	Enforce policies and ordinances that address development in high-risk flood areas.	Existing High 2026-2031	CC Dept. of Planning & Water Mgmt.	Carver County Ordinances, Floodplain Overlay District establishes the floodplain district and zoning regulations and conditional uses permitted within the floodway, flood fringe, and general floodplain districts within the county. The Land Management Department maintains and enforces the floodplain management ordinance for the county. The department also assists county residents in determining whether their property is affected by an officially mapped flood area. Carver County participates in the National Flood Insurance Program.	Internal: CC General Op. Funds (CC Land Management)

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
14	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations / Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Plan for and implement measures to address flood risk reduction projects for roads, bridges, and culverts throughout the county.	Existing High 2026-2031	CC Public Works Dept.	The Carver County 2040 Comprehensive Plan includes a transportation plan that outlines the priorities and scheduling of road, bridge, and other projects that include efforts that address localized flood risk reduction.	Internal: CC Public Works Dept budget, County CIP – Road and Bridge fund
15	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations	Conduct property buyouts to acquire homes affected by repetitive flooding and physically relocate or remove those homes to eliminate future flood damages.	Existing Low 2026-2031	CCEM	There are currently no potential property buyout projects identified by Carver County. The county will continue to evaluate and assist with any potential future acquisition projects and application to FEMA or MN DNR for grant funding to conduct buyouts.	External: FEMA HMGP, MN DNR FHM grant programs
16	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations / Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work with city and township governments to address areas of local flooding concern.	Existing High 2026-2031	CCEM, CC Public Works Dept	CCEM and CC Public Works Dept. continue to work in collaboration with both city and township governments on projects that help to reduce the impacts of high rain and flood events to communities and regional assets, such as the newly realigned segment of the Minnesota River Bluffs Regional Trail. The newly constructed alignment shifts the trail off the Minnesota River floodplain, reducing the risk of flood-related closures and improving long-term reliability. CCEM works closely with each community to be aware of local flooding issues and plans & projects that may be eligible for future FEMA HMGP grant funding.	Internal: CC Public Works Dept budget, County CIP – Road and Bridge fund External: Local Gov't's funding, FEMA HMGP
17	Flooding	Education & Awareness Programs	Conduct outreach to the public to be aware of flood conditions and closed roads; also provide education on use of permeable pavements to storm rain and snow melt.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	CC Public Works, CC Land Management, Carver SWCD	Carver County posts information on closed roads and alternate routes when localized flooding occurs in the county. Information has also been posted in the past promoting “Pavement that Protects Water” (permeable pavers) that are able to absorb and store water. Carver County continues to share information on flood conditions and other related educational articles with the public.	Internal: CC General Op. Funds (PW, Water Mgmt. depts) External: Carver SWCD
18	Severe Winter Storms	Local Planning & Regulations	Implement snow removal and ice control to ensure the safety of county roads impacted by winter storms.	Existing High 2026-2031	CC Public Works Dept.	The Carver County Public Works Department conducts winter road maintenance on county roads in accordance with the Carver County Snow and Ice Control Policy. Other road jurisdictions conduct winter road maintenance on their respective road systems in accordance with each of their established policy and/or practice.	Internal: CC Public Works Dept. budget

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
19	Severe Summer Storms	Education & Awareness Programs	Work with the National Weather Service (NWS) to provide SkyWarn training and develop a network of trained Storm Spotters throughout the county.	Existing High 2026-2031	CCEM in coord with NWS	CCEM works with the NWS to offer this training on an annual basis to local fire and law enforcement departments and local residents that wish to be trained as spotters.	External: NWS Funding
20	Severe Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure outdoor warning sirens are located where needed and functioning properly.	Existing High 2026-2031	CCEM in coord with local jurisdictions	Outdoor warning sirens are located throughout the county and are tested monthly by the Carver County Sheriff's Office in coordination with local jurisdictions. Warning sirens are owned and maintained by the cities where they are located, with the exception of one siren in Baylor Park in Norwood Young America that is owned and maintained by Carver County.	Internal: CCEM Dept. budget External: FEMA EMPG, Local Govt Funding, FEMA HMGP
21	Severe Summer Storms	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Address the need for the construction of storm shelters or tornado safe rooms in areas where residents or visitors are vulnerable to high wind events, such as schools, mobile home parks and campgrounds.	Existing High 2026-2031	CCEM in coord with local jurisdictions	CCEM will assist any communities or schools in their effort to assess and address the need for construction of a storm shelter or tornado safe room. This is especially important for those cities that have a mobile home park without a storm shelter, or schools that are required to include a reinforced storm shelter as part of any facility upgrades. Grant funding may be available for tornado safe rooms from FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant program funding, based on application approval. In July, 2024 the Mayer Lutheran High School in Mayer, MN specifically inquired to Carver County Emergency Management on the possibility to obtain FEMA grant funding for a tornado safe room, as the school is working on additions to the school but is required to add a reinforced storm shelter.	Internal: CCEM Dept. budget External: FEMA EMPG, Local Govt Funding, FEMA HMGP safe room grant
22	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Encourage municipal and rural electric cooperatives to address burying powerlines or strengthening power poles to avoid power outages from high wind events and storms.	Existing High 2026-2031	CCEM, local jurisdictions in coord with electric utility providers	CCEM works with our utility coops and local governments on these efforts as needed. FEMA HMA grant funding may be a source for powerline infrastructure retrofits that eligible rural and municipal electric coops can apply for.	External: Electric Coops, FEMA HMGP grant

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
23	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Natural Systems Protection	Manage trees and other vegetation along roads from severe storm events to reduce risk to powerlines and passing motorists.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	CC Public Works Dept., Local Utility Providers	Carver County Public Works Dept. regularly conducts vegetation management along county roads to reduce the risk of downed trees or branches resulting from severe spring and summer storm events. Local utility providers also work to manage vegetation near power lines to reduce the risk of downed lines and power outages.	Internal: CC Public Works Dept. External: Utility companies
24	Extreme Cold/Heat Temps	Education & Awareness Programs	Provide outreach and education to the public on personal safety measures to take during periods of extreme cold or extreme heat.	In-Progress High 2026-2031	CCEM & CC Public Health	CCEM works to share information received from the National Weather Service when periods of extreme cold or heat are forecast and occurring. CCEM utilizes the county EM website page, and EM Facebook. Local radio and TV stations also provide this information to the public. School Districts have plans and policies in place for delaying or closing school to protect students from extreme temps.	Internal: CCEM and CCPH budgets
25	Extreme Cold/Heat Temps	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Work with local jurisdictions to plan for temporary warming/cooling facilities and promote their use for those that are vulnerable to extremely heat or cold temperatures (i.e., homeless, elderly)	Existing High 2026-2031	CCEM in coord with CCHSS and local govt's	CCEM addresses planning for extreme temperature sheltering within the county EOP and in coordination with Carver County Health and Human Services and local jurisdictions. CCEM has worked closely with the American Red Cross to identify approved shelters throughout the county. Carver County HHS has extreme weather vouchers available for those in need to stay at regional/local hotels. Health and Human Services and Law Enforcement have quick access to these vouchers when the temperature is extreme or there is a bad snow storm.	Internal: CCEM and CCPH budgets External: Local Govt's, Red Cross
26	Drought	Local Planning & Regulations	Continue to participate in the MnGAGE precipitation monitoring program to help track and report data related to periods of drought.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	SWCD	Carver County SWCD participates in the MNGage Minnesota Volunteer Precipitation Observing Program, which is administered by the DNR Minnesota State Climatology Office.	External: SWCD, MN DNR
27	Drought	Local Planning & Regulations	Encourage communities to establish and enforce watering restrictions during drought conditions and raise public awareness of water conservation measures.	Existing High 2026-2031	CCEM, CC Planning & Water Mgmt. Dept.	Carver County promotes information on the county website regarding water conservation during periods of drought. News articles on the county website in the past include information on smart watering and promotion of the Carver County Rachio smart controller program – “smart sprinklers” that monitor soil conditions and irrigate lawns to the appropriate level when needed. Carver County will continue to encourage local communities to locally enforce watering restrictions as per MN DNR guidelines during periods of severe drought.	Internal: CC General Op. Fund

Section 6 – Plan Maintenance

6.1 Monitoring, Evaluation, and Updating the Plan

The Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) should be considered a living document. The plan should be updated and approved by FEMA at least every five years. The guidance in this section will function as the primary tool when reviewing progress on the implementation of the Carver County HMP.

The Carver County emergency management director (EMD) is the individual responsible for leading all efforts to monitor, evaluate, and update the HMP within the five-year window. Throughout the five-year planning cycle, the Carver County EMD will work with an emergency managers group to help monitor, review, evaluate, and update the HMP. The group will include township representatives and designated city emergency managers from cities participating in the plan update, and include other city elected officials or staff as needed. Representatives from agencies or organizations that are involved with related mitigation work in the county as well as those that work with underserved communities or socially vulnerable populations will also be invited to participate in the group. The Carver County EMD will conduct quarterly outreach to and communicate with the group on emergency management matters regarding severe weather awareness, local preparedness, mitigation, and response & recovery as needed. Additional stakeholders will be added based on need or in response to severe weather events.

If necessary, the Carver County EMD will convene the group to meet more regularly to monitor plan implementation progress and reassess needs and opportunities. This could be done in response to funding cycles of programs that provide resources for hazard mitigation activities. If there is a need for a special meeting due to new developments or a declared disaster occurring in the county, the group will meet to update pertinent mitigation strategies. Depending on Carver County opportunities and fiscal resources, mitigation projects may be implemented independently by individual communities or through local partnerships.

The group will continue to review the HMP goals and objectives to determine their relevance to changing situations in Carver County. In addition, state and federal policies will be reviewed to ensure they are addressing current and expected conditions. The group will also review the risk assessment portion of the plan to determine if this information should be updated or modified. The parties responsible for the various implementation actions will report on the status of their projects, and will include which implementation processes worked well, any difficulties encountered, how coordination efforts are proceeding, and which strategies should be revised.

Updates or modifications to the HMP during the five-year planning process will require a public notice and a meeting prior to submitting revisions to the individual jurisdictions for approval. The plan will be updated via written changes, submissions as the group deems appropriate and necessary, and as approved by county commissioners.

During the five-year plan period, the EMD will require all relevant county departments and jurisdictions to report on the status of their mitigation actions using the worksheets provided in Appendix I. This information will be used to track progress for the next plan update. Additionally, the EMD will establish

and implement an HMP maintenance schedule. Forms for these purposes are drawn from FEMA's 2023 Local Mitigation Planning Handbook and can be found in Appendix I (FEMA, 2023a).

The EMD will also solicit feedback from the emergency managers group using the following prompts (also found in Appendix I):

- Are there any new representatives from jurisdictions, agencies, or organizations that you feel should be included in our stakeholder outreach?
- Do you feel your community has any new vulnerabilities that may be impacted by hazard events? (critical infrastructure, systems, or populations)
- Has your community identified any new mitigation activities that would help reduce risk to future hazard events?
- Are there any funding opportunities or other resources that may be available to help implement local mitigation activities?
- How is your community integrating information from the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms (such as plans, policies, or partnerships)?

6.2 Implementation

Carver County and its included municipalities share a common HMP and work together closely to develop, revise, and implement it. This HMP provides a comprehensive chart of mitigation actions for Carver County and its jurisdictions (see Appendix H and Section 5.3). The cities participating in the HMP planning process identified the specific mitigation strategies that they would seek to implement in their communities during the five-year planning cycle. These mitigation actions are provided in Appendix H.

Several implementation tools are available to address hazards. The strategies to use will be part of an ongoing discussion as Carver County looks for opportunities for plan implementation. The following tools will be considered:

Education: In many cases, education of residents has been identified as one of the most effective mitigation strategies.

Capital Investments: Capital investments such as fire and ambulance equipment, sprinkler systems, and dry hydrants are tools that can limit risks and impacts of natural and manmade hazards.

Data Collection and Needs Assessments: Data collection and needs assessments can aid in gaining a better understanding of threats and allow planning for mitigation strategies accordingly. As resources are limited for this part of the planning process, additional data collection is likely to be an ongoing activity as resources become available.

Coordination: Responsibilities for mitigation strategies run across various county departments, local fire and ambulance departments, city and township governments, and a host of state and federal agencies. Ongoing coordination is an important tool to ensure resources are used efficiently. Coordination can also avoid duplication of efforts or prevent gaps that are created because of unclear roles and responsibilities. The mitigation plan review process can function as a tool to have an ongoing discussion of roles, responsibilities, and opportunities for coordination.

Regional Cooperation: Counties and public safety services providers throughout the region often share similar challenges and concerns. In some cases, a regional approach may be warranted as a mitigation strategy in order to save resources. Mutual aid agreements are a tool already in use for a number of services. Needs assessments for fire and ambulance services and development of assistance for volunteer recruiting, training, and retention could benefit from a regional approach. Cooperation among counties could also help in lobbying for certain funding priorities that address concerns relating to challenges in service delivery in rural areas. Organizations such as FEMA Region 5 and the Minnesota Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) through the Regional Program Director can offer tools and resources to assist in these cooperative efforts.

Regulation: Regulation is an important mitigation tool for Carver County. Regulation plays a vital role in land use, access to structures, and the protection of water resources and public health.

6.3 Continued Public Involvement

Continued public involvement is critical to the successful implementation of the Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Carver County Emergency Management Director and the emergency managers group will continue to engage new public stakeholders in planning discussions and project implementation during the five-year cycle of this plan.

The Carver County HMP website provides opportunities for continued public involvement and feedback

To seek continued public participation after the plan has been approved and during the five-year window of implementation for this plan, Carver County will take the following measures:

- The Carver County HMP website link will be posted on the Carver County Emergency Management website. The website provides a PDF of the plan for download and an interactive experience for the public to understand the planning process, where county-specific vulnerabilities lie, national best practices, as well as a chance to submit feedback. Collected feedback will be reviewed during the five-year plan cycle and will be noted for future update of the plan or addressed as necessary.
- Following any major storms or natural disasters, Carver County Emergency Management will seek to gather concerns and new ideas for mitigation from local residents to include in the next update of the plan. This may be done through public meetings, outreach via social media, or news releases via local media.
- Each community participating in the plan will be responsible for keeping their local government, schools, and community members updated and engaged in the implementation of their respective mitigation action charts (see Appendix H or the Carver County HMP website). Each respective jurisdiction will be required to report on the status of mitigation actions in their charts to the Carver County EMD.
- Carver County and its jurisdictions will use numerous means of public outreach to engage new public stakeholders in providing input on mitigation concerns, including those from underserved communities or socially vulnerable populations. Outreach methods may include presentations at city council or township board meetings, sharing information at special

events, working with local schools and partner organizations, and posting information in areas that are used to communicate with the public (bulletin boards, websites, social media, and local media sources that communities use to inform and engage the public). As mitigation projects are implemented, jurisdictions will work to keep the public updated and engaged in those local efforts.

- To ensure an equitable outreach strategy continues after the plan is adopted, the planning team will continue to seek to engage with underserved and vulnerable populations during the next five years. This will vary across jurisdictions, as underserved or vulnerable populations will differ across the planning area. Methods of engagement will include those listed above, as well as working with partner agencies, local organizations, facilities, or community interest groups (e.g., schools, nursing homes, Rotary Club) to conduct more targeted outreach or presentations to share information on hazard mitigation and solicit for feedback on concerns and ideas.

Appendices

Appendix A – References

Appendix B – Adopting Resolutions

Appendix C – Local Mitigation Survey Report

Appendix D – Plans & Programs in Place

Appendix E – Past Mitigation Action Review Status Report

Appendix F – Planning Team Meetings

Appendix G – Public Outreach & Engagement Documentation

Appendix H – Mitigation Actions by Jurisdiction

Appendix I – Plan Maintenance & Monitoring Worksheets

Appendix A – References

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Appendix B – Adopting Resolutions

Appendix C – Local Mitigation Survey Report

Carver County

LOCAL MITIGATION SURVEY

As part of the Carver County 2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan update, the **Local Mitigation Survey (LMS)** Form is used to gather jurisdictionally-specific information that is used to meet FEMA requirements and to support development of local mitigation actions.

Jurisdictions to Complete LMS:

This form is to be completed by representatives from **Carver County** and the **cities of Carver, Chanhassen, Chaska, Cologne, Hamburg, Mayer, New Germany, Norwood Young America, Victoria, Waconia, and Watertown.**

Additional stakeholders on the Carver County HMP contact list are also invited to provide feedback to this form in the designated areas. (See “Other Stakeholders” section with each question).

LMS - Main Point of Contact (Name, Work Title, and Email)

Carver County	Alyssa Martinson, Carver County EM Specialist, amartinson@carvercountymn.gov Ben Rutter, Carver County Emergency Management Manager, brutter@carvercountymn.gov
City of Carver	Tim Walsh, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director twalsh@cityofcarver.com
City of Chanhassen	Andrew Heger, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director aheger@chanhassenmn.gov Laurie Hokkanen, City Administrator, lhokkanen@ci.chanhassen.mn.us
City of Chaska	Stephen Kraus, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director skraus@chaskamn.gov
City of Cologne	Michelle Morrison, City Administrator Michellem@colgonemn.com Chad Bos, Fire Chief. Firechief@Colognemn.com
City of Hamburg	Jeremy Gruenhagen cityadmin@cityofhamburgmn.com ,City Clerk/Treasurer Jason Buckentin Jbuckentin@CityofHamburgMN.com , Public Works Steven Siewert chief1@cityofhamburgmn.com ,Fire Chief
City of Mayer	Nicholas Johnson, City Administrator, cityadmin@cityofmayer.com Andy Maetzold, Fire Chief, fire@cityofmayer.com Kyle Kuntz, Public Works Supervisor, kyle.kuntz@cityofmayer.com
City of New Germany	Twyla Menth, City Clerk-Treasurer ngcityhall@gmail.com
City of Norwood Young America	Andrea Aukrust, City Administrator cityadmin@cityofnya.com , Scott Blom, Fire Chief Firechief@cityofnya.com , Mark Streich, Public Works Director mstreich@cityofnya.com
City of Victoria	David Shoger, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director dshoger@victoriamn.gov
City of Waconia	Justin Sorensen, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director jsorensen@waconia.org

City of Watertown	Thomas Hanson, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Dir. thanson@watertownmn.gov
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS	Mike Wanous, Manager Carver County Soil & Water Conservation District mwanous@carvercountymn.gov Kristen Larson, Carver County Watershed Management Organization klarson@carvercountymn.gov

Review: Prioritization of Hazards

During the Carver County HMP Planning Team Meeting #1, participants determined the following natural hazards below to be of high, moderate, or low priority as they relate at a countywide level. Hazards noted as high or moderate priority are considered to be of greatest risk and concern, reflecting the frequency of past events, the probability of future events, and the severity of impacts that can occur. Hazards listed as a low priority are considered to be of lower risk and concern, reflecting an infrequency of past events and/or occurring without significant impacts to local vulnerabilities.

Prioritization of Hazards for 2025 Carver County Update

Natural Hazards	Current Priority
Flooding	High
Winter Storms	High
Windstorms	High
Tornadoes	High
Hailstorms	Moderate
Extreme Cold	Moderate
Extreme Heat	Moderate
Drought	Moderate
Wildfire	Low
Landslides	Low
Lightning	Low
Dam Failure	Low

SURVEY QUESTIONS (1-15)

#1 - HAZARD IDENTIFICATION	
Does the priority level listed for any of the hazards in the table above differ for your jurisdiction? If so, please describe how.	
Carver County	No
City of Carver	No
City of Chanhassen	No
City of Chaska	No
City of Cologne	No
City of Hamburg	No
City of Mayer	No
City of New Germany	No

City of Norwood Young America	No
City of Victoria	No
City of Waconia	No
City of Watertown	No
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS	SWCD - No CCWMO - No

#2 - LOCAL VULNERABILITIES

Describe any specific community assets (infrastructure, systems, or populations) that are susceptible to damage or loss from natural hazard events in your jurisdiction. Consider how recent severe storms or other natural hazard events have caused damages or threatened life safety to people in your community. Please list the natural hazards and related local vulnerabilities separately.

Carver County	Warning Sirens – Most rural areas in the county are not covered by outdoor warning sirens due to their distance from communities that do have them. Aboveground Power Lines – Most of the power lines in the county are aboveground and subject to damage from ice storms, wind and falling tree limbs. Power lines that are aboveground are susceptible to coming down during severe storms, resulting in power outages. Backup Power – Not all county and city facilities have backup power in the event of a severe winter storm that takes out power. Communications – Not all residents have opted in to the Everbridge system or have updated phone numbers, and not all have their own weather radios or follow social media to receive important messages. Severe Weather Shelters – Some manufactured home parks do not have a severe weather shelter even though it is required by state statute. Storm Shelters / Community Safe Rooms – Additional storm shelter areas would enhance public safety.
City of Carver	Flooding - Our historic downtown area has some limited vulnerabilities to flooding from the Minnesota River. During periods of high water, certain businesses and roadways may be affected.
City of Chanhassen	Flooding - The southern portion of the community has some limited vulnerabilities related to flooding on the Minnesota River. Some businesses and roadways can be impacted when water levels rise. Severe weather - With ample outdoor and recreation space throughout the community and large summer events, many people are exposed to the risk of severe weather.

	Power outages - Much of the downtown area and residential development to the North is still supplied by overhead power lines. These areas are susceptible to extended power outages during storms.
City of Chaska	Flooding – The downtown area is protected by a levy and multiple pumps. Should the pumps fail or otherwise unable to keep up with flooding levels, the downtown area would be impacted. Other lowland areas in town are impacted by high water, including the T.H. 41 Minnesota River Crossing. Power Outages - Much of our community is supplied by overhead power lines and would be susceptible to severe weather. It should be noted that Chaska also has its own municipal electric department. Mobile Home Parks – We have 2 mobile home parks that have storm shelters for residents for short-term shelter, but if residents were unable to return home for a long period of time, the shelters may not be adequate. Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities - Chaska has experienced rapid growth in this end user group in recent years. Unknown what the individual facilities preparedness is for an event. All Hazards - Specific user/physical facilities that could be impacted by severe weather events include the Carver County Government Center (including CCSO, Dispatch, and Jail), 212 Medical Center, Hazeltine National Golf Club, Multiple School buildings, Chaska Community Center, etc.
City of Cologne	Power Outages – Backup Power. We have community shelter in our Community Center but no backup generator if there is a prolonged power outage.
City of Hamburg	Power Outages- Above ground power lines coming down during severe weather events (wind storms, tornadoes, heavy snow, ice storms) could result in power outages. In general, the other possible hazards that could impact our community include extreme cold, extreme heat, blizzards, ice storms, windstorms, and tornados.
City of Mayer	Power Outages - Overhead power lines in the community are vulnerable to coming down during severe weather events like high winds, ice storms, tornados, and the like that can leave us with extended power outages.
City of New Germany	Power Outages - Above ground power lines coming down during severe weather events (wind storms, tornadoes, heavy snow, ice storms) could result in power outages. In general, other possible hazards that could impact our community include extreme cold, extreme heat, blizzards, ice storms, windstorms, and tornados.
City of Norwood Young America	Flooding - The ditch that goes through town is a vulnerability. In the past, it has caused the wastewater plant to flood. The South Street area of town and trailer court are more vulnerable as they are lower income. Friendship Park is at risk for flooding and needs mitigation.
City of Victoria	Flooding - Some lower lying neighborhoods have been affected by historic rain events.

	Power Outages - There are still some areas of our community that have overhead lines that are more susceptible to damage from high winds or ice storms.
City of Waconia	All Hazards - We have some risk with any hazard that affects the Ridgeview Campus and many senior care facilities and housing. Also need to consider activities at Lake Waconia Regional Park and on Lake Waconia as active destinations for summer and winter recreation. The Carver County Fair and other city events bring large numbers of people to the city during those events.
City of Watertown	Windstorms, Tornadoes - We have limited shelter for residents of our two mobile home parks. Flooding - We experience frequent flooding near our downtown corridor. However, in recent years, only two commercial businesses are affected by flood operations.
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS	SWCD - Flooding - there are several homes in rural areas that are at risk in flooding situations. CCWMO- Flooding - As part of the CCWMO's Watershed Management Plan, we are working to identify areas of public infrastructure that are vulnerable to flooding in extreme events (we know these areas exist and are working to quantify risks and locations)

#3 - REDUCTION IN VULNERABILITY

In the last 5 years, has your jurisdiction taken any actions to reduce vulnerability against future severe weather or disaster events? Please describe.

Carver County	As far as government buildings, a generator was recently added to the Hollywood shop. CCPW did a GIS based slope risk study to identify high risk areas for slope failures. Since this study was completed, most of the areas identified have been addressed. Carver County Water Resource Management Ordinance updated in 2022 to require use of most recent rainfall data in modeling for stormwater design. This ordinance also includes requirements reducing impacts to neighboring properties when culvert/bridge/stream crossings are designed or replaced. CCEM has worked closely with the American Red Cross to identify approved shelters throughout the county. Additionally, the county has an agreement with Westwood Community Church in Chanhassen to set up a Family Assistance Center at their facilities if needed.
City of Carver	The city is in the process of completing of a dyke project. Efforts and planning have taken place to continue to mitigate flooding risk.
City of Chanhassen	Current storm sirens are being rebuilt/upgraded to ensure operational readiness. The city's Emergency Operations Plan was rewritten to include Emergency Support Functions and department heads participated in a table top exercise.
City of Chaska	Active Maintenance of the levy system. Street Reconstruction was completed in the DT area.

	Some power lines have recently been relocated underground.
City of Cologne	Generators have been added to lift stations, Original Water Tower is being refurbished. All power lines are underground in any new developments.
City of Hamburg	Water Tower installation in 2019-2020
City of Mayer	All critical city facilities have generator backup units. A new fire station was constructed in 2022 to increase fire prevention efforts. Street and infrastructure projects are designed with emergency management in mind.
City of New Germany	City underwent a street, curb, gutter, and storm drain project in 2014. Also consisted of a new water treatment plant.
City of Norwood Young America	Due to flooding in 2024, the fire station is being remodeled, which will include bigger gutters. Mitigation work is being done at Prairie Dawn Park.
City of Victoria	We have continued to grow our storm siren count as our city has grown. We have worked to underground more power lines and will continue that initiative. Permanent generators have been added to all newly installed lift stations and production wells.
City of Waconia	Generators have been placed at all critical buildings and high flow lift stations. Addition of space and technology for an EOC at the new fire station.
City of Watertown	We have identified and addressed significant erosion along the west bank of the Crow River directly adjacent to the Riverpointe trail system. The project stabilized approximately 150 feet of riverbank.
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS	SWCD - The SWCD works to restore wetlands which holds water on the landscape longer and reduces flash flooding. CCWMO - We have conducted wetland restoration projects (in partnership with SWCD, see above). We have also updated Carver County's Water Resources Management Ordinance to require updated precipitation frequency estimates (Atlas 14) to be utilized when modeling/sizing stormwater infrastructure. Carver County Watershed Management Organization (CCWMO). As part of the CCWMO's Watershed Management Plan, we are working to identify areas of public infrastructure that are vulnerable to flooding in extreme events. We know these areas exist and are working to quantify risks and locations.

#4 – INCREASE IN VULNERABILITY

In the last 5 years, has your jurisdiction experienced an increase in new development? Has this new development created new vulnerabilities to natural hazards in your community? Please describe.

Carver County	The population of Carver County continues to grow at a steady rate and is expected to continue growing in the coming years. In 2000, the population was 70,205 and in 2020 the population reached 106,922. By 2030, the population is expected to reach around 135,960. Our county has a history of flooding. In the past, flooding has occurred due to snow melt, but we have become increasingly concerned with heavy rain events, which could pose new challenges to developments in the community. Recently, more schools have inquired about funding to build safe rooms.
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City of Carver	The community continues to experience steady growth through both residential and commercial development. On the commercial side, new development includes larger buildings
City of Chanhassen	Growth in the community continues with both residential and commercial projects. Much of the residential development is focusing on higher density projects, including large apartment buildings which place a larger volume of people at risk in a concentrated area. Commercial development has introduced larger buildings which house some critical infrastructure, such as a utility company.
City of Chaska	Population Growth - Commercial, Industrial, and Residential growth continues at a fast pace, placing increased demand on city services and infrastructure. We have also seen many more higher density projects take place. Increased Senior Population - Chaska has seen several Senior living and Older Adult communities (Single-family & high density) develop in recent years. This population can be more vulnerable to severe weather incidents. Increased number of Group Homes - Another growing and vulnerable population is the number of group homes in our community.
City of Cologne	Single family homes continue to be built, All power lines are underground in any new developments. Our Waste Water Treatment Plant is nearing capacity. Design of a new plant is complete but funding will need to be secured.
City of Hamburg	We have had no new development.
City of Mayer	Single family home construction is continuous. We do not feel we have had an increase in vulnerability because of this growth.
City of New Germany	Our wastewater ponds are currently facing capacity issues, limited with new home construction since 2018, we have 4 new homes proposed for 2025 and one new commercial business.
City of Norwood Young America	Water management systems are being strained from increased population. Our Industrial Park is also expanding.
City of Victoria	The City of Victoria continues to grow at a fast pace. We have been building new multifamily and single-family homes. The additional population and development increases traffic, runoff, and pressure on city infrastructure.
City of Waconia	We continue to see growth in commercial, low and high density residential placing an increased demand on all infrastructure. This growth is also pushing our water supply system to be at or over capacity on peak days.
City of Watertown	General growth and population are adding to our risk. Our infrastructure has recently been updated with this growth in mind
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS	SWCD - N/A CCWMO - N/A

#5 - PUBLIC OUTREACH

How does your jurisdiction share information with community members about severe weather events and personal preparedness? If this is not something that is currently done, how could it be done in the future?

Carver County	Carver County Emergency Management participates in Severe Weather Awareness and Winter Weather Awareness Week by posting on our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages. We consistently communicate with city partners about upcoming weather hazards and send emergency notifications to the public when necessary.
City of Carver	The city proactively conducts public outreach during Winter Weather Awareness Week and Severe Weather Awareness Week. Important safety messages are shared through the city's social media platforms to help keep residents informed, engaged, and prepared for seasonal hazards.
City of Chanhassen	The city's communications team participates in a variety of outreach opportunities related to Winter Weather Awareness and Severe Awareness week. This messaging is typically communicated via the city's social media channels. The fire department also employs a dedicated Community Risk Reduction Specialist position. Utilizing a variety of methods, such as safety camp, public education sessions, and CPR classes, this position educated the public about risk in the community.
City of Chaska	The city maintains our Severe Weather Warning System. The City of Chaska Communications team leads our community outreach efforts. They utilize Social Media, Direct Mailings, etc. Chaska PD & FD both have community engagement focused employees that host community events like Safety Camp, Home Alone Classes, Pop-Up Splash Pads, Bike Awareness, Hands-Free CPR, etc.
City of Cologne	We use our Social Media Platforms regularly to keep residents up to date. New residents are enrolled in our email alert system tied to any updates we post on our website. Residents are encouraged to enroll in the Carver County Emergency alert system. We also have quarterly newsletters mailed.
City of Hamburg	We share information using our city newsletter and City Facebook
City of Mayer	We do not share weather related information. The ubiquitous nature of cell phones and the internet make municipal notifications obsolete when weather alerts are pushed out by apps, County, and national level agencies near instantaneously.
City of New Germany	We publish info on Carver County's emergency notification system. We utilize the emergency sirens, and our local firefighters also serve as weather watchers in bad weather.
City of Norwood Young America	We post on our website and Facebook (city and fire department). We plan to post on "Notify me". Also, we send out information in our city newsletter. County Emergency Management will consider submitting information to the city newsletter for weather awareness weeks and other announcements.
City of Victoria	The city's communications team creates and distributes a variety of communications related to severe weather. This messaging is typically communicated via the city's social media channels and website.

	The city uses warning sirens to alert the population of emergency situations and hazards and will provide information related to emergencies over the city's social media accounts.
City of Waconia	We share information on the city's website and social media channels.
City of Watertown	We do share information from Carver County Sheriff's Office - Emergency Management on social media and also solicit interest in residents signing up for the Citizen Alert System. We also utilize the IPAWS system for notifications when applicable.
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS	SWCD - N/A CCWMO - N/A

#6 - EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS Does your jurisdiction encourage residents to sign up for the county's emergency notification system and/or a local emergency alert system? If yes, how? If this not something that is currently done, how could it be done in the future?	
Carver County	Carver County provides information regarding our emergency notification system on the county website. Additionally, we advocate and encourage the public to register to receive alerts during community events.
City of Carver	We have not encouraged this directly, other than sharing EM posts about it on our social media. A more focused effort could be shared through city newsletters and social media/website postings.
City of Chanhassen	Limited, we mention it to groups when discussing emergency preparedness. We are heavily promoting a local program, called Community Connect, which allows community members and businesses to opt into emergency alerts from the fire department.
City of Chaska	I do not believe we have prioritized getting out this message.
City of Cologne	Yes, we have promoted this through our social media platforms, on our website and in our newsletter. New residents receive a welcome letter/email that encourages enrollment among other helpful information.
City of Hamburg	To be done. Carver EM to send information to distribute.
City of Mayer	No, but we should.
City of New Germany	Yes, we occasionally publish on social media and the city newsletter.
City of Norwood Young America	We encourage residents to sign up.
City of Victoria	We have not encouraged this directly, other than sharing EM posts about it on our social media. A more focused effort could be shared through city newsletters and social media/website postings.
City of Waconia	We have not encouraged this directly, other than sharing EM posts about it on our social media. A more focused effort could be shared through city newsletters and social media/website postings.
City of Watertown	Yes, we do solicit interest - but like others in the county, interest is limited and only in an "opt-in" format which is why we utilize IPAWS for urgent or "qualifying" matters.
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS	SWCD - N/A CCWMO - N/A

#7 - BUILDING CODES

Has your jurisdiction adopted the Minnesota State Building Code? Please clearly answer yes or no and provide supporting detail. IF YES, please describe how it is enforced. IF NO, please describe if there are other building codes or permitting processes in place to reduce the risk to future development.

Carver County	Yes, the MN State Building Code is addressed in Carver County Ordinances, Chapter 150: Building Regulations. Carver County is responsible for issuing building permits for all townships as identified in the County's code of ordinances chapter 150 building regulations. Permits for construction activity within city jurisdictions are reviewed by that city. The Carver County Land Management Department includes the County Building Official.
City of Carver	Yes, enforcement of the state building code is carried out by staff from the city's building department.
City of Chanhassen	Yes. Enforcement of the state building code is accomplished with city building department staff.
City of Chaska	Yes. Review and enforcement of the state building code is carried out by building department staff, Fire Inspection Staff, and Community Service Officers.
City of Cologne	Yes. The city contracts with MetroWest for inspection services.
City of Hamburg	Yes, our jurisdiction has adopted the Minnesota State Building Code. SAFEbuilt (Waconia) is the City Building Official who enforces the building code.
City of Mayer	Yes. The city contracts with MetroWest for inspection services.
City of New Germany	Yes, the city contracts with MetroWest, Loretto, MN as our building official to enforce the state building code.
City of Norwood Young America	Yes, the city has adopted the Minnesota State Building Code. We contract our building official services from Darin Haslip of 101 Development Resources, Inc.
City of Victoria	Yes, the city employs a building permit technician, two building inspectors, and a building official. This department is responsible for enforcement.
City of Waconia	Yes, the city contracts with MetroWest for building inspections and enforcement through the building department.
City of Watertown	Yes, the city contracts with SAFEBUILT for Building Code and Permitting.
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS	SWCD - N/A CCWMO - N/A

#8 - OTHER PLANS AND POLICIES

What other plans or policies does your jurisdiction have in place to help mitigate against the impacts of flooding and other natural hazards to future development? Please describe.

Carver County	Carver County has several plans and policies in place that help to address hazard mitigation, including: Carver County 2040 Comprehensive Plan, Carver County Ordinances, Title XV: Land Usage, and Carver County Ordinances, Chapter 151: Subdivisions. Carver County participates in the National Flood Insurance Program and has a floodplain ordinance and shoreland ordinance in place. Other hazard specific ordinances include
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	Carver County Ordinances, Chapter 152.131.1 Stormwater Management and Chapter 152.129 Steep Slopes/Bluff Impact Zone.
City of Carver	The city is currently working towards levee certification. The levee's certification will require approximately \$13.3 million. The City of Carver cannot fund this alone and is working with elected state and federal leaders to secure funding for the project.
City of Chanhassen	Development in the city is reviewed by all departments who can provide feedback/input to help mitigate hazards prior to construction. The Community Development Department & Water Resources enforces floodplain requirements, shoreland management district, and bluff protection. Additionally, the 2040 helps guide development across the community. Adoption of both the Carver County and Hennepin County Hazard Mitigation plan for applicable portions of the community.
City of Chaska	Our Planning and Engineering teams work closely together to facilitate thoughtful & purposeful growth in the city. The city also utilizes its comp plan to provide further guidance on growth and development.
City of Cologne	The city of Hamburg adopts the Carver County Emergency Operations Plan and conducts 10-year comp plan updates.
City of Hamburg	The city of Hamburg adopts the Carver County Emergency Operations Plan and conducts 10-year comp plan updates.
City of Mayer	The city's planning and zoning department enforces our floodplain requirements, shoreland overlay, and the City Code zoning requirements for new development. We have a 20-year Comprehensive Plan that is designed to plan physical growth of the city and appropriate land uses.
City of New Germany	We utilize and adopt the Carver County Mitigation plan.
City of Norwood Young America	We adopt the Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan and have a variety of SOPs.
City of Victoria	Development in the city is reviewed by all departments who can provide feedback/input to help mitigate hazards prior to construction. The Community Development Department and city planner enforce floodplain requirements, shoreland management district, and bluff protection.
City of Waconia	Our Community Development and Public Services departments review developments for impacts to floodplains and shoreland areas and monitor growth and its impacts on the comprehensive plan and demands on infrastructure.
City of Watertown	Utilization of the Carver County HMP and consistent evaluation and data gathering of our current flood plan.
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS	<i>Please include the name of your agency/organization with your comment.</i> SWCD - We work with the Carver County Water Management Organization (WMO) and Watershed Districts on water rules and permitting for stormwater requirements. CCWMO

	- Watershed Management Plan includes strategies to address flooding (among other issues) - Carver County Ordinance Chapter 153 Water Resources Management includes requirements for new development to manage impacts from new development or redevelopment on rate and volume, and requires updated precipitation frequency estimates (Atlas 14) to be utilized when modeling/sizing stormwater infrastructure
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#9 - ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

What departmental staff or elected officials in your jurisdictional help to accomplish hazard mitigation in your community? Please describe.

Carver County	Many departments help accomplish hazard mitigation at the county level. For example, Carver County Emergency Management coordinates with public works, Health & Human Services, risk management, commissioners, county administration, GIS, parks & recreation, environmental services, planning & water management, and land management. Carver County Emergency Preparedness Coordinator is part of the Carver County Health & Human Services Dept. In addition, the Carver County Water Management Organization is responsible for managing lakes, rivers and wetlands within its boundaries. The organization's mission is to protect, preserve and manage surface water & groundwater in the midst of rapid growth and intensive agricultural activity. Responsibilities include planning, funding, regulating, educating and implementing the Carver County Water Management Plan.
City of Carver	Our Fire Chief serves as the city's Emergency Manager, and the city has an Emergency Operations Plan that supports the county's plan while detailing the city's disaster response responsibilities.
City of Chanhassen	Our Fire Chief also serves as the Emergency Manager for the city. The city maintains its own Emergency Operations Plan which compliments the county plan and specifically identifies city responsibilities in the event of a disaster.
City of Chaska	The Fire Chief serves as the Emergency Manager for the city, our Public Works department leads the downtown levy maintenance program. We are about to begin a review of our EOP, which will involve all our city's various departments.
City of Cologne	Fire Chief, Public Works, mayor and city council work together.
City of Hamburg	We have a City Clerk/Treasurer, Public Works Director, and Fire Chief that work together to address hazard mitigation and emergency planning.
City of Mayer	Hazard mitigation is shared between multiple staff members and consultants. Rather than treating it like a task to be assigned, we view it as one of the many overarching goals to accomplish as an organization. We look to incorporate it where appropriate into the work we do.
City of New Germany	Fire Chief, mayor and city council work together.
City of Norwood Young America	Most mitigation efforts are led by our Fire Chief, City Administrator, and Public Works Director.

City of Victoria	Our Fire Chief also serves as the city's Emergency Manager. We have our own Emergency Operations Plan that aligns with the county's plan while outlining the city's specific responsibilities during a disaster.
City of Waconia	The Fire Chief is the Emergency Management Director and we have a city specific emergency operations plan that is followed.
City of Watertown	All City Department Heads form a C-FLOP style Incident Management Team
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS	SWCD - We assist Carver County departments with surveys & inventories following flood events. CCWMO - Responsible for managing lakes, rivers and wetlands within its boundaries. The organization's mission is to protect, preserve and manage surface water & groundwater in the midst of rapid growth and intensive agricultural activity. Responsibilities include planning, funding, regulating, educating and implementing the Carver County Water Management Plan.

#10 – PARTNERSHIPS	
Are there any agencies, organizations, or businesses that your jurisdiction has worked with to address mitigation efforts in your community? Please describe.	
Carver County	We regularly work with the National Weather Service and MN DNR to identify hazards in the community. We also work closely with MN Emergency Managers in HSEM Region 6, as well as participate in annual statewide EM conferences.
City of Carver	The city collaborates closely with a range of partners on mitigation efforts, including the National Weather Service, County Fire Chiefs Associations, Joint Operations Groups, and mutual aid networks
City of Chanhassen	The city works closely with numerous partners in mitigation efforts. These include the National Weather Service, County Fire Chiefs Associations, Joint Operations Groups, and mutual aid collaboration.
City of Chaska	The city collaborates with many different partners and stakeholders in our mitigation efforts.
City of Cologne	The city is a member of the Rural water emergency network and MNWARN.
City of Hamburg	The city is a member of the Rural water emergency network and MNWARN.
City of Mayer	The city works with local, regional, and higher organizations when appropriate.
City of New Germany	The city is a member of MN Warn, MN Rural Water, People Service, mutual aid with local Fire Departments.
City of Norwood Young America	Yes, we have worked with FEMA, the state, DNR (fire), Carver County Emergency Management, and MNDOT (traffic).
City of Victoria	The city collaborates with a variety of partners on mitigation efforts, including the National Weather Service, MRWA, Carver County Sheriff's Office, County Fire Chiefs Associations, Joint Operations Groups, and mutual aid partners.
City of Waconia	Membership in MnWARN and MN Rural Water Association along with partnerships with county fire departments.
City of Watertown	Partnerships with MnWARN, Local Contractors, and Business Owners for supplies/equipment. Local FD members for additional staffing
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS	<i>Please include the name of your agency/organization with your comment.</i>

	SWCD - We work with townships and County departments as needed. CCWMO - We partner with cities, townships, and other County departments on a regular basis to address impacts from flooding, increased rate/volume of stormwater following development, streambank stabilization/erosion, wetland restoration, etc.
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#11 - PROGRAMS IN PLACE

What sort of programs does your jurisdiction participate in to help raise awareness and reduce risk from natural hazards in your community?

Carver County	We participate in the NWS Severe Weather Awareness and Winter Weather Awareness Week by posting on our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages. We consistently communicate with city partners about upcoming weather hazards. Carver County has also had SkyWarn classes in recent years.
City of Carver	We participate in Severe Weather Awareness and Winter Weather Awareness Week by sharing the messaging on our social media channels.
City of Chanhassen	We participate in Severe Weather Awareness and Winter Weather Awareness Week by sharing the messaging on our social media channels.
City of Chaska	We participate in Severe Weather Awareness and Winter Weather Awareness Week by sharing the messaging on our social media channels.
City of Cologne	We post and share information on our Facebook Page/City Newsletter relating to Severe Weather Awareness Week/Winter Weather Awareness Week and various other hazards.
City of Hamburg	We post and share information on our Facebook Page/City Newsletter relating to Severe Weather Awareness Week/Winter Weather Awareness Week and various other hazards.
City of Mayer	We post occasional information on our social media pages.
City of New Germany	Every 5 years the city conducts sump pump inspections; We have an "Adopt a Drain" program where we remind residents to keep curb/gutter area clean and to not blow grass onto these areas. We also do less salting to roads in winter. For public outreach, we post information on our social media pages.
City of Norwood Young America	Our sirens are tested on a monthly basis, weather awareness weeks, and a variety of community engagement campaigns (fire department) when we have time.
City of Victoria	We support Severe Weather Awareness and Winter Weather Awareness Week by sharing important messages on our social media channels.
City of Waconia	We share any pertinent information on all of our social media outlets and participate in the awareness weeks.
City of Watertown	We participate in the NWS Severe Weather Awareness Campaigns and also do Flooding Outreach (Informational)
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS	SWCD - N/A

	CCWMO - The CCWMO has an outreach and engagement specialist on staff that regularly promotes CCWMO programs and opportunities relating to flooding, wetland restoration, stream bank stabilization, etc.
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#12 - FUNDING & OTHER RESOURCES

What funding sources are available to help your jurisdiction to accomplish implementation of mitigation activities? Please describe. Include internal local government funding as well as external funding sources (grant or loan sources from local, state, or federal agencies).

Carver County	We utilize the county budget and apply for additional grants as possible.
City of Carver	We leverage the city budget and pursue additional grant opportunities whenever possible
City of Chanhassen	All mitigation efforts are currently funded through our operating budget.
City of Chaska	Most mitigation initiatives are funded by our operating budget and pursue additional grant opportunities when available.
City of Cologne	City budget and CFD Relief Gambling Fund Dollars could be used
City of Hamburg	Local operating budget, MBFTE via State, HFDRA Relief Gambling fund
City of Mayer	All mitigation activities are funding through the city budget.
City of New Germany	We mostly use our city and public works operating budgets.
City of Norwood	Mitigation projects are funded by federal grants, local budget, and
Young America	stormwater management grants from the county.
City of Victoria	All mitigation activities are currently funded through our operating budget
City of Waconia	Operating budget.
City of Watertown	Mostly from the Public Works Budget. We also utilize grant program funds when applicable to mitigate water issues as needed.
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS	SWCD - We work with existing federal and state conservation programs like CRP and RIM to identify and restore marginal cropland back to wetland. CCWMO - CCWMO budget and state grants.

#13 - LOCAL MITIGATION PROJECTS

Please describe what mitigation actions would help to reduce risk to your community from future natural hazard events. Please include mitigation activities that address local vulnerabilities that were identified in Question #2. Please be as specific as possible in your responses. The mitigation actions you identify will be used to develop your local mitigation action charts. If you have any mitigation projects you are aware that your jurisdiction will be seeking to apply for FEMA HMA Grant Program funding for, please make note of that.

Carver County	Burying power lines, backup power for county/city facilities, building severe weather shelters in mobile home parks, and building community safe rooms.
City of Carver	Carver Levee Certification Project.
City of Chanhassen	Burying of overhead power lines in existing developments would help reduce the potential of power outages related to stores. Stabilization projects to prevent the possibility of future slope failures due to large rain events along the bluff area.

	Continuous upgrades to the outdoor warning siren network to ensure operational readiness.
City of Chaska	Burying overhead power lines in existing developments would help reduce outages. Continuous upgrades and maintenance of our DT levy and pumps, outdoor warning sirens, etc.
City of Cologne	Increased Communications, signing up for alerts on our website
City of Hamburg	Burying of overhead power lines in existing developments would help reduce the potential of power outages related to storms. Maintaining Riprap in wastewater ponds
City of Mayer	Burying of overhead distribution lines.
City of New Germany	Future needs will be upgrading the weather warning system.
City of Norwood Young America	Flooding and severe weather mitigation should be completed in our trailer park, South Street area, and ditch that goes through town. Mitigation efforts should also be directed towards our wastewater treatment plant.
City of Victoria	Continue to maintain and grow our warning siren infrastructure. Enforce watering bans during drought periods. Continue to underground overhead power lines.
City of Waconia	Increase the communication to residents about awareness and preparation for weather related events.
City of Watertown	The levee that protects our downtown corridor is not certified and should be evaluated.
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS	SWCD - Work with rural residents to identify flooding hazards, seek grants to improve or mitigate those situations. CCWMO - Wetland restoration and other storage/volume retention projects, streambank stabilization - identifying and prioritizing eroded areas.

#14 - GAPS OR DEFICIENCIES Please describe any specific gaps or deficiencies that are a barrier to implementing local mitigation measures.	
Carver County	A school inquired about mitigation funding to build a storm shelter, but they have not been able to receive funding through the state BRIC program in the last year as our hazard mitigation plan was not updated.
City of Carver	The biggest challenges for projects are funding, staff capacity, and available resources.
City of Chanhassen	The main gaps for projects would include funding, staff capacity, and available resources.
City of Chaska	Our main gaps towards local mitigation projects include funding, staff capacity, and resources. We also need to update our EOP and Continuity of Services plan.

City of Cologne	Funding and staffing
City of Hamburg	The main gaps for projects would include funding, staff capacity, and available resources.
City of Mayer	Funding, funding, funding.
City of New Germany	Being a small city, funding, and budgeting are always an issue. We are going through growing pains until the wastewater expansion project is secured and funded.
City of Norwood Young America	Lack of funding continues to be an issue.
City of Victoria	The biggest challenges for projects are funding, staff capacity, and available resources.
City of Waconia	Any large mitigation measure is going to be limited by funding, staffing, and resources we have available.
City of Watertown	We are a small community with limited staff to get ahead of local mitigation projects. Our current mitigation strategies are “too good and too affordable” and disqualify us for large programs that could really assist with true mitigation.
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS	SWCD - Limited funding to reduce impacts of flooding. CCWMO - limited funding to design and construct projects to address flooding and other hazards.

#15 - SURVEY PARTICIPANTS

Please list the names & titles of all persons that contributed information to this survey. Participant information is important to ensure good jurisdictional participation, and each person's time will count towards the 25% in-kind match requirement for the HMP update.

Carver County	Ben Rutter, Carver County Emergency Manager Alyssa Martinson, Carver County Emergency Management Specialist
City of Carver	Cally Trimbo, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director
City of Chanhassen	Andrew Heger, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director
City of Chaska	Stephen Kraus, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director
City of Cologne	Michelle Morrison – City Administrator
City of Hamburg	Jeremy Gruenhagen, City Clerk/Treasurer Jason Buckentin, Public Works Steven Siewert, Fire Chief
City of Mayer	Nicholas Johnson, City Administrator
City of New Germany	Twyla Menth, City Clerk - Treasurer
City of Norwood Young America	Andrea Aukrust City Administrator, Scott Blom Fire Chief, Mark Streich Public Works Director
City of Victoria	David Shoger, Fire Chief/Public Safety Director and Emergency Management Director
City of Waconia	Justin Sorensen, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director
City of Watertown	Thomas Hanson, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Dir.
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS	Carver SWCD, Mike Wanous - District Manager CCWMO - Kristen Larson, Planner

Appendix D – Plans & Programs in Place

Carver County

HMP Plans & Programs in Place Form

EMERGENCY PLANNING CAPABILITIES	Yes/No	Comments
Emergency Notification System (please specify, i.e., CodeRED, Smart911, Everbridge, etc)	Yes	Everbridge, IPAWs
Outdoor Warning Sirens (please note locations and # per jurisdiction)		Watertown – 4 New Germany – 2 Mayer – 1 Norwood Young America – 4 Hamburg – 1 Cologne – 3 Waconia - 5 Victoria – 5 Chanhassen - 9 Chaska - 7 Carver - 4
Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)	Yes	EOP is updated annually
Mass Care Sheltering Plan / List of Shelter Facilities	Yes	Mass Care Sheltering Plan is addressed in the EOP. -Holy Family Catholic High School -Watertown-Mayer High School -Chaska High School -St John's Lutheran Church & School (Chaska) -Victoria Recreation Center -Westwood Community Church
Tornado Safe Rooms / Storm Shelters (please list any existing specific locations)	No	Addressed in coordination with schools & local jurisdictions with local vulnerabilities
NWS Weather Ready Nation / StormReady Certification		-Carver County Emergency Management is a designated WRN Ambassador -Carver County is not StormReady Certified but would like to become certified in the coming years.
Coordination with Schools	Yes	
Coordination with Neighboring Jurisdictions	Yes	Regional planning and training; statewide AMEM conference
Coordination with Local and Regional Agencies involved in mitigation	Yes	SWCD, MN DNR, MnDOT, Rural and Municipal Electric Cooperatives, Watershed Districts

Coordination with organizations or agencies addressing disaster related issues and vulnerable populations, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations (List as applicable)	Yes	Public Health, American Red Cross, Salvation Army
Past storm hazard data and information	Yes	Damage information is kept on file from past storm events and disaster declarations
<i>Other (please describe)</i>	Yes	Public Health has preparedness plans in place

PLANNING & REGULATORY CAPABILITIES	Yes/No	Comments
Comprehensive/Land Use Plan	Yes	The Carver County Board adopted the 2040 Comprehensive Plan on 2/4/2020
Capital Improvements Plan	Yes	Capital Improvements Plan Map
Economic Development Plan	No	No official plan, but the Community Development Agency has some information and resources
Climate Adaptation Plan	No	
Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)	Yes	Under Carver County Emergency Management
Transportation Plan	Yes	Included in Carver County 2040 Comprehensive Plan
Stormwater Management Plan / Drainage Plan	No	Information included in the CC Water Management Plan
Burning Permits/Restrictions (i.e., identify if issued through Sheriff's Office or MN DNR)	Yes	Open burning permits can be obtained online by visiting the DNR's website or by contacting a local Fire Warden or Carver County Environmental Services
Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan	No	There isn't a comprehensive county plan, but each city in the county is required

		to have a Local Water Management Plan
Watershed Plan (One Watershed, One Plan)	Yes	Watershed District Plans
Wellhead Protection Plan	Yes	Municipal level plans are done in coordination with MDH and more information can be found in the CC Water Management Plan
Forest Management Plan	No	Only natural resource management plan for Lake Minnewashta Regional Park, which would cover forested areas of the park.
Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)	No	
Participation in MN DNR Firewise Program	No	
Database of Dry Hydrants/Well Access	Yes	Carver County has a database for all hydrants, not just dry ones. Additionally, we have a data base for wells in the county.
<i>Other (please describe)</i>	Yes	-Carver County Groundwater Plan (2016-2025) -Carver County Solid Waste Management Plan

LOCAL POLICY / PROGRAM CAPABILITIES	Yes/No	Comments
Land Use, Planning, & Zoning Ordinance	Yes	Carver County Ordinances, Title XV: Land Usage
Subdivision Ordinance	Yes	Carver County Ordinances, Chapter 151: Subdivisions
MN State Building Code Enforcement	Yes	Carver County Ordinances, Chapter 150: Building Regulations
Participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)	Yes	Carver County NFIP entry date 02/01/78

		All cities are participating in NFIP, excluding Cologne, Hamburg, and New Germany.
Adoption of Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps	Yes	The county (including cities) does have a DFIRM that went effective 12/21/2018. Cologne and New Germany have at least some FEMA mapped areas, but Hamburg doesn't have any FEMA mapped areas.
Floodplain Ordinance	Yes	Carver County Ordinances, Floodplain Overlay District
Shoreland Ordinance	Yes	Carver County Ordinances, Shoreland Overlay District
Minnesota Buffer Law / Soil Erosion Ordinance	No	-Carver County does not act as the enforcement authority for the MN buffer law, but Carver County is required by statute to provide technical assistance to landowners for getting into compliance. -Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWSR) handles the enforcement
Home Buyouts for flood or erosion mitigation	Yes	Carver County could complete home buyouts for flood/erosion mitigation, however, there aren't any current buyouts in process.
Other natural hazard specific ordinances (i.e., stormwater, steep slope, wildfire)		-Carver County Ordinances, Chapter

		152.131.1 Stormwater Management -Carver County Ordinances, Chapter 152.129 Steep Slopes/Bluff Impact Zone
Maintenance programs to reduce risk	Yes	The City of Carver is actively working on more improvements to their levee/flood protection system
<i>Other (please describe)</i>		

ADMINISTRATIVE/TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES	Yes/No	Comments
Emergency Management Director	Yes	Carver County EMD
Sheriff/Police Department	Yes	Carver County Sheriff/Chaska PD
Floodplain Management Administrator	Yes	Carver County Land Use Manager for unincorporated areas of the county, as the land use authority belongs to the county. Each city that has a floodplain would have their own floodplain administrator
Chief Building Official	Yes	Carver County Assessor's Office
Highway Engineer	Yes	Carver County Public Works
Mapping Specialist (GIS)	Yes	Carver County IT Senior GIS Analyst
Public Health Coordinator/Department	Yes	Carver County Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
Planning Commission	Yes	
Coordination with Soil and Water Conservation District	Yes	Carver County Soil & Water Conservation District
Coordination with Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	Yes	

Mitigation Planning Committee	Yes	2025 HMP Update Planning Team of Stakeholders
Mutual Aid Agreements in place	No	
<i>Other (please describe)</i>		

EDUCATION & OUTREACH CAPABILITIES	Yes/No	Comments
SKYWARN Program Training with NWS (annual training)	No	Carver County has had Skywarn classes in recent years, but none were coordinated through Emergency Management
National Weather Service – Severe Weather Awareness Weeks	Yes	Emergency Management participates in coordination with HSEM and NWS each November and April
Promotion of NOAA Weather Radios	Yes	During NWS Severe Weather Weeks and Ongoing
<i>Other (please describe)</i>		

Appendix E – Past Mitigation Action Review Status Report

Carver County

Past Mitigation Action Review Status Report

Following is a report on the status of mitigation actions related to natural hazards included in the Carver County **2019** Hazard Mitigation Plan. This report covers the mitigation actions that were listed for implementation by Carver County and by city jurisdictions or partner agencies, as applicable. The status of mitigation actions is defined as the following:

Completed – The action was a defined activity or project completed since the last plan update.

Ongoing – The action is continually being implemented and moving forward. Ongoing mitigation actions will be reviewed and revised as necessary for inclusion in the plan update.

Deleted – The action is deemed as not relevant and is not considered for inclusion in the plan update.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
1	All-Hazards	Continue to ensure that all Carver County residents are aware of and sign-up for the County's Everbridge Emergency Notification System.	Ongoing	This is an on-going effort of Carver County Emergency Management. A link for the Carver County Citizen Alert System (Everbridge) for community sign up is provided on the County's Public Safety web page, and reminders are also posted using the Sheriff's Office Facebook Page. In addition to Everbridge, the County has IPAWS capabilities for targeted and county-wide emergency notifications. All city jurisdictions within the County are encouraged to promote sign up for the Everbridge system using their means of public outreach (websites, social media, and local TV/news media).

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
2	All-Hazards	Continue to ensure that local elected officials, County personnel, city emergency managers, and EMS personnel receive emergency preparedness education & training to understand principles of the National Incident Management System (NIMS), the Incident Command System (ICS) and the roles and responsibilities of local government during emergency response.	Ongoing	This is a standing element of the Carver County Emergency Management Program. Each year CCEM works to offer training to County and city elected officials and other key staff on how ICS will be used in a response to any incident. Local jurisdictions and key response partners are also engaged in annual exercises (i.e., tabletop, functional, and full-scale). CCEM may address further training for County staff and City leaders with a possible Integrated Emergency Management Course (IEMC) in the future from HSEM.
3	All-Hazards	Continue to update the County and city-level Emergency Operation Plans to ensure that they adequately detail the needed steps to respond to all-hazards.	Ongoing	Carver County maintains an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), which is designed as a guide for emergency operations. It is intended to assist key county/city officials and emergency organizations to carry out their responsibilities for the protection of life and property under a wide range of emergency conditions. The Carver County EOP is updated on an annual basis to address new HSEM MNWALK requirements. Local jurisdictions are also encouraged to develop and maintain local level EOP's.
4	All-Hazards	Ensure planning for evacuation includes identification of access alternatives for neighborhoods with single access points.	Ongoing	Evacuation planning is part of the Carver County EOP. CCEM works with the County GIS dept. and each jurisdiction to ensure identification & mapping of primary evacuation routes.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
5	All-Hazards	Ensure that sheltering plans and designated facilities are established as locations for mass care sheltering in the event that people are displaced due to disaster events.	Ongoing	Congregate care/mass care sheltering plans are part of the Carver County EOP. A current challenge for sheltering is that most of the County's identified shelter sites are public schools. This is problematic because they may not be able to host a shelter when school is in session. Carver County Emergency Management will continue to work with local jurisdictions and the American Red Cross to identify and establish MOU's with new facilities capable of serving as mass care shelters throughout the year.
6	All-Hazards	Continue to promote education & awareness on all-hazards and emergency preparedness for schools, individuals, families, and businesses.	Ongoing	This is an on-going effort of Carver County Emergency Management. Information is distributed to the public via the County website and Sheriff's Office Facebook page. Additional information is provided during the NWS severe weather awareness weeks in spring and winter. Local jurisdictions are encouraged to share information through their own existing channels (i.e., websites, social media, and local media). Additional opportunities for public outreach may include conducting community meetings with key partners such as Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT) and Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) to educate citizens on safety and emergency preparedness.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
7	All-Hazards	Expand the use of GIS resources that are available to support emergency management planning and response at the County and local level.	On-going	Carver County Emergency Management seeks to integrate GIS information and support into the County, city, and township emergency management planning efforts. For example, the County Information Technology Dept. maintains a GIS layer of floodplain areas that are available to all jurisdictions to support local planning for local floodplain management. The Carver County I.T. Dept will assist CCEM with special requests for EM-related data-mapping requests (i.e., critical facilities mapping).

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
8	All-Hazards	Continue to adopt and enforce updates from the International Building Code (IBC) in local-level building code regulations.	Ongoing	The Carver County Land Management Department is responsible for zoning, subdivisions and building code administration in all ten townships within the County. The Dept. works with township officials in making decisions and guiding development. Each of the eleven cities in the County is responsible for their own planning and zoning. Severe storm events (i.e., hail, flooding, high winds) can impact and cause great damage to building structures not built to code. Adoption and enforcement of building codes by the County and individual cities helps to ensure the design and construction of structures meet minimum standards for public safety. Note – for HMP update separate into two mitigation actions to address city and county responsibilities. County administrates for townships and incorporated areas.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
9	All-Hazards	Continue to encourage/provide support to facilities that care for vulnerable populations to develop emergency plans for evacuation, sheltering, or other protection in the event of threat or hazard events as per Federal and State requirements.	Ongoing	Facilities that care for vulnerable populations (i.e., nursing homes, hospitals, medical clinics, and hospice facilities) are required by federal law (<i>CMS – Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services</i>) to meet certain requirements for emergency planning, equipment (generators), and exercises. Family daycare facilities and other types of group homes are also responsible to develop emergency plans under separate State Statute requirements. (<i>MN State Statute 245A.51 Subdivision 3 and 245A.04 Subdivision 15</i>).

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
10	All-Hazards	Update County/City Comprehensive Plans and Zoning Ordinances to include mitigation considerations that help to reduce risk from natural hazards. Utilize data of past hazard events and future climate projections to help inform updates.	Ongoing	The Carver County 2030 Comprehensive Plan is a compilation of long-range planning documents for Carver County looking out to the year 2030 and beyond. The Plan and each of the Township's plan chapters were approved by the Metropolitan Council on February 24th, 2010. The Carver County Board formally adopted the 2030 Comprehensive Plan into County code on April 27th, 2010. CCEM will encourage the County and local cities to update Comp Plans to include considerations for mitigation in land use planning in order to reduce future risk to due to natural hazards. Local cities develop & maintain their own local comprehensive plans. Note -Carver County Water Resource Management Ordinance (Chapter 153 of County Code) was updated in 2022 to require use of most recent rainfall data (Atlas 14) in modeling for stormwater design. - The Water Resource Management Ordinance also requires consideration of sensitive areas (wetlands, floodplain, shoreland, steep slopes, bluffs) in site design.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
11	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Identify and evaluate potential measures for upgrades/retrofits to County/City critical infrastructure, new, or existing buildings in order to reduce the risk of damage from future hazard events.	Ongoing	If major work is needed to protect a facility and it can be shown that the project would be cost-effective, funding assistance could be applied for from FEMA. New county or city facilities will be reviewed when they are permitted.
12	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Continue to promote / participate in the National Weather Service's annual Winter Weather Awareness Week in the fall and Severe Weather Awareness Week in the spring to improve local residents' understanding of storm hazards and personal readiness measures.	Ongoing	This is an on-going effort of Carver County Emergency Management. Public outreach is conducted using the Sheriff's Office FB page, Instagram, and local media to educate residents on the dangers of severe winter and summer storms and highlight the importance of preparing for severe weather before it strikes. Local cities are encouraged to participate and share this information through their own local channels such as Facebook and city websites.
13	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Continue to promote the use of NOAA weather radios by residents, schools, businesses, and facilities that house vulnerable populations.	Ongoing	Carver County promotes the use of NOAA weather radios by critical facilities and the public to receive information broadcast from the National Weather Service. NOAA weather radios are recommended as an important way to receive emergency weather alerts from the NWS.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
14	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Identify critical facilities or infrastructure that do not have generator back-up power in the event of a major power outage resulting from severe winter or summer storms.	Ongoing	The Carver County Justice Center has generator back-up power, which provides power to the Jail, Sheriff's Office, Dispatch, our primary EOC and the County Data Center. Carver County's current priorities for generator back-up power include: Portable or fixed generators for designated mass care shelter facilities in order to provide for heat/cooling and electricity in the event of a disaster. Permanently-mounted generators for all county Public Works facilities. There is limited access without power and no fuel. Other County-owned facilities or infrastructure that are deemed as critical. Municipalities are responsible to identify their respective critical facilities that should have back up power and seek funding for purchase of needed equipment
15	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Purchase and install generator hook-ups and encourage local generator purchases for identified critical facilities that should have back-up power.	Ongoing	Carver County, local city governments, and schools will evaluate feasibility to purchase and install generators for key facilities, and will do so as funding allows.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
16	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Work with rural and municipal electrical cooperatives/power companies to reduce overhead exposure of powerlines that are vulnerable to damage from severe winter/summer storms (i.e., high winds, ice, and heavy snow). Replace overhead power lines with underground lines in areas with high-risk exposure (i.e. high tree concentration areas).	Ongoing	Carver County and all cities will work as needed with their appropriate utility providers as needed to evaluate areas of concern. Service providers for Carver County include: Minnesota Valley Electric Coop, McLeod Coop Power Association, City of Chaska, Anyone who isn't served by the list above is served by Xcel Energy. Areas of concern will be evaluated to see where putting lines underground
17	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Regularly inspect and trim trees near power lines to reduce power outages due to falling tree limbs during storms.	Ongoing	Tree management in the right-of-way of County/City roads is addressed by the respective utility companies in their service area as well as County/City Public Works.
18	Severe Winter Weather	Conduct outreach to provide education & awareness to residents for severe-winter weather preparedness, including for individuals, families, and the elderly.	Ongoing	This is an on-going effort of Carver County Emergency Management. During periods of winter storms or extreme cold, reminders are put out on preparedness measures such as having home generators, inspecting furnaces and installing CO detectors, protecting septic systems, and having emergency travel kits in vehicles. Those who depend on medication are also encouraged to keep a supply on hand.
19	Severe Winter Weather	Continue to provide for public safety on roads through snow removal, salting and sanding to minimize the impacts of snow/ice accumulations on roadways.	Ongoing	Carver County, Cities, and Townships complete the snow removal and disperse sand/salt as needed on all, county, city and township roads. MNDOT will remove the snow from State Highways as well as disperse salt/sand as needed.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
20	Severe Summer Storms	Conduct outreach to provide education & awareness to residents for severe spring & summer storms preparedness, including for individuals, families, and the elderly.	Ongoing	During periods of the year with extreme spring & summer storms, CCEM promotes preparedness measures such as having home generators, understanding tornado warnings vs. watches, what to do when warning sirens go off, and having extra food and water in stock. Those who depend on medication are also encouraged to keep a supply on hand. Homeowners without basements are provided with safety tips on how to shelter in-place within the home. The County also participates in the Statewide Tornado Drill in April each year. Opportunities for additional community outreach may include providing information at community events such as National Night Out or the County Fair.
21	Severe Summer Storms	Encourage the retrofitting of existing homes, buildings, schools, or public park facilities with building materials that help to reduce the impact of severe storm events that can cause damage such as high winds, thunderstorms, lightning, and hail storms.	Ongoing	Carver County Emergency Management will seek to make information available on more resilient building materials that can sustain severe storms, such as during Severe Weather Awareness Week. Carver County Facilities Services and Parks & Rec will evaluate respective county facilities for potential retrofit projects that will help to minimize future risk to county buildings or recreational facilities.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
22	Severe Summer Storms	Provide information on the benefits of tie-down straps for mobile homes to help withstand extreme wind or tornado events.	Ongoing	CC Emergency Management will work in coordination with cities with mobile home parks to promote homeowner information on installation of tie down straps. CCEM may utilize news releases or post information on the Sheriff's Office FB page as well. Manufactured homes are more easily flipped or damaged during windstorms than site-built homes and require tie-downs to remain stable. Manufactured homes are elevated and vulnerable to the forces of wind uplift if they are not equipped with skirting.
23	Severe Summer Storms	Work to ensure Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Evacuation Plan & Storm Shelter Requirements are met in municipalities with manufactured home parks.	Ongoing	Minnesota State Statute (327.205 Shelter Construction Standards) outlines the requirements for MHP's with less than 10 units / more than 10 units for evacuation plans and sheltering facilities for the residents of the park in times of high winds or tornadoes, as well as the responsibility of municipalities with MHPs to assist with/approve of evacuation & shelter plans. CCEM will encourage municipalities to continue to work with local MPH operators to ensure they are in compliance with the law.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
24	Severe Summer Storms	Ensure that warning siren policies & procedures are in place, and ensure the functionality of all warning sirens in the County (testing & equipment upgrades).	Ongoing	Carver County has warning sirens located throughout the county. CCEM regularly works with local municipalities, public safety, and the National Weather Service to determine and maintain a Siren Policy for guidance on use of the warning sirens. The County PSAP and each city participate in statewide testing of emergency sirens as well as testing them on the first Wednesday of each month. Sirens are activated when a tornado warning is issued or wind speeds are indicated of 70 miles per hour or more for Carver County by the NWS. Sirens are also activated when a City or County Public Safety Official (Police, Fire) requests activation due to imminent danger to life and/or property. Warning sirens are owned by the city where they are located and maintenance is the responsibility of the local government.
25	Severe Summer Storms	Identify additional areas within the County (i.e., townships, public recreation areas) that should be considered for installation of a new outdoor warning siren/public address system.	Ongoing	CCEM will work to assess the need for additional outdoor warning sirens/public address system in public recreation areas (i.e., Lake Waconia Regional Park, U of MN Arboretum) and rural township areas not covered due to their distance from city sirens. New outdoor warning sirens/public address system will be installed as feasible.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
26	Severe Summer Storms	Identify community areas (i.e., parks, campgrounds) and facilities (i.e., schools, government buildings, mobile home parks) that are vulnerable to tornadoes and evaluate for potential construction or retrofit of safe rooms or storm shelters.	Ongoing	For HMP Update - Remove U of M Arboretum as we don't administer on the grounds. Remove Waconia Regional Park Event Center (replace with Paradise Commons) Coney Island does not have any building structures at this time. A visitor center at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park is well in the future. The park does have block wall restroom areas which may be used to shelter during storms.
27	Severe Summer Storms	Implement construction or retrofit projects for safe rooms or storm shelters in identified vulnerable locations.	Ongoing	Any community safe room projects that the County is involved in will be part of the Carver Emergency Management program. FEMA grant funding may be sought to support an eligible safe room project.
28	Severe Summer Storms	Post information in County/City public recreation areas (i.e., parks, trails, and campgrounds) on storm shelter access and/or safety measures to take in the event of severe storms.	Ongoing	The county will post generic information about what to do during storms on kiosks and inside certain buildings. Buildings should be evaluated to determine appropriate storm shelters.
29	Severe Summer Storms	Continue to provide the National Weather Service's SkyWarn "Storm Spotter" training in various parts of the County for first responders and community residents.	Ongoing	Carver County offers SKYWARN training for local fire and law enforcement departments and local residents that wish to be trained as volunteers.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
30	Extreme Temps (Heat/Cold)	Provide outreach & education to vulnerable populations in the community (i.e., senior citizens, young adults) on personal safety measures to take during periods of extreme heat / cold.	Ongoing	This is done as part of the NWS annual spring and winter severe weather awareness weeks. It is also done during actual periods of extreme temperatures. Information on staying safe during periods of extreme heat or cold is relayed to the public through channels such as County/City websites, social media, radio, and local newspapers. All Schools work to educate students on the dangers of extreme heat and cold as well.
31	Extreme Temps (Heat/Cold)	Develop plans to respond to extreme temperatures situations in Carver County.	Ongoing	In the event of a severe heat or cold event that poses risk to public safety, Carver County Emergency Management will work with Carver County Public Health to release information to the public about personal safety measures and where to go for a heating/cooling facility for the public, especially at-risk individuals such as senior citizens. The county has taken action in response to extreme warm temperatures by opening county buildings with extended hours, (i.e., county administration buildings and libraries), for residents. Vouchers are available for those in need of housing during extreme cold weather. During weather extremes information has been provided to the public about personal safety and location of cooling/heating centers (county buildings or libraries)

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
32	Flooding	Educate the public on the dangers associated with flooding (i.e., promote “Turn Around, Don’t Drown” campaign) and provide timely flood-condition public information & notification.	Ongoing	This is a standing effort of the Carver County Emergency Management Program. Flood safety information is put out on the County website, newspapers and TV during high precipitation events that may cause flash flooding and danger to motorists. Municipalities also post information on flood hazards and disseminate emergency alerts to the public.
33	Flooding	Update County and local city floodplain zoning and ordinances following adoption of the new FEMA Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM maps) for Carver County.	Completed	For HMP update: -Can be removed from plan or updated to note that future updates to DFIRMS or other floodplain mapping will be incorporated into county ordinance as appropriate) - updated DFIRM maps for Carver County were adopted in December 2018 and have been utilized since that time for implementing the county's floodplain ordinance. - the watershed area west of Watertown (Mapes Creek) was updated via a LOMR adopted in March 2020 and the updated mapping for that area has been utilized since that time for implementing the county's floodplain ordinance.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
34	Flooding	Identify all residential and commercial structures in the floodplain throughout Carver County, and encourage those homeowners / businesses to participate in the FEMA National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).	Ongoing	Carver County Property & Financial Services and local cities will encourage homeowners and businesses in mapped floodplain areas to participate in the NFIP if they do not do so already. Carver County Emergency Management will also encourage participation in NFIP.
35	Flooding	Follow the MnDOT recommendation to construct a 1,350-foot land bridge within the existing MnDOT right-of-way to increase the elevation of Highway 41 and avoid concerns over carrying traffic while the road is partially submerged.	Ongoing	Work with MnDOT and Scott County to further the planning and design efforts to obtain local and permitting agency approvals. Work to secure funding to implement the scope of the planned improvements. Note for HMP update - Scott County is leading a study to evaluate the flooding mitigation options for Highway 41, 11, and 25. They submitted a grant application in Feb 2025 to MnDOT for PROTECT funding for the study. The study will include an implementation plan to flood proof the crossings. The partners will submit additional grant requests and other funding requests for construction.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
36	Flooding	Address flooding in the area of County Road 11 along the Minnesota River Valley which floods almost annually. Evaluate feasibility to construct a bridge over the 100-year floodplain.	Ongoing	Work with Scott County to further the planning and design efforts to obtain local and permitting agency approvals. Work to secure funding to implement the scope of the planned improvements. Note for HMP update - Scott County is leading a study to evaluate the flooding mitigation options for Highway 41, 11, and 25. They submitted a grant application in Feb 2025 to MnDOT for PROTECT funding for the study. The study will include an implementation plan to flood proof the crossings. The partners will submit additional grant requests and other funding requests for construction.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
37	Flooding	Identify and implement mitigation measures to address repetitive over-the-road flooding on County Road 123.	Ongoing	The partners will submit additional grant requests and other funding requests for construction. Work to further the planning and design efforts to obtain permitting agency approvals. Work to secure funding to implement the scope of the planned improvements. Note for HMP update - CC PW raised one low point in 2016. This eliminated a resident from being unable to access their property during a flood event. Raising the other low point would require significant work and expense and permitting and is not considered a high priority given the low risk to property owners. -Change priority level to low.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
38	Flooding	Monitor, improve, and certify flood levees and storm water control systems throughout Carver County.	Ongoing	CC Public Works – Operations Dept., CC Planning & Water Management Dept. and the CCWMO work collaboratively to monitor and address maintenance on levees and storm water control systems on County lands. The <i>Carver County Watershed Management Organization Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan 2010 – 2020</i> details all elements of storm water management for the County. The plan was produced by Carver County Public Health & Environment Division Planning and Water Management Department and adopted October 26, 2010. CCWMO staff are in the process of updating the water management plan. Municipalities are responsible for oversight of the monitoring and maintenance of levees and other storm water control systems within their jurisdictions.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
39	Flooding	Work with the MN DNR to install a rain/flood gauge on the Minnesota River and other streams/rivers of concern in order to monitor for flood-level conditions and provide early notification to downstream residents. Install new equipment as feasible.	Ongoing	The MN DNR is the lead agency to work with watershed districts and communities throughout the County to assess the potential to install stream monitoring equipment. FEMA HMA hazard mitigation funding for gauges is only available under the 5% Initiative Program and if they are purchased, the data housed, and maintained through the DNR or another entity.
40	Flooding	Work to reduce the impacts of sedimentation and erosion to County / City drainage systems of streams, creeks, and culverts to mitigate over-the-road flooding.	Ongoing	With a large portion of Carver County under the use of agricultural land, streams and creeks fill with sedimentation. This results in limited capacity of culverts to move water and the topping of streams, resulting in issues for road safety. Carver County Public Works -Operation Division oversees erosion control and culvert repair along the County's 270 miles of roadway. The Dept. works to monitor and maintain the drainage system within the County's right of way. Inspections are done regularly, and removal of debris from ditches and culverts is done to avoid over-the-road flooding. City public works departments are responsible to monitor and maintain localized drainage systems.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
41	Flooding	Ensure that wellhead protection plans are in place to address flooding that may lead to contaminated drinking water.	Ongoing	The Wellhead Protection Plan presents the actions that will be taken to manage potential contamination sources that may present a risk to the quality of a community's drinking water. MDH assists public water suppliers with preparing and implementing wellhead protection plans. Carver County and individual municipalities are responsible to develop and update wellhead protection plans.
42	Flooding	Identify, prioritize, and implement mitigation measures to reduce flood-related risks and damages to culverts, ditches, roads, and bridges in the county.	Ongoing	The Carver County Public Works - Operations Dept. maintains plans for prioritized road & bridge improvement projects within the County's 270 mile roadway system. City public works/highway depts. maintain an annual inventory of potential and historical problem areas for flooding and plan for projects based on priority and available funding.
43	Flooding	Assess and implement mitigation measures for key County/City government buildings from the impacts of flooding during high-rain events.	Completed	No flooding issues at the government center

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
44	Flooding	Size culverts, EOF's (Emergency Overflow) to new precipitation data/models. ID and prioritize locations at most risk. Ensure impacts of re-sizing, re-locating does not damage neighboring properties or damage local systems.	Ongoing	Carver County and local cities maintain stormwater management plans and work to identify, prioritize, and address highest risk areas. Mitigation examples may include sizing culverts, bridges and other road crossings during re-construction or retrofits. Goals and policies in the County 2040 Comprehensive, CCWMO Water Management, and County Strategic Plans call for prevention of this risk. Note for HMP update - Carver County Water Resource Management Ordinance (Chapter 153 of County Code) updated in 2022 to require use of most recent rainfall data (Atlas 14) in modeling for stormwater design. - Carver County Water Resource Management Ordinance also includes requirements re eliminating/reducing impacts to neighboring properties when culverts/bridges/stream crossings are designed or replaced. - At risk areas have not been identified or prioritized

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
45	Flooding	Work with the City of Watertown to evaluate dam removal on the Crow River at Rick Johnson Park in order to reduce hazard and risk created by dam. Remove dam if feasible.	Ongoing	The CCWMO is working with the City to identify means of removing the low head dam on the Crow River which is also the last remaining dam on the South Fork Crow. Removal would improve safety, reduce on-going bank erosion and property loss as well as reduce the potential for imminent failure. Project is identified in the CCWMO plan.
46	Flooding	Improve Carver Creek near the City of Carver to provide relief and overflow in large rain events and reduce stress on adjacent Co. Rd. 40, particularly in locations where Carver Creek is threatening road banks.	Ongoing	The CCWMO is working to identify means of reducing bank erosion on Carver Creek. Flood overflow design would improve safety, reduce on-going bank erosion approaching CSAH 40 and reduce the potential for failure in large flow events. Project is identified in the CCWMO plan.
47	Flooding	Improve drainage along Dahlgren Road from CSAH 11 to Timber Creek in order to eliminate/reduce flooding along the road and protect Timber Creek.	Ongoing	The CCWMO is working with the Township and City to identify means improving stormwater design and conveyance on Dahlgren Rd. Redesign would improve safety, reduce on-going bank erosion and reduce frequency of road flooding and road closures. Project is identified in the CCWMO plan.
48	Flooding	Develop stormwater management plans and ordinances that require improvement of stormwater management systems, including for areas of new development and installation of infrastructure capable of handling a ten-to-twenty-inch rain event (500-year flood).	Ongoing	Change to 100-year flood

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
49	Flooding	Identify residential, commercial, government facilities, and/or critical infrastructure properties that may experience damage from future flooding and work to implement appropriate mitigation measures (including buy-out for property acquisition & structure demolition or relocation). Areas of focus may include previously unidentified flooding locations.	Ongoing	This is an ongoing effort of Carver County Land Management in conjunction with local jurisdictions that have experienced repetitive flooding.
50	Flooding	Provide information & technical assistance to property owners to help mitigate against localized flooding during high-rain events.	On-going	The Carver County SWCD provides on-going technical assistance to municipalities, schools, and homeowners in urban conservation practices for environmentally friendly landscaping methods that reduce the impact of stormwater runoff (raingardens and shoreline restoration).

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
51	Flooding / Erosion	Work to restore and preserve natural systems impacted by wind/water erosion (i.e., wetland restoration).	On-going	The Carver County SWCD and Carver County Water Management Organization offer technical assistance and cost share/incentive programs that provide assistance to landowners for managing conservation issues (including controlling or fixing erosion, practices that moderate runoff, or practices that build resiliency) on private lands. The SWCD also provides a State Cost-Share program to assist land owners in offsetting the costs by 75% for installing conservation practices for soil erosion or sedimentation, or protection and improvement of water quality. Local cities are encouraged to restore and preserve natural systems in their jurisdictions as applicable to help in localized flood risk reduction.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
52	Erosion / Landslides	Improve the stabilization of hillsides or banks to reduce impacts to roads, natural resources, and recreation areas from erosion and slope failure.	Ongoing	The Carver County Operations Division, SWCD and CCWMO work together to identify and address problem areas for erosion control and slope stabilization along the County road system. Some current areas of concerns for slope/bank stabilization in the County include: Slope evaluation for former railroad corridors that are now trails. Lake shore stabilization for Lake Waconia. Shore/bank stabilization for the Crow River. Slope restoration around Hydes Lake (Waconia Twp) Erosion along roadways can lead to plugged culverts which can lead to washed out or water over-topping of roads. When needed, the County will work directly with private landowners to address mitigation measures. PWs did a GIS based slope risk study in 20xx to identify high risk areas for slope failures. Most of the areas identified have been addressed. Local municipalities are responsible to identify problem areas of erosion/slope stabilization and work to address mitigation measures.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
53	Erosion	Promote/provide assistance to landowners in the application of practices that help to mitigate against erosion (i.e., installation of shelter belts, erosion control measures for lake shore and stream bank stabilization).	On-going	The Carver County SWCD has a 10-year Comprehensive Plan (2016 – 2025) that includes assisting landowners with excessive erosion issues on their property. The plan also addresses assisting landowners with conservation programs for marginal farmland. SWCD has technicians that can assist landowners with designing Best Management Practices (BMP's) to help reduce erosion and keep topsoil from washing away.
54	Drought	Ensure that water conservation provisions and use restrictions in times of drought are included in county/city ordinances.	Ongoing	This should be focused on cities, not Carver County. The County/WMO can be removed from actively implementing this but that it can remain in the plan as an activity for cities) - The county has not developed an ordinance re water conservation/use restrictions because the county does not provide drinking water so lacks jurisdiction to require conservation.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
55	Drought	Promote water conservation measures to residents during periods of drought, and enforce water conservation ordinances when needed.	Ongoing	Promoting water conservation during periods of drought is a standing effort of the County and local governments. The State of MN has a stateside drought response plan prepared by the MN DNR that the County may reference for guidance. - The CCWMO has completed several education campaigns re water conservation. - The CCWMO has a program to incentivize installation of smart controllers on residential irrigation systems. Smart controllers take into account recent rainfall amounts and reduces use of drinking water for irrigation. - The CCWMO Water Resource Management Ordinance also allows for/incentivizes the use of stormwater for irrigation instead of drinking water.

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
56	Wildfire	Continue to enforce burning permits/restrictions.	Ongoing	For the residents living in unincorporated areas (townships) as well as the cities of Carver and Hamburg, the MN DNR regulates when burning permits are available and requires permit holders to notify the county prior to burning. The cities of Chanhassen, Chaska, Cologne, Mayer, New Germany, Norwood Young America, Victoria and Waconia are available through their municipality. If a burn-ban is in place permits are canceled and new permits are not issued.
57	Wildfire	Evaluate the needs of local fire departments for wildland fire suppression in rural areas and acquire/install equipment as necessary.	Ongoing	Carver County is served by a total of 15 fire departments, 11 of which are located within the county and 4 that are located outside of the boundary of the county. Wildfire is ranked as a low-risk hazard for Carver County. However there is no access to water resources in outlying areas not supported by a municipal water source.
58	Wildfire	Continue to provide public education materials related to the prevention of forest fires and wildfires, particularly during dry spells or periods of drought.	Ongoing	Fire prevention is held annually each October. City fire departments participate and provide an opportunity for citizens to learn fire safety with open houses. In addition to fire departments going to our schools to educate our youth, our local media also assists in sharing fire safety information to the public. Carver County Emergency Management helps to put out reminders on wildfire safety through the Sheriff's Office FB page (i.e., campfire safety).

#	Hazard	Mitigation Action	2025 Status	Comments
59	Wildfire	Ensure the strong coordination between local fire departments to provide fire protection, which will reduce the spread of wildfires.	Ongoing	Each fire department is responsible for wildfires within their department boundaries; however, they often work together on larger fires, including wildfires. All of the fire departments have mutual aid agreements in place for structure & wildland fire support.
60	Wildfire	Conduct a county-wide assessment of areas with significant wildfire potential, particularly those in in proximity to urban areas.	Ongoing	MN DNR conducts statewide assessments for wildfire potential and the location of Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas. Carver County Emergency Management and local fire departments will coordinate with MNDNR to remain up-to-date on a wildfire risk assessment for the County.
61	Wildfire	Promote positive forestry management techniques including the removal of dead, dry vegetation and trees which may ignite as a result of lightning or human related causes.	Ongoing	This is an on-going collaborative effort between local fire districts and the MN DNR.
62	Wildfire	Encourage the use of landscape design and creation of defensible space that will minimize the risk of wildfire, through programs such as Firewise program.	Ongoing	This is an on-going collaborative effort between local fire districts and the MN DNR.

Appendix F – Planning Team Meetings

Carver County HMP Planning Team Meeting #1

1/9/25 Meeting Summary & Documentation

Synopsis: On January 9, 2025 Carver County Emergency Management convened key county, city, and township representatives, as well as neighboring jurisdictions and other stakeholders to participate in the 1st Planning Team Meeting for the update of the Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). The meeting was held via Zoom webinar video conference and was facilitated by Stacey Stark and Bonnie Hundrieser of the U-Spatial@UMD project team.

The purpose of the meeting was to present on the update of the Carver County HMP update and gather stakeholder feedback on several key discussion items, including:

- 1) Prioritization of the natural hazards to be profiled in the plan,
- 2) Identification of local vulnerabilities (i.e., infrastructure and populations),
- 3) Ideas for local mitigation actions for implementation, and
- 4) Review of FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant funding opportunities.

Stakeholder Invitations: Carver County Emergency Management invited all stakeholders included on the county's HMP Update Jurisdictional Contact List, which includes the key County Contacts, City Contacts, Township Contacts, Other Stakeholder Contacts, and Neighboring Jurisdiction Contacts identified to be invited to participate in the plan update process. Contacts were encouraged to engage additional staff or to send someone in their stead if they could not attend.

Presentation Overview: The Power Point presentation covered the following items:

- Welcome & Introductions
- Meeting Purpose & Agenda
- Overview of HMP Key Points
- Overview of Plan Content (Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment, Vulnerability Analysis, Update of Hazard Prioritization)
- Overview of Mitigation Actions and FEMA Grants
- Overview of Mitigation Strategies for the development of mitigation actions
- Discussion of ideas for local mitigation ideas
- Overview of Next Steps following Planning Team Meeting #1

Materials: The following meeting summary includes documentation of the stakeholders that participated in the meeting, poll results, questions or comments provided during the meeting, and information on the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Program. A list of stakeholders invited to participate is also included. A copy of the meeting invitation and a handout of the Power Point presentation slides accompany this meeting summary.

To submit comments or questions regarding this meeting summary, please contact:

Ben Rutter, Carver County Emergency Management Director

brutter@carvercountymn.gov

Meeting Participants

Following is a list of representatives that participated in Planning Team Meeting #1. These individuals will be considered as part the formal planning team recorded in Table 1. Hazard Mitigation (HMP) Team of the Carver County HMP Update.

	Name	Organization	Job Title
1	Benjamin Rutter	Carver County Emergency Management	Emergency Management Director
2	Alyssa Martinson	Carver County Emergency Management	Emergency Management Specialist
3	Jon Dotterer	HSEM	Regional Program Coordinator
4	Joel Landskroener	Mayer Lutheran Middle and High School	Executive Director
5	Shelby Sovell	Carver County	Operations Engineer
6	Thomas Hanson	City of Watertown	Fire Chief / Emergency Manager
7	Dan Tolsma	City of Watertown	City Administrator
8	Jason Mielke	Carver County - Land Management Department	Land Use Manager
9	Samantha Downs	Carver County	Community Health & Promotion Supervisor
10	Martin Walsh	Carver County	Parks and Recreation Director
11	Matt Haga	Eastern Carver County Schools	Director of Technology, Safety, and Security
12	Sharon Heath	Carver County Health & Human Services	Health & Human Services Program Specialist- Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
13	Heather Goodwin	Carver County Health and Human Services	Health and Human Services Director
14	Richard Scott	Carver County Health & Human Services	Deputy Division Director for Health Services
15	Chris Lund	City of Hamburg	Mayor
16	Dalton Herding	Hennepin County	Senior Planning and Systems Integration Coordinator
17	Shane Fineran	City of Waconia	City Administrator
18	Mary Olson	Dahlgren Township	Clerk
19	Jon Haukaas	City of Waconia	Director of Public Services
20	Brian Jung	City of Chaska	Public Works Director
21	Andrew Heger	City of Chanhassen	Fire Chief
22	Dave Hemze	Carver County	County Administrator
23	Tim Walsh	Carver Fire Department	Deputy Fire Chief
24	Lynn Tschudi	City of Carver	Finance Director
25	Brent Mareck	City of Carver	City Manager
26	Taylor Hubbard	City of Chaska	Mayor
27	Erin Rathke	Eastern Carver County Schools	Superintendent
28	Emerson Brady	Mcleod Cooperative Power	Operations Manager
29	Debra Thingstad Boe	American Red Cross	TCMN Governmental Operations/External Relations

30	Celi Haga	Eastern Carver County Schools	Chief of Staff/ Exec. Dir of Strategic Comms
31	Matt Thomas	Waconia Public Schools	Director of Communications
32	Enid Schonewise	Waconia Public Schools	Director of Human Resources
33	Bruner Gerald	Watertown Twp.	Supervisor
34	Nicholas Johnson	City of Mayer	City Administrator
35	Terry Meiller	Carver Soil and Water Conservation District	Resource Conservationist
36	Tom Workman	Board of Commissioners	Commissioner
37	Al Norby	Love INC Carver County	Executive Director
38	Grecia Lozano	Latino Voices	Executive Director
39	Chad Vos	Cologne Fire Department	Chief
40	Leanne Kunze	Laketown Township	Clerk-Treasurer
41	Ryan Goede	New Germany Fire	Fire Chief
42	David Shoger	Victoria Fire Department	Fire Chief
43	Trenton Klos	Victoria Fire	Deputy Fire Chief
44	TWYLA MENTH	CITY OF NEW GERMANY	CITY CLERK
45	Mary Hernandez	Mi CASA	Executive Director
46	Heather Tran	Carver County A Better Society	Founder
47	Angie Cruzen	Gather & Grow Waconia and Watertown	Executive Director
48	Chris Barlau	New Germany	Public works/ Asst Fire Chief
49	Seth Royston	Crown College	Security Manager
50	Melani Coleman	Latino Voices Of Minnesota	Programs Director
51	Andy Maetzold	Mayer Fire	Chief 1
52	Peter Henschel	Carver County	CIO
53	Chad Riley	Carver County	IT Manager
54	Craig Prisland	Carver County	IT Sr. GIS Analyst
55	Joe Green	MN Valley Electric Cooperative	Key Accounts/Community Relations

Discussion Polls

The presentation included several polling questions to generate discussion and gather specific feedback from participants that would be used to support public outreach, identify local vulnerabilities, and determine the updated prioritization of hazards for inclusion in the plan. Following are the polling questions and participant responses.

POLL #1 (Slide 9, Who Participates)

Question 1 - How can you expand participation by the county residents, including vulnerable populations, in the planning process?

Bruner Gerald	advertise inform cities and twps to get info to their residents
Jon Dotterer	Leverage county social media to get the message out.
Seth Royston	Reach out to as many organizations as possible with the ability for the stakeholder to suggest other organizations.

Samantha Downs	Provide listening sessions in several communities so they can learn about the plan. Be sure to have Spanish interpreters available.
Brian Jung	All folks on the list can share with their groups.
Matt Haga	Use agency/entity communications personnel as available to assist (they are likely plugged into their communities)
Nicholas Johnson	The cities and county could utilize their informational outlets (social media, newsletters, website, etc.) to spread the word.
Leanne Kunze	Consider holding meetings at location convenient to the population - specific to hearing their needs in their safe space.
Richard Scott	
Chris Lund	Bulk fliers to residents. meetings in group homes that assist vulnerable populations.
Joe Green	Utilize coop newsletter and coop social media.
Mary Hernandez	Outreach
Erin Rathke	Use social media
Joel Landskroener	Promote online meeting potential as well as in-person meetings via social media and information in common areas like grocery stores, gas stations, and restaurants etc.
David Shoger	Invite them to an informational virtual meeting that they can learn about this plan and resources.
TWYLA MENTH	city newsletter/social media
Andrew Heger	Find local community events/gatherings which the information can be shared with the community.
Taylor Hubbard	Advisory boards - different communication channels
Melani Coleman	interpreters in more languages
Brent Mareck	Use all types and forms of media.
Al Norby	We could poll or invite callers who call our helpline to participate
Shane Fineran	I would work with those community-based organizations to tap their customers and/or individuals they work with to form a small group to participate.

Question 2 - Is there someone (or an organization) missing from this planning team who you think should be involved with the Hazard Mitigation Plan Development?

Bruner Gerald	I do not know
Seth Royston	Not that I can think of.
Richard Scott	Are the Chamber of Commerce representatives/presidents involved?
Chris Lund	How about Local Lions or similar organizations.
Joe Green	Susan Larson/communications supervisor
Mary Hernandez	law enforcement
Erin Rathke	Hospitals?
Joel Landskroener	Christ Community Lutheran School, Watertown (Principal Jeff Boehlke) Trinity Lutheran School, Waconia, Dan Maser, Principal Zion Lutheran School, Mayer, Josh Baumann, Principal St. John's Chaska
David Shoger	Ridgeview Hospital/Ambulance Service

Debra Thingstad boe	Are there any Muslim people who are residents if so then reach out to Mosques
Taylor Hubbard	Nursing homes/assistant living facilities
Thomas Hanson	City of Watertown - Dan Tolsma, City Administrator (Replacing Jake Foster)
Melani Coleman	Yasmin Muhumed
Grecia Lozano	diverse language resources

POLL #2, Slide 13 (Plan Content – Vulnerability Analysis)

Question 1 - Are there any factors in your community that may have increased the community's vulnerability? (please identify community)

Seth Royston	Crown's electrical infrastructure is aging and going out during almost any summer storm.	Crown College
Brian Jung	Larger rain events along the Minnesota River	Chaska
Nicholas Johnson	I do not believe there has been major changes in the last 5 years.	City of Mayer.
Leanne Kunze	aging infrastructure - 201 community sewer system is over 40 years old (25 yr life expectancy at time of installation and assumed annexations to development before that time)	Laketown Township
Mary Hernandez	Aging Infrastructure	
Lynn Tschudi	waiting for construction and funding of downtown levy	City of Carver
Joel Landskroener	Increased population, new development	Mayer
David Shoger	Possibly increased population. We do plan for this but the growing community will have challenges with major transportation routes as they will be expanded and under construction for the next years	Victoria
TWYLA MENTH	Wastewater capacity issues	New Germany
Andrew Heger	Short duration rain events which produce large amounts of water in a short period.	City of Chanhassen
Jason Mielke	Carver County Parks Department & Three Rivers Park District	Carver County
Taylor Hubbard	Chaska - river flooding, we are almost fully development as a community with open land	Chaska
Brent Mareck	Age of flood levee infrastructure.	City of Carver

Question 2 - Are there specific areas of concern in your community that you would consider to be more highly vulnerable to damages or danger resulting from future natural hazard events? (please identify community)

Samantha Downs	We have 4 manufactured home communities, 2 in Chaska, 1 in Watertown and 1 in Norwood. There are also senior housing and	Chaska, Watertown, and Norwood
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	long-term care facilities that would need to be considered.	
Brian Jung	The Minnesota River	Chaska
Nicholas Johnson	The most critical infrastructure would be the water tower, water treatment plant, and wastewater treatment facility.	City of Mayer.
Leanne Kunze	3 large lakes & various watersheds at risk due to aging systems (we have a facility plan that requires county/state/fed funding assistance for feasibility) support in place for all (hoping to secure	Laketown Township
Richard Scott	Increase vulnerability of recent arrivals/immigrants. Increasing Increase vulnerability of recent arrivals/immigrants/non-English speaking	Countywide, but especially eastern Carver County
Chris Lund	Hawks Ballfield, Community Center, new water tower, new solar farm south of town	Hamburg
Lynn Tschudi	Historic downtown - including businesses	City of Carver
Joel Landskroener	Campus of Mayer Lutheran, parks, the Dakota Trail--storms often drop trees and branches.	Mayer
TWYLA MENTH	wastewater ponds in a extreme rain event	New Germany
Andrew Heger	The southern end of the community which is predominately bluffs along the Minnesota River Valley. This area has experience flooding and bluff failure in past events.	City of Chanhassen
Jason Mielke	Campgrounds	Carver County Parks Department & Three Rivers Park District
Taylor Hubbard	Chaska has a Medical Center, historic downtown that buffers the river with resident, commercial buildings, County government building/jail, water treatment facility, national golf course, etc	Chaska
Thomas Hanson	WWTF near Crow River and Flood Prone Areas within our community	City of Watertown
Melani Coleman	Riverview Terrace, mobile home park	
Brent Mareck	Carver Flood Levee System	City of Carver

POLL #3 (Slide 17) Carver County 2025 Update of Hazard Prioritization

Participants were asked to provide poll responses on what natural hazards they felt were of low priority and would not be profiled in the plan:

Bruner Gerald	Landslides (slope failure that threatens structures or people)
Seth Royston	Land Subsidence (karst, sinkholes)
Samantha Downs	Land Subsidence (karst, sinkholes)

Tim Walsh	Land Subsidence (karst, sinkholes)
Brian Jung	Landslides (slope failure that threatens structures or people)
Nicholas Johnson	Landslides (slope failure that threatens structures or people)
Leanne Kunze	Wildfire (or Wildland Fire)
Chris Lund	Landslides (slope failure that threatens structures or people)
Joe Green	Dam/Levee Failure
Mary Hernandez	Landslides (slope failure that threatens structures or people)
Joel Landskroener	Land Subsidence (karst, sinkholes)
David Shoger	Land Subsidence (karst, sinkholes)
TWYLA MENTH	Landslides (slope failure that threatens structures or people)
Andrew Heger	Land Subsidence (karst, sinkholes)
Chad Vos	Landslides (slope failure that threatens structures or people)
Jason Mielke	Land Subsidence (karst, sinkholes)
Taylor Hubbard	Land Subsidence (karst, sinkholes)
Thomas Hanson	Landslides (slope failure that threatens structures or people)
Melani Coleman	Landslides (slope failure that threatens structures or people)
Shane Fineran	Land Subsidence (karst, sinkholes)

Participants were next asked to provide their feedback on hazards they felt should be prioritized as Moderate or High (profiled in the plan with resulting mitigation actions):

14:43:37 From Taylor Hubbard to Hosts and panelists:

Because of the geographical nature of the county, some cities will say levee dam is low, but others will say high dependent if they sit on the MN river

Stacey Stark – We do note if some hazards vary geographically. Dam/levee failure is a good example of this that we will evaluate as part of our flooding analysis and review of any high hazard or significant hazard dams.

14:49:47 From Chris Lund to Everyone:

flooding, hail, tornadoes, windstorms, winter storms

14:50:03 From Taylor Hubbard to Everyone:

Flooding, Winter storms, and windstorms

14:50:10 From Leanne Kunze to Everyone:

flooding, wind, rain

14:50:16 From Tim Walsh to Everyone:

Flooding, Tornadoes, Winter Storms

14:50:26 From Heather Goodwin to Hosts and panelists:

Winter Storms and Hail

14:50:34 From Nicholas Johnson to Hosts and panelists:

Flooding, tornadoes, windstorms will cause damage to infrastructure

14:50:43 From Leanne Kunze to Everyone:
high winds and tornados are both risks

14:50:45 From Jason Mielke to Everyone:
Flooding, Winter storms, Tornadoes

14:50:47 From Debra Thingstad Boe to Everyone:
extreme cold and heat as it pertains to opening cooling or heating areas and a plan to get people there not everyone has access to ready transportation and where are these centers located as compared to poulations that are likely to need them

14:50:55 From Joel Landskroener to Everyone:
Winter storms, High winds, Tornadoes

14:51:04 From Andrew Heger to Everyone:
Flooding, winter storms, tornadoes, lightning

14:51:49 From Mary Hernandez to Everyone:
extreme cold and extreme heat are a concern because we don't have a dedicated homeless shelter

14:51:57 From Samantha Downs to Everyone:
The list of high now, seems to be accurate. I would add in extreme heat/cold as we have no shelters. If we are considering loss of life and power outages that would impact medical needs.

14:58:44 From Debra Thingstad boe to Everyone:
Meals ready to eat availability and how people can get to location needs to be planned too

Carver County 2025 Prioritization of Hazards

The chart below reflects the planning team's updated prioritization of hazards that will be included in the Carver County 2025 HMP Update.

HAZARD	Carver County 2025
Flooding	High
Winter Storms	High
Windstorms	High
Tornadoes	High
Hail	Moderate
Lightning	Low
Extreme Cold	Moderate
Extreme Heat	Moderate
Drought	Moderate
Wildfire	Low
Landslides	Low
Land Subsidence	Low
Dam/Levee Failure	Low

Feedback on FEMA HMA Grant funding / Mitigation Strategies and Actions

Following are comments or questions regarding FEMA HMA project eligibility and ideas for local mitigation actions:

15:06:26 From Leanne Kunze to Hosts and panelists:

please answer here instead of out loud to group (thanks) if you can confirm that the improvement of our outdated wastewater infrastructure is not eligible for grant funds (we are applying for funds from other sources based on advice that we would not be eligible for HM funds) only 10% of our population is connected to the utility and the county's average household income keeps us from getting access to most funds

15:08:26 From Stacey Stark to Leanne Kunze, Hosts and panelists:

Leanne, I believe that is correct. It doesn't sound like that project would be eligible with HM funding.

15:08:49 From Joel Landskroener to Everyone:

We are looking to build a tornado safe room at Mayer Lutheran on our next addition, as per the law. We would like to see if FEMA has funding to help us build it.

15:12:34 From Mary Hernandez to Everyone:

We need to look at our mobile home communities to make sure they have what they need for tornados and storms. Do they have up-to-date shelters? do they have enough capacity for everyone? does everyone understand what they need to do? where are our mobile parks?

Bonnie Hundrieser: Thank you for your comment. When filling out the local mitigation survey forms, communities will be asked to identify their local vulnerabilities to hazard events. Identifying locations such as mobile home parks that do not have storm shelters will be a part of that.

15:14:16 From Melani Coleman to Hosts and panelists:

will this info be available in Spanish?

Stacey Stark to Melani Coleman, Hosts and panelists: If that would be useful for Carver County, please address this with the EM department. That is out of scope of our contract, but it is a good idea!

15:18:33 From Heather Goodwin to Hosts and panelists:

We have extreme weather vouchers available for those in need to stay at regional/local hotels. Health and Human Services and Law Enforcement have quick access to these vouchers when the temperature is extreme or there is a bad snow storm.

15:20:11 From Mary Hernandez to Everyone:

Do these apply when they are considered private property or townships?

15:24:32 From Richard Scott to Everyone:

To what extent will our COOP Plan be incorporated into the mitigation plan?

Stacey Stark: The COOP plan is a separate planning document from the mitigation plan. It is under the oversight of the county for emergency response continuity planning.

15:24:49 From Debra Thingstad boe to Everyone:

FEMA and READY.gov have materials developed that can be used to educate on readiness including food that can be used to educate populations on readiness steps.

FEMA HMA Grant Funding:

As part of the planning team meeting, participants were informed that having a FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan in place is a requirement in order to apply for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Programs. Examples of eligible projects were reviewed for participants to consider for potential inclusion in their local mitigation action charts, as applicable. It was noted that representatives from the county, local governments, and other stakeholder agencies/organizations must have documented participation in the planning process in order to formally adopt the plan and be eligible to apply for future FEMA HMA grants.

To learn more about FEMA's HMA grant programs, please review the following:

[FEMA Mitigation Assistance Program and Policy Guide, Effective July 30, 2024](#)

At a glance info: See Table 4, Eligible Activities by Program (page 43)

CARVER COUNTY HMP JURISDICTIONAL CONTACT LIST

Following is a list of the stakeholders that received an invitation to participate in Planning Team Mtg. #1 and will receive the meeting summary.

To submit suggested additions to this contact list, please contact Carver County Emergency Management and provide the name of the jurisdiction, agency, or organization along with the person's full name, work title, and email address.

REPRESENTATION	NAME	TITLE	EMAIL
COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES			
Carver County Emergency Management	Ben Rutter	Director, Emergency Management	brutter@carvercountymn.gov
Carver County Emergency Management	Alyssa Martinson	Deputy Director, Emergency Management	amartinson@carvercountymn.gov
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Carver County Environmental Services	Brad Hanzel	Department Manager	bhanzel@carvercountymn.gov
Carver County IT	Peter Henschel	Chief Information Officer	phenschel@carvercountymn.gov
Carver County GIS	Chad Riley	IT Manager	criley@carvercountymn.gov
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Carver County Assessor	Ryan Johnson	County Assessor	rjohnson@carvercountymn.gov
Carver County Planning & Water Management	Paul Moline	Planning & Water Management Manager	pmoline@carvercountymn.gov
Carver County Planning & Water Management	Kristen Larson	Planner - Planning & Water Management	klarson@carvercountymn.gov
Carver County Land Management	Jason Mielke	Land Use Manager	jmielke@carvercountymn.gov
Carver County Parks & Recreation	Martin Walsh	Parks & Recreation Director	mw Walsh@carvercountymn.gov

Carver County Health & Human Services	Heather Goodwin	HHS Division Director	hgoodwin@carvercountymn.gov
Carver County Health & Human Services	Richard Scott	HHS Deputy Division Director	rscott@carvercountymn.gov
Carver County Health & Human Services	Samantha Downs	Community Health Supervisor	sdowns@carvercountymn.gov
Carver County Health & Human Services	Sharon Heath	PH - Emergency Preparedness	sheath@carvercountymn.gov
Carver County Risk	Sonja Wolters	Risk Management Specialist	swolter@carvercountymn.gov
Carver County Administrator	Dave Hemze	County Administrator	dhemze@carvercountymn.gov
CITY REPRESENTATIVES			
City of Carver	Cally Trimbo	Emergency Manager/Fire Chief	ctrimbo@cityofcarver.com
City of Carver	Courtney Johnson	Mayor	cjohnson@cityofcarver.com
City of Carver	Brent Mareck	City Administrator	bmareck@cityofcarver.com
City of Carver	Lynn Tschudi	Finance Director	ltschudi@cityofcarver.com
City of Carver	Vicky Sons-Eiden	City Clerk	vsonseiden@cityofcarver.com
City of Chanhassen (<i>partly in Hennepin County</i>)	Andrew Heger	Emergency Manager/Fire Chief	aheger@chanhassenmn.gov
City of Chanhassen (<i>partly in Hennepin County</i>)	Elise Ryan	Mayor	eryan@chanhassenmn.gov
City of Chanhassen (<i>partly in Hennepin County</i>)	Laurie Hokkanen	City Administrator	lhokkanen@chanhassenmn.gov
City of Chanhassen (<i>partly in Hennepin County</i>)	Jenny Potter	City Clerk	jpotter@chanhassenmn.gov
City of Chaska	Steven Kraus	Emergency Manager/Fire Chief	skraus@chaskamn.gov
City of Chaska	Zack Bonnema	Deputy Emergency Manager/Asst. Chief	zbonnema@chaskamn.gov
City of Chaska	Taylor Hubbard	Mayor	thubbard@chaskamn.gov
City of Chaska	Matt Podhradsky	City Administrator	matt@chaskamn.gov
City of Chaska	Elise Durbin	Assistant City Administrator	edurbin@chaskamn.gov
City of Chaska	Ryan Seibert	Police Chief	rseibert@chaskamn.gov
City of Chaska	Brian Jung	Public Works Director	bjung@chaskamn.gov
City of Cologne	Chad Vos	Fire Chief	colognefireadmin@ci.cologne.mn.us
City of Cologne	Matt Lein	Emergency Manager/Mayor	mattl@colognemn.com
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City of Hamburg	Mark Plants	Emergency Manager/Fire Chief 2	chief2@cityofhamburgmn.com

City of Hamburg	Christopher Lund	Mayor	clund@cityofhamburgmn.com
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City of New Germany	Shirley Jaeger	Mayor	ngcityhall@gmail.com
City of New Germany	Twyla Menth	City Clerk	ngcityhall@gmail.com
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City of Norwood Young America	Carol Lagergren	Mayor	clagergren@nyacouncil.com
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City of Victoria	Claudia Ettesvold	City Clerk	cettesvold@ci.victoria.mn.us
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City of Waconia	Nicole Waldron	Mayor	nwaldron@waconia.org
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City of Watertown	Jake Foster	City Administrator	jfoster@watertownmn.gov
City of Watertown	Maggie Reisdorf	City Clerk	mreisdorf@watertownmn.gov
TOWNSHIP REPRESENTATIVES			
Benton Township	Chris Commers	Township Clerk	commersc@gmail.com
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Hollywood Township	Pam Henry-Neaton	Township Clerk	hollywoodtownship@hotmail.com

Laketown Township	Leanne Kunze	Township Clerk	leanne@laketownmn.gov
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Waconia Township	Sue Goede	Township Clerk	1goose@frontiernet.net
Watertown Township	Wayne Hubin	Township Clerk	watertowntownship@gmail.com
Young American Township	Alan Hermann	Township Clerk	alanfherrmann@outlook.com
LOCAL & REGIONAL AGENCIES INVOLVED IN HAZARD MITIGATION			
MN HSEM	Jon Dotterer	Region 6 Regional Program Coordinator	Jon.Dotterer@state.mn.us
Carver County Soil & Water Conservation	Mike Wanous	District Manager	mwanous@carvercountymn.gov
MN DNR DNR Ecological & Water Resources Division	Wes Saunders-Pearce	Region 3 Metro North Area Hydrologist	Wes.Saunders-Pearce@state.mn.us
MnDOT Metro District	Khani Sahebjam	District Engineer	khani.sahebjam@state.mn.us
BUSINESSES, ACADEMIA, AND OTHER PRIVATE ORGS.			
Electric CoOps - Minnesota Valley	Joe Green	Commuity Relations Manager	JoeG@MVEC.net
Electric CoOps - Mcleod Power	Emerson Brady	Operations Manager	ebrady@Mcleodcoop.com
Electric CoOps - Wright - Hennepin Electric	Lee Nordby	Operations Director	lnordby@whe.org
Electric CoOps - Chaska Utilities	Pete Wyffels	Electric Director	pwyffels@chaskamn.gov
School District - Eastern Carver District 112	Celi Haga	Chief of Staff and Executive Director of Strategic Communications	hagac@district112.org
School District - Eastern Carver District 112	Erin Rathke	Superintendent	rathkee@district112.org
School District - Central District 108	Tim Schochenmaier	Superintendent	tschochenmaier@central.k12.mn.us
School District - Waconia District 110	Brian Gersich	Superintendent	bgersich@isd110.org
School District - Watertown Mayer District 111	Darren Schuler	Superintendent	darren.schuler@wm.k12.mn.us
School District - Eastern Carver District 112	Matthew Haga	Director of Technology, Safety, Security	hagaM@district112.org
School - Holy Familt Catholic	Michael Brennan	President	brennanm@hfchs.org
School - Southwest Christian	Dan Beckering	Head of School	d_beckering@swchs.org
School - Mayer Lutheran High School	Joel Landskroener	Executive Director	joel.landskroener@mayerlutheran.org
School - Southwest Metro Intermediate	Darren Kermes	Superintendent	dkermes@swmetro.k12.mn.us
Crown College	Seth Royston	Security Manager	roystons@crown.edu

NONPROFIT ORGS/COMMUNITY-BASED ORGS THAT WORK WITH UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES AND SOCIALLY VULNERABLE POPULATIONS			
American Red Cross	Morgan Sommers	Disaster Program Manager	morgan.sommers@redcross.org
American Red Cross	Rachel Sullivan-Nightengale	Chapter Government Operations Coord.	rachel.sullivannight@redcross.org
Salvation Army (MN/ND)	Major Michele Heaver	Divison Disaster Services	michele.heaver@usc.salvationarmy.org
Greater Twin Cities United Way	Nicole Weiler	Senior Program Manager	Nicole.Weiler@gtcuw.org
Families Moving Forward	Vang Yang	Housing and Shelter Case Manager	vyanf@beaconinterfaith.org
MRCI	Nate Lotton	Director of Employment Services	nlotten@mymrci.org
Gather & Grow Food Shelf	Angie Cruzen	Executive Director	angiecruzen@waconiafoodshelf.org
Bountiful Basket Food Shelf	Patti Sinykin	Executive Director	patti@bountifulbasketfoodshelf.org
His House Foundation	Martha Brannon	Executive Director	hfhresourcecenter@gmail.com
Latino Voices			latinovoicesofminnesota@gmail.com
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CAP Agency	Jeff Hanson	Executive Director	jhansen@capagency.org
Southern Valley Alliance	Christie Larson	Executive Director	christielealarson@gmail.com
Chaska Treehouse	Tyler Sotebeer	Director of Adult Ministries	tyler@chaskatreehouse.org
Hope House/180 Degrees	Charles Hallman	Senior Manager	Charles.hallman@180degrees.org
Love Inc.	Al Norby	Executive Director	anorby@loveinccc.org
The Rak	Dan Turzinski	Executive Director	Daniel.turzinski@gmail.com
River Valley Health Services	Richard Scott	Board Chair	rscott@carvercountymn.gov
myHealth for Teens & Young Adults Clinic	Connie Robertson	Director of Clinics	connieR@MyHealthMN.org
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Hennepin County Emergency Management	Eric Waage	Emergency Management Director	eric.waage@co.hennepin.mn.us
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Wright County Emergency Management	Seth Hansen	Emergency Management Director	seth.hansen@co.wright.mn.us

From: [Alyssa Martinson](#)
To: [Brian Sloat](#); [Benjamin Rutter](#); [Jason Kamerud](#); [Patrick Barry](#); [Dave Hemze](#); [Gayle Degler](#); [Tom Workman](#); [Matthew Udermann](#); [Tim Lynch](#); [John P. Fahey](#); [Shelby Sovell](#); [Lyndon Robient](#); [Brad Hanzel](#); [Peter Henschel](#); [Chad Riley](#); [Craig Prislant](#); [Ryan Johnson](#); [Paul Moline](#); [Kristen Larson](#); [Jason Mielke](#); [Martin Walsh](#); [Heather Goodwin](#); [Richard Scott](#); [Samantha Downs](#); [Sharon Heath](#); [Sonja Wolter](#); [Dave Hemze](#); [Cally Trimbo](#) (ctrimbo@cityofcarver.com); [Courtney Johnson](#); [Brent Mareck](#); cshell@cityofcarver.com; [Vicky Sons-Eiden](#); [Heger, Andrew](#); eryan@chanhassenmn.gov; [Hokkanen, Laurie](#); jpotter@chanhassenmn.gov; [Stephen Kraus](#); zbonnema@chaskamn.gov; mwindschitl@chaskamn.gov; matt@chaskamn.gov; [Elise Durbin](#); [Ryan Seibert](#); [Brian Jung](#); [Cologne Fire Admin](#); matt@colognemn.com; [Michelle Morrison](#); [Steven Siewert](#); chief2@cityofhamburgmn.com; clund@cityofhamburgmn.com; [Jeremy Gruenhagen](#); fire@cityofmayer.com; [Luayn Ruch](#); [Luayn Ruch](#); [Janell Gildemeister](#); newgermanyfirechief@gmail.com; [Twyla Menth](#); [Twyla Menth](#); [Steve Zumberge](#); clagergren@nvacouncil.com; [Andrea Aukrust](#); info@cityofnya.com; tklos@ci.victoria.mn.us; dmcmillan@ci.victoria.mn.us; dhardie@ci.victoria.mn.us; cettesvold@ci.victoria.mn.us; jsorensen@waconia.org; jschulze@waconia.org; nwaldron@waconia.org; sfineran@waconia.org; thanson@watertownmn.gov; mwalters@watertownmn.gov; jfoster@watertownmn.gov; mreisdorf@watertownmn.gov; commeresc@gmail.com; [Lisa Goede](#); clerk@dahlgrentownship.com; [tamara ekstrom](#); [Pam Henry-Neaton](#); leanne@laketownmn.gov; [Heidi Schmidt](#); 1goose@frontiernet.net; [Watertown Township](#); [Alan Herrmann](#); Jon.Dotterer@state.mn.us; [Mike Wanous](#); Wes.Saunders-Pearce@state.mn.us; khani.sahebjam@state.mn.us; JoeG@MVEC.net; ebrady@McLeodcoop.com; lnordby@whe.org; pwyyfels@chaskamn.gov; hagac@district112.org; rathkee@district112.org; tschochenmaier@central.k12.mn.us; bgersich@isd110.org; [Schuler, Darren](#); [Haga, Matthew](#); brennanm@hfchs.org; d_beckering@swchs.org; Joel.Landskroener@dkermes@swmetro.k12.mn.us; roystons@crow.edu; [Sommers, Morgan](#); [Sullivan-Nightengale, Rachel](#); michele.heaver@usc.salvationarmy.org; Nicole.Weiler@gtcuw.org; vyanf@beaconinterfaith.org; nlotten@mymrci.org; angiecruzen@waconiafoodshelf.org; patti@bountifulbasketfoodshelf.org; hfhresourcecenter@gmail.com; latinvoicesofminnesota@gmail.com; maryhndz@micasamn.org; [Heather Tran](#); gpavett@humanityalliance.org; jessica@actunited.org; rschneider@beaconinterfaith.org; jhansen@capagency.org; christielealarson@gmail.com; tyler@chaskatreehouse.org; Charles.hallman@180degrees.org; anorby@loveinccc.org; [Dan Turzinski](#); [Richard Scott](#); connieR@MyHealthMN.org; eric.waage@co.hennepin.mn.us; Scott.Haas@co.scott.mn.us; andrewh@co.sibley.mn.us; casey.stotts@mcleodcountymn.gov; seth.hansen
Cc: [Bonnie K Hundrieser](#); [Stacey Stark](#)
Subject: Planning Team Meeting - Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan
Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2024 9:17:11 AM

Greetings,

Your presence is requested at a Planning Team Meeting for the update of the **Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan**. You are requested to participate in this meeting because you have a position of administrative or departmental responsibility within the county, a municipal government, or are a key stakeholder related to the planning process. Emergency Managers from neighboring jurisdictions are also encouraged to attend so we may strengthen our shared mitigation efforts.

We will be holding the meeting virtually using Zoom conferencing:

Date: Thursday, January 9, 2025

Time: 2:00-3:30 PM

RSVP: https://umn-private.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_48R9MMtRTEG6z5129IV50w

(Ctrl+Click to follow link) When you register, you will be placed on an RSVP list and will be sent an email confirmation. If you are not able to attend, please seek to send another representative in your place.

About the Hazard Mitigation Plan

In order to maintain eligibility for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Grant Program funding, the county's hazard mitigation plan must be updated every 5 years. Our last plan is due for an update and our planning is currently underway. The plan addresses the natural hazards that face Carver County and will result in the identification of mitigation actions that will help to reduce or eliminate the impact of future hazard events.

Meeting Information

This meeting will be facilitated by personnel from U-Spatial at the University of MN Duluth who are working closely with us on this project. The purpose of this meeting is to present on the update of the Carver County HMP update and gather stakeholder feedback on several key discussion items, including:

- 1) Prioritization of the natural hazards to be profiled in the plan,
- 2) Identification of local vulnerabilities (i.e., infrastructure and populations),
- 3) Ideas for local mitigation actions for implementation, and
- 4) Review of FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant funding opportunities.

About FEMA HMA Grant Funding:

To learn more about FEMA's HMA grant programs, please review the following:

[FEMA Mitigation Assistance Program and Policy Guide, Effective July 30, 2024](#)

At a glance info: See Table 4, Eligible Activities by Program (page 43)

Please note that representatives from the county, local governments, and other stakeholder agencies/organizations **must** have documented participation in the planning process in order to formally adopt the plan and be eligible to apply for future FEMA HMA grants.

We look forward to you joining us for this important meeting.

Thank you,

Alyssa Martinson | Emergency Management Specialist | Carver County Sheriff's Office

606 East 4th Street, Chaska, MN 55318 | C: 612.206.5013 | O: 952.361.1249

Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2025 Planning Team Meeting #1

JANUARY 9, 2025



U-SPATIAL
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA DULUTH
Driven to Discover

Welcome & Introductions

U-Spatial@UMD Project Leads



Stacey Stark
Project Manager
U-Spatial@UMD



Bonnie Hundrieser
HM Planning Specialist
Hundrieser Consulting LLC

Carver County Project Lead

- Ben Rutter, Carver County Emergency Management Director
- Alyssa Martinson, EM Specialist



Please type your name and representation in the CHAT – so others know who is here

PRESENTER: STACEY STARK

Meeting Participation

To make a comment or ask a question, please use the chat or raise your hand to speak.

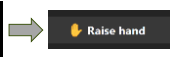
PLEASE REMAIN MUTED AND VIDEO OFF SO EVERYONE CAN HAVE THE BEST EXPERIENCE.

USE CHAT:

- To send a message to everyone
- To send a message to individuals or the presenters
- To send a message to host to ask for help or ask a question that isn't for the whole group. The host is Stacey Stark.



ASK TO SPEAK:



PRESENTER: STACEY STARK

Meeting Purpose & Agenda



The purpose of this meeting is to formally convene the **Carver County HMP Planning Team** for a presentation on the plan update and to discuss key items required for the plan update.

Agenda

- Overview of HMP Key Points
- Review of Past Plan Hazard Risk Priorities, Hazard Profiles, and Current Hazard Prioritization
- Overview of Mitigation Strategies
- Overview of FEMA HMA grant program
- Discuss local mitigation ideas
- Overview of Next Steps

PRESENTER: STACEY STARK

Overview of HMP Key Points

CARVER COUNTY 2025 HMP UPDATE

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Plan Requirement



The Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) is a requirement of the Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000).

- The development of a local government plan is required to maintain eligibility for FEMA HMA grant programs.
- Plans must be updated every 5 years.
- Must address all jurisdictions and engage key stakeholders + the public
- Must be approved by FEMA for meeting all federal requirements.

Carver County HMP Update 2025

- Last plan was adopted in 2019.
- The updated plan will cover a 5-year window for implementation and grant program eligibility (**2026-2031**)
- Participating jurisdictions must have documented engagement in the planning process and adopt the final plan.

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Plan Purpose



The purpose of the HMP is to:

- **Conduct risk assessment** (history, future probability, impacts of natural hazards)
- **Conduct vulnerability assessment** (at-risk critical infrastructure and populations)
- **Conduct capabilities assessment** (plans, programs, policies, partnerships, funding, etc in place or that are lacking)
- **Develop plan of action** (strategies and mitigation actions for implementation).

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Who the Plan Covers

This is a **multi-jurisdictional plan** that covers Carver County, including all cities and townships within the county.



The plan also takes into consideration the needs and concerns of other stakeholders such as schools, watershed districts, and agencies or organizations involved in mitigation or services to vulnerable populations within the county.

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Who Participates



Key Stakeholders

Local government as well as related non-governmental agencies & organizations must participate.

- 2 planning team meetings
- Public outreach
- Provision of local information (LMS forms, other data)
- Mitigation Action Charts
- Final plan review

The Public

The public must have an opportunity to learn about and provide input to the plan update.

- Use of news releases, social media, local bulletin boards, and public meetings or events.
- Must document local-level concerns and mitigation ideas
- Consider how to engage with underserved communities and vulnerable populations.

POLL #1

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Overview of Plan Content

CARVER COUNTY 2025 HMP UPDATE

PRESENTER: STACEY STARK

Plan Content

Hazard Identification

- The HMP addresses the **natural hazards** that pose risk to the county and its jurisdictions.
- Manmade hazards are not required to be addressed (per the DMA 2000).
- Hazards that are deemed to be of low risk may be omitted from the plan.
- Hazard risk may differ in cities and the county overall.

Flooding	Hail	Drought
Dam/Levee Failure	Lightning	Extreme Heat
Wildfire	Winter Storms	Extreme Cold
Windstorms	Landslides	Earthquakes
Tornadoes	Sinkholes & Karst	Coastal Erosion

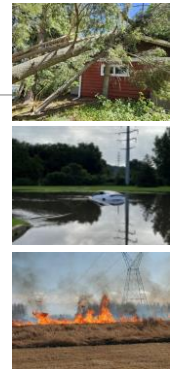
Natural hazard categories as per the State Hazard Mitigation Plan

PRESENTER: STACEY STARK

Plan Content

Risk Assessment

- History of events
- Probability of occurrence
- Severity
- Climate Change
- Identify if and how risk priorities have changed since the last plan. (Increased / Decreased)



PRESENTER: STACEY STARK

Plan Content

Vulnerability Analysis

- Inventory of critical infrastructure.
- Identify specific, local-level impacts and vulnerabilities.
- Includes local-level capabilities assessment that supports mitigation or identifies gaps
- Identify any factors (i.e., new development) that may increase the community's vulnerability.
- Review social vulnerability factors.



POLL #2

PRESENTER: STACEY STARK

Timeframe for development & Plan Format

Timeframe:

The planning process generally occurs over the course of 14-18 months from start to finish.

- The Carver County Plan will be completed in 2025.

Format:

- PDF document (paper version)
- Interactive website companion
- Developed and hosted by U-Spatial at UMD



Example HMP website

PRESENTER: STACEY STARK

Hazard Prioritization

REVIEW OF THE HAZARD RISK PRIORITIES FOR
CARVER COUNTY

PRESENTER: STACEY STARK

Carver County Past Prioritization of Hazards

This is at a
county level

HAZARD	Carver 2019
Flooding	High
Winter Storms	High
Windstorms	High
Tornadoes	High
Hail	High
Lightning	High
Extreme Cold	Moderate
Extreme Heat	Moderate
Drought	Moderate
Wildfire	Low
Landslides	Moderate
Land Subsidence	n/a
Dam/Levee Failure	Low

PRESENTER: STACEY STARK

Carver County 2025 Update of Hazard Prioritization

Considerations:

- Increase/Decrease of events
- Local vulnerabilities (impacts)
- New development/population growth

HAZARD	Carver 2025
Flooding	
Winter Storms	
Windstorms	
Tornadoes	
Hail	
Lightning	
Extreme Cold	
Extreme Heat	
Drought	
Wildfire	
Landslides	
Land Subsidence	
Dam/Levee Failure	

POLL #3

PRESENTER: STACEY STARK

Hazard Prioritization Poll results and discussion

Do any of these countywide hazards NOT
apply in a city?

PRESENTER: STACEY STARK

Comments or Questions?

Overview of Mitigation Actions & FEMA grants

DEVELOPMENT OF MITIGATION ACTIONS AND ACTIVITIES ELIGIBLE FOR FEMA HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE GRANT FUNDING

PRESENTER: STACEY STARK

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Mitigation Action Charts



MACs reflect each jurisdiction's plan of action to reduce the impacts of future natural hazard events. They are based on the information gathered from each community during the planning process.

- **Must** address hazards of moderate to high priority.
- **Must** address identified local vulnerabilities.
- **Must** identify priority, status, timeframe, responsibility, how incorporation/implementation will occur, and possible funding.

★ Eligible FEMA HMA grant activities **must** be identified in the risk assessment and plan of action.

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

CITY OF BALATON				Mitigation Action Chart			
#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
5	Extreme Cold	Education & Awareness Programs	Conduct outreach to property owners on how to avoid freezing pipes during periods of extreme cold.	Existing High 2025-2030	City Admin / City EM	We do this as part of our outreach during periods of extreme cold. We remind homeowners to run a stream of hot water to avoid frozen pipes during periods of extreme cold.	City Funding
6	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Obtain a portable generator for our City Hall and Community Center that serves as our local shelter if people are displaced from a severe storm event or extended power outage.	New High 2025-2030	City EM / City Public Works	The city will work to purchase a generator as funding is available. If necessary, we will seek possible outside grant funding.	City Funding, FEMA 5% Initiative Grant Funding
7	Severe Summer Storms	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work with the local mobile home park owner to construct a storm shelter or tornado safe room.	New High 2025-2030	City EM, Public Works	The city will work with our local mobile home park operator to evaluate possible shelter solutions, or to establish an alternate facility location for residents to take shelter. The city would work with Leon County Emergency Management to seek potential FEMA grant funding for a tornado safe room.	City Funding, FEMA BRAC grant funding
8	Drought	Local Planning & Regulations / Education & Awareness Programs	Establish and enforce watering use restrictions when in periods of severe drought and raise public awareness of water conservation measures.	New Moderate 2025-2030	City Admin	The city will enforce emergency water use restrictions as per direction from the MSF DWR. The city will also do outreach to help make residents aware of limitations on non-essential water use. We recently developed a new lawn irrigation ordinances.	City Funding
9	Flooding	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Implement new storm sewer upgrades as construction projects and purchase additional pumps in the event of flooding.	Existing Moderate 2025-2030	City Public Works	Our public works staff monitors and addresses any stormwater infrastructure upgrades and equipment as needed.	City Funding

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

FEMA HMA Grant Funding



FEMA

Example eligible grant activities:

- All applicants **must** be covered by an approved HMP and have formally adopted the plan.
- Projects **must** be addressed in the risk assessment and be identified in the plan of action.
- Several different grant programs
- State Hazard Mitigation Officer is the main POC for questions
- Property Acquisition
- Tornado Safe Rooms
- Burying Powerlines
- Wildfire Mitigation
- Soil Stabilization
- Minor Localized Flood Reduction
- Green Infrastructure
- "5% Initiative" (i.e., warning systems, generators, public awareness/education campaigns)

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Overview of Mitigation Strategies

THE FOLLOWING STRATEGIES ARE RECOMMENDED GUIDANCE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL MITIGATION ACTIONS

LOCAL PLANNING & REGULATIONS

These actions include policies or codes that influence the way land is developed and structures are built, and also incorporate mitigation into other plans.

- Limit or restrict development in floodplain areas
- Adopt and enforce building codes
- Improve stormwater management planning
- Incorporate mitigation into comp plans
- Enforce watering / burning restrictions during periods of drought

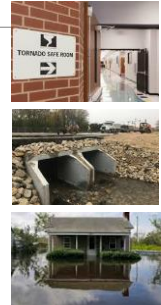


PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

STRUCTURE & INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

These actions protect structures and infrastructure by changing them or removing them from danger.

- Construction of tornado safe rooms.
- Burying powerlines
- Property acquisition for properties at risk to repetitive flooding or failure to landslides
- Infrastructure retrofit (upsizing culverts, other road & bridge projects)
- Protection of vulnerable critical infrastructure such as lift stations and Fire Halls

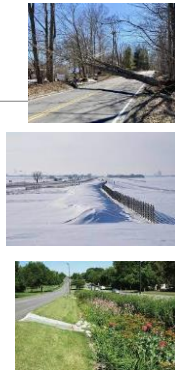


PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

NATURAL SYSTEMS PROTECTION

These actions use a natural systems approach to minimize damage and losses from natural hazard events.

- Tree management near roads & powerlines
- Floodplain and stream restoration
- Soil stabilization on at-risk slopes
- Wildfire fuels reduction & defensible space
- Living snow fences to reduce drifting
- Rain gardens to slow impacts of rain events



PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

EDUCATION & AWARENESS PROGRAMS

These actions inform and educate the community to raise awareness of hazards and ways to mitigate risk.

- Promoting sign up for CodeRED etc.
- Sharing information on severe weather awareness
- Promoting personal preparedness
- Tornado season education
- Outreach to vulnerable populations
- Wildfire safety (creation of defensible space, burning restrictions)

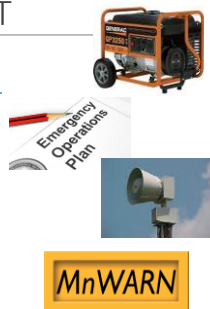


PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

MITIGATION PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE SUPPORT

These actions are typically not considered mitigation, but support reduction of the effects of damaging natural hazard events.

- Flood fight plans and equipment
- Installing generator backup power
- Development of EOPs
- Shelter planning and training
- Working with facilities that care for vulnerable populations (i.e., schools, nursing homes)
- Installation of outdoor warning sirens.
- Joining MnWARN for utility disaster mutual aid



PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Comments or Questions?

Do you have any ideas for specific mitigation activities for implementation?

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER



Following Planning Team Meeting #1

COMPLETION OF LOCAL MITIGATION SURVEY FORMS

Representatives from Carver County and each city jurisdiction will participate in filling out Local Mitigation Survey forms. These forms include:

- Local hazard identification & risk prioritization.
- Local vulnerabilities (critical infrastructure, populations or assets)
- Local-level capabilities (programs, policies, staff, funding)
- Review past mitigation actions/identify new mitigation projects.

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Questions?

What questions do you have for
U-Spatial@UMD about development of the
HMP or next steps?

PRESENTER: STACEY STARK

Contact Information

Stacey Stark, MS, GISP

U-Spatial@UMD

slstark@d.umn.edu

218-726-7438

Bonnie Hundrieser, HM Planner

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218-343-3468

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**HUNDRIESER
CONSULTING LLC**

PRESENTER: STACEY STARK

Carver County HMP Planning Team Meeting #2

10/8/25 Meeting Summary & Documentation

Summary: On October 8, 2025, Carver County Emergency Management convened key county, city, and township representatives, as well as neighboring jurisdictions and other stakeholders to participate in the 2nd and final Planning Team Meeting for the update of the Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). The purpose of the meeting was to formally convene the Carver County HMP Planning Team for a presentation on the draft plan and discussion of key items prior to public review and submission of the plan to HSEM and FEMA. The meeting was held via Zoom webinar video conference and was facilitated by Stacey Stark and Bonnie Hundrieser of the U-Spatial@UMD project team.

Stakeholder Invitations: Carver County Emergency Management invited all stakeholders included on the county's HMP Update Jurisdictional Contact List (JCL), which includes the key County Contacts, City Contacts, Township Contacts, Other Stakeholder Contacts, and Neighboring Jurisdiction Contacts identified to be invited to participate in the plan update process. Contacts were encouraged to engage additional staff or to send someone in their stead if they could not attend. A copy of the county's Jurisdictional Contact List is included with this meeting summary.

Meeting Participants: A total of **30** people attended the meeting. Representation included elected officials and departmental staff from Carver County and the cities of Carver, Chanhassen, Chaska, Cologne, Hambruge, Mayer, Waconia, and Watertown. The cities of New Germany, Norwood Young America, and Victoria. were not available to participate and were not in attendance. Other stakeholders, including neighboring jurisdictions, participated in the meeting. A participant list is provided below:

- 1 Benjamin Rutter, Carver County Emergency Management, Emergency Management Director
- 2 Alyssa Martinson, Carver County Emergency Management, EM Deputy Director
- 3 Sonja Wolter, Carver County, Risk Management Specialist
- 4 Samantha Downs, Carver County Public Health, Community Health & Promotion Supervisor
- 5 Heather Goodwin, Carver County, Director of Health and Human Services
- 6 Sharon Heath, Carver County Public Health, Public Health Emergency Preparedness
- 7 Kristen Larson, Carver County PWM Dept, Planner
- 8 Martin Walsh, Carver County, Parks and Recreation Director
- 9 Jason Mielke, Carver County - Land Management Department, Land Use Manager
- 10 Jamey Hecksel, Carver County Public Works, Operations Supervisor - Highway
- 11 Patrick Barry, Carver County Sheriff's Office, Chief Deputy
- 12 Chad Riley, Carver County, IT Manager
- 13 Lynn Tschudi, City of Carver, Finance Director
- 14 Courtney Johnson, City of Carver, Mayor
- 15 Andrew Heger, City of Chanhassen, Fire Chief
- 16 Zack Bonnema, City of Chaska Fire Department, Asst. Chief of Operations
- 17 Brian Jung, City of Chaska, Public Works Director
- 18 Taylor Hubbard, City of Chaska, Mayor

- 19 Chad Vos, City of Cologne, Fire & Rescue, Fire Chief
- 20 Jeremy Gruenhagen, City of Hamburg, City Clerk/Treasurer
- 21 Steven Siewert, City of Hamburg Fire Dept., Chief
- 22 Nicholas Johnson, City of Mayer, City Administrator
- 23 Justin Sorensen, Waconia Fire Department, Fire Chief
- 24 Shane Fineran, City of Waconia, City Administrator
- 25 Thomas Hanson, Watertown Fire Department, Fire Chief
- 26 Mary Olson, Dahlgren Township, Clerk
- 27 Matt Haga, Eastern Carver County Schools, Director of Technology, Safety, and Security
- 28 Mary Hernandez, Mi CASA MN, Executive Director
- 29 Makayla Greer, 180 degrees, Program Administrator
- 30 Emerson Brady, McLeod Cooperative Power, Operations Manager

Presentation Overview: The PowerPoint presentation covered the following items about the process and content of the plan update. A PDF of the presentation slides is included with this meeting summary.

- Meeting Purpose and Agenda
- About the Project Team
- Overview of Plan Update
- Who the Plan Covers
- Who Needs to Participate
- Overview of the Structure of the HMP (Website and PDF)
- Prioritization of Natural Hazards
- Review of Risk Assessment Factors and Hazard Profiles
- Overview of Mitigation Action Charts and FEMA HMA Grant Funding
- Review of Mitigation Strategies and Actions
- Open Discussion (Comments and Questions)
- Discussion of Next Steps & answer your questions

The opening PowerPoint presentation covered a re-cap of key points about the plan update, a review of the Risk Assessment & Vulnerability Analysis, an overview of FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant funding; an overview of how mitigation actions are developed and an overview of the jurisdictional Mitigation Action Charts (MACs). Following the presentation, participants were provided with an opportunity to review and discuss the county and local mitigation action charts. This discussion period offered a facilitated opportunity for participants to consider any changes or new additions to the MACs prior to completion of the draft plan for public review.

CARVER COUNTY HMP PLANNING TEAM MEETING #2 DISCUSSION NOTES

From Sharon Heath:

Is this information you are sharing available to the public? thanks

Bonnie Hundrieser response: Yes, when the Carver HMP website is ready with the draft plan, it will all be available to the public.

From Chad Riley:

I caught glimpse of a report at the beginning of the meeting...is all of this data summarized in that report as well?

Jane Lindelof response: Yes, Chad was referring to the PDF copy of the HMP. The county will have both a PDF copy of the plan as well as a more in-depth interactive HMP website.)

Chad follow up question: Will both eventually be available to public? If so, do you know if they are prepared in an accessible manner?

Jane Lindelof response: Yes, all of the HMP materials will be public facing and available to the public. And U-Spatial does follow accessibility guidelines in both the written PDF and online products.

Meeting Conclusion: The meeting concluded with an overview and timeline of the upcoming next steps for public review and submission of the draft plan to HSEM and FEMA for final review and approval.

Included with this meeting summary are the following:

- Carver County HMP Jurisdictional Contact List
- Meeting Invitation to Stakeholders
- PowerPoint Presentation Slides

Meeting Summary Prepared By: Bonnie Hundrieser, U-Spatial@UMD Project Team

CARVER COUNTY HMP JURISDICTIONAL CONTACT LIST

Following is a list of the stakeholders that received an invitation to participate in Planning Team Mtg. #2 and will receive the meeting summary.

REPRESENTATION	NAME	TITLE
Carver County Emergency Management	Ben Rutter	Director, Emergency Management
Carver County Emergency Managment	Alyssa Martinson	Deputy Director, Emergency Management
Carver County Sheriff's Office	Brian Sloat	Commander
Carver County Sheriff's Office	Jason Kamerud	Sheriff
Carver County Sheriff's Office	Patrick Barry	Chief Deputy
Carver County Administration	David Hemze	County Administrator
Carver County Board of Commissioners	Gayle Degler	District 1 Commissioner
Carver County Board of Commissioners	Tom Workman	District 2 Commissioner
Carver County Board of Commissioners	Matt Udermann	District 3 Commissioner
Carver County Board of Commissioners	Tim Lynch	District 4 Commissioner
Carver County Board of Commissioners	John P. Fahey	District 5 Commissioner
Carver County Public Works	Shelby Sovell	Assistant Public Works Director
Carver County Public Works	Lyndon Robjent	Public Works Director
Carver County Environmental Services	Brad Hanzel	Department Manager
Carver County IT	Peter Henschel	Chief Information Officer
Carver County GIS	Chad Riley	IT Manager
Carver County GIS	Craig Prisland	IT Senior GIS Analyst
Carver County Assessor	Ryan Johnson	County Assessor
Carver County Planning & Water Management	Paul Moline	Planning & Water Management Manager
Carver County Planning & Water Management	Kristen Larson	Planner - Planning & Water Management
Carver County Land Management	Jason Mielke	Land Use Manager
Carver County Parks & Recreation	Martin Walsh	Parks & Recreation Director
Carver County Health & Human Services	Heather Goodwin	HHS Division Director
Carver County Health & Human Services	Richard Scott	HHS Deputy Division Director
Carver County Health & Human Services	Samantha Downs	Community Health Supervisor
Carver County Health & Human Services	Sharon Heath	PH - Emergency Preparedness
Carver County Risk	Sonja Wolters	Risk Management Specialist
Carver County Administrator	Dave Hemze	County Administrator
City of Carver	Cally Trimbo	Emergency Manager/Fire Chief
City of Carver	Courtney Johnson	Mayor
City of Carver	Brent Mareck	City Administrator
City of Carver	Lynn Tschudi	Finance Director
City of Carver	Vicky Sons-Eiden	City Clerk
City of Chanhassen (<i>partly in Hennepin County</i>)	Andrew Heger	Emergency Manager/Fire Chief
City of Chanhassen (<i>partly in Hennepin County</i>)	Elise Ryan	Mayor
City of Chanhassen (<i>partly in Hennepin County</i>)	Laurie Hokkanen	City Administrator

City of Chanhassen (<i>partly in Hennepin County</i>)	Jenny Potter	City Clerk
City of Chaska	Steven Kraus	Emergency Manager/Fire Chief
City of Chaska	Zack Bonnema	Deputy Emergency Manager/Asst. Chief
City of Chaska	Taylor Hubbard	Mayor
City of Chaska	Matt Podhradsky	City Administrator
City of Chaska	Elise Durbin	Assistant City Administrator
City of Chaska	Ryan Seibert	Police Chief
City of Chaska	Brian Jung	Public Works Director
City of Cologne	Chad Vos	Fire Chief
City of Cologne	Matt Lein	Emergency Manager/Mayor
City of Cologne	Michelle Morrison	City Administrator
City of Hamburg	Steven Siewert	Fire Chief
City of Hamburg	Mark Plants	Emergency Manager/Fire Chief 2
City of Hamburg	Christopher Lund	Mayor
City of Hamburg	Jeremy Gruenhagen	City Administrator
City of Mayer	Andy Maetzold	Emergency Manager/Fire Chief
City of Mayer	Mike Dodge	Mayor
City of Mayer	Nicholas Johnson	City Administrator
City of Mayer	Janell Gildemeister	City Clerk
City of New Germany	Ryan Goede	Emergency Manager/Fire Chief
City of New Germany	Shirley Jaeger	Mayor
City of New Germany	Twyla Menth	City Clerk
City of Norwood Young America	Scott Blom	Emergency Manager/Fire Chief
City of Norwood Young America	Connor Smith	Mayor
City of Norwood Young America	Andrea Aukrust	City Administrator
City of Norwood Young America	Mitchell Thiesfeld	City Clerk
City of Victoria	Trenton Klos	Emergency Manager/Fire Chief
City of Victoria	Deb McMillan	Mayor
City of Victoria	Dana Hardie	City Manager
City of Victoria	Claudia Ettesvold	City Clerk
City of Waconia	Justin Sorenson	Emergency Manager/Fire Chief
City of Waconia	Jackie Schulze	Assistant City Administrator
City of Waconia	Nicole Waldron	Mayor
City of Waconia	Shane Fineran	City Administrator
City of Watertown	Tom Hanson	Emergency Manager/Fire Chief
City of Watertown	Michael Walters	Mayor
City of Watertown	Dan Tolsma	City Administrator
City of Watertown	Maggie Reisdorf	City Clerk
Benton Township	Chris Commers	Township Clerk
Camden Township	Kayla Coil	Township Clerk
Dahlgren Township	Mary Olson	Township Clerk
Hancock Township	Tamara Ekstrom	Township Clerk
Hollywood Township	Pam Henry-Neaton	Township Clerk

Laketown Township	Leanne Kunze	Township Clerk
San Francisco Township	Heidi Schmidt	Township Clerk
Waconia Township	Sue Goede	Township Clerk
Watertown Township	Wayne Hubin	Township Clerk
Young American Township	Alan Hermann	Township Clerk
LOCAL & REGIONAL AGENCIES INVOLVED IN HAZARD MITIGATION		
MN HSEM	Jon Dotterer	Region 6 Regional Program Coordinator
Carver County Soil & Water Conservation	Mike Wanous	District Manager
MN DNR Ecological & Water Resources Division	Wes Saunders-Pearce	Region 3 Metro North Area Hydrologist
MnDOT Metro District	Khani Sahebjam	District Engineer
BUSINESSES, ACADEMIA, AND OTHER PRIVATE ORGS.		
Electric Coop - Minnesota Valley	Joe Green	Community Relations Manager
Electric Coop - Mcleod Power	Emerson Brady	Operations Manager
Electric Coop - Wright - Hennepin Electric	Lee Nordby	Operations Director
Electric Coop - Chaska Utilities	Pete Wyffels	Electric Director
School District - Eastern Carver District 112	Celi Haga	Chief of Staff and Executive Director of Strategic Communications
School District - Eastern Carver District 112	Erin Rathke	Superintendent
School District - Central District 108	Tim Schochenmaier	Superintendent
School District - Waconia District 110	Brian Gersich	Superintendent
School District - Watertown Mayer District 111	Darren Schuler	Superintendent
School District - Eastern Carver District 112	Matthew Haga	Director of Technology, Safety, Security
School - Holy Familty Catholic	Michael Brennan	President
School - Southwest Christian	Dan Beckering	Head of School
School - Mayer Lutheran High School	Joel Landskroener	Executive Director
School - Southwest Metro Intermediate	Darren Kermes	Superintendent
Crown College	Seth Royston	Security Manager
NONPROFIT ORGS/COMMUNITY-BASED ORGS THAT WORK WITH UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES AND SOCIALLY VULNERABLE POPULATIONS		
American Red Cross	Morgan Sommers	Disaster Program Manager
American Red Cross	Rachel Sullivan- Nightengale	Chapter Government Operations Coord.
Salvation Army (MN/ND)	Major Michele Heaver	Division Disaster Services
Greater Twin Cities United Way	Nicole Weiler	Senior Program Manager
Families Moving Forward	Vang Yang	Housing and Shelter Case Manager
MRCI	Nate Lotton	Director of Employment Services
Gather & Grow Food Shelf	Angie Cruzen	Executive Director
Bountiful Basket Food Shelf	Patti Sinykin	Executive Director
His House Foundation	Martha Brannon	Executive Director

Latino Voices		
Mi CASA	Mary Hernandez	Executive Director
A Better Society	Heather Tran	Executive Director
The Humanity Alliance	Greg Pavett	Executive Director
A.C.T United	Jessica Bartholomew	Executive Director
Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative	Rebekah Schneider	Service Contract Manager
CAP Agency	Jeff Hanson	Executive Director
Southern Valley Alliance	Christie Larson	Executive Director
Chaska Treehouse	Tyler Sotebeer	Director of Adult Ministries
Hope House/180 Degrees	Charles Hallman	Senior Manager
Love Inc.	Al Norby	Executive Director
The Rak	Dan Turzinski	Executive Director
River Valley Health Services	Richard Scott	Board Chair
myHealth for Teens & Young Adults Clinic	Connie Robertson	Director of Clinics
NEIGHBORING JURISDICTIONS		
Hennepin County Emergency Management	Eric Waage	Emergency Management Director
Scott County Emergency Management	Scott Haas	Emergency Management Director
Sibley County Emergency Management	Andrew Hayden	Emergency Management Director
McLeod County Emergency Management	Casey Stotts	Emergency Management Director
Wright County Emergency Management	Seth Hansen	Emergency Management Director

From: [Alyssa Martinson](#)
To: [Brian Sloat](#); [Jason Kamerud](#); [Patrick Barry](#); [Dave Hemze](#); [Tom Workman](#); [Matthew Udermann](#); [Tim Lynch](#); [John P. Fahey](#); [Shelby Sovell](#); [Lyndon Robient](#); [Brad Hanzel](#); [Peter Henschel](#); [Chad Riley](#); [Craig Prislant](#); [Ryan Johnson](#); [Paul Moline](#); [Kristen Larson](#); [Jason Mielke](#); [Martin Walsh](#); [Heather Goodwin](#); [Richard Scott](#); [Samantha Downs](#); [Sharon Heath](#); [Sonja Wolter](#); [Dave Hemze](#); [ctrimbo@cityofcarver.com](#); [cjohnson@cityofcarver.com](#); [bmareck@cityofcarver.com](#); [ltschudi@cityofcarver.com](#); [vsonseiden@cityofcarver.com](#); [Heger, Andrew](#); [eryan@chanhassenmn.gov](#); [lhokkanen@chanhassenmn.gov](#); [jpotter@chanhassenmn.gov](#); [Stephen Kraus](#); [zbonnema@chaskamn.gov](#); [thubbard@chaskamn.gov](#); [matt@chaskamn.gov](#); [edurbin@chaskamn.gov](#); [rseibert@chaskamn.gov](#); [bjung@chaskamn.gov](#); [colognefireadmin@ci.cologne.mn.us](#); [mattl@colognemn.com](#); [michellem@colognemn.com](#); [chief1@cityofhamburgmn.com](#); [chief2@cityofhamburgmn.com](#); [clund@cityofhamburgmn.com](#); [Jeremy Gruenhagen](#); [fire@cityofmayer.com](#); [cityadmin@cityofmayer.com](#); [cityadmin@cityofmayer.com](#); [Janell Gildemeister](#); [newgermanyfirechief@gmail.com](#); [Twyla Menth](#); [Twyla Menth](#); [firechief@cityofnva.com](#); [connor.smith@nyacouncil.com](#); [cityadmin@cityofnva.com](#); [info@cityofnva.com](#); [tklos@victoriamn.gov](#); [dmcmillan@victoriamn.gov](#); [dhardie@victoriamn.gov](#); [cettesvold@victoriamn.gov](#); [jsorensen@waconia.org](#); [jschulze@waconia.org](#); [nwaldron@waconia.org](#); [sfineran@waconia.org](#); [thanson@watertownmn.gov](#); [mwalters@watertownmn.gov](#); [dtolsma@watertownmn.gov](#); [mreisdorf@watertownmn.gov](#); [commeresc@gmail.com](#); [Camdentownship@yahoo.com](#); [clerk@dahlgrentownship.com](#); [tamara ekstrom](#); [Pam Henry-Neaton](#); [leanne@laketownmn.gov](#); [Heidi Schmidt](#); [1goose@frontiernet.net](#); [Watertown Township](#); [Alan Herrmann](#); [Jon.Dotterer@state.mn.us](#); [Mike Wanous](#); [Wes.Saunders-Pearce@state.mn.us](#); [khani.sahebjam@state.mn.us](#); [JoeG@MVEC.net](#); [ebrady@McLeodcoop.com](#); [lnordby@whe.org](#); [pwffels@chaskamn.gov](#); [hagac@district112.org](#); [rathkee@district112.org](#); [tschochenmaier@central.k12.mn.us](#); [bgersich@isd110.org](#); [darren.schuler@wm.k12.mn.us](#); [hagaM@district112.org](#); [brennanm@hfchs.org](#); [d_beckering@swchs.org](#); [joel.landskroener@mayerlutheran.org](#); [dkermes@swmetro.k12.mn.us](#); [roystons@crown.edu](#); [morgan.sommers@redcross.org](#); [rachel.sullivan@redcross.org](#); [michele.heaver@usc.salvationarmy.org](#); [Nicole Weiler](#); [nloten@mymrci.org](#); [angiecruzen@waconiafoodshelf.org](#); [patti@bountifulbasketfoodshelf.org](#); [hhfresourcecenter@gmail.com](#); [latinovoicesofminnesota@gmail.com](#); [maryhndz@micasamn.org](#); [Heather Tran](#); [gpavett@humanityalliance.org](#); [jessica@actunited.org](#); [rschneider@beaconinterfaith.org](#); [jhansen@capagency.org](#); [christielealarson@gmail.com](#); [tyler@chaskatreehouse.org](#); [Charles.hallman@180degrees.org](#); [anorby@loveinccc.org](#); [Dan Turzinski](#); [Richard Scott](#); [connieR@MyHealthMN.org](#); [eric.waage@co.hennepin.mn.us](#); [shaas@co.scott.mn.us](#); [andrewh@co.sibley.mn.us](#); [casey.stotts@mcLeodcountymn.gov](#); [seth.hansen](#)
Cc: [Benjamin Rutter](#); [Bonnie K Hundrieser](#); [Stacey Stark](#)
Subject: Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan - 2nd Meeting
Date: Thursday, September 18, 2025 7:41:04 AM

Greetings,

Your presence is requested at the **2nd Planning Team Meeting** for the update of the **Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP)**. You are requested to participate in this vital meeting because you have a position of administrative or departmental responsibility within either the county, a municipal government, or are a key stakeholder related to the planning process. Emergency Managers from neighboring jurisdictions are also encouraged to attend so we may strengthen our shared mitigation efforts. This meeting will be the final planning meeting for the HMP update process.

We will be holding the meeting virtually using Zoom webinar:

Date: Wednesday, October 8, 2025
Time: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
Register: [Control+Click here to follow to link to register for the meeting](#)

The purpose of this meeting is to provide an overview of the plan and interactive website, including a review of the updated risk assessment for natural hazards that affect the county. We will also discuss the Mitigation Action Charts that will be specific to Carver County and each city, as well as funding opportunities available under the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant programs.

Your participation in this meeting and feedback on the draft plan is important to us. The draft Carver County HMP is nearing completion and will be ready for review by planning team members and the public in the coming weeks.

When you register, you will automatically be placed on an RSVP list. If you are not able to attend, please consider sending another representative in your stead.

Thank you,

Alyssa Martinson | Emergency Management Specialist | Carver County Sheriff's Office

606 East 4th Street, Chaska, MN 55318 | C: 612.206.5013 | O: 952.361.1249

Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2025 Planning Team Meeting #2

October 8, 2025



U-SPATIAL

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA DULUTH
Driven to Discover

Welcome & Introductions

U-Spatial@UMD Project Leads



Stacey Stark
Project Manager
U-Spatial



Jane Lindelof
Project Coordinator, U-Spatial



Bonnie Hundrieser
HM Planning Specialist
Hundrieser Consulting LLC

Carver County Project Lead

- Ben Rutter, Carver County Emergency Management Director
- Alyssa Martinson, EM Specialist



Please type your name and representation in the CHAT so others know who is here

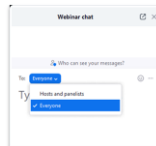
PRESENTER: JANE LINDELOF

Zoom Logistics

PLEASE REMAIN MUTED AND VIDEO OFF SO EVERYONE CAN HAVE THE BEST EXPERIENCE.

USE CHAT:

- Send a message to everyone
- Send a message to individuals or
- Send a message to host to ask for help or ask a question that isn't for the whole group. The host is Stacey Stark



ASK TO SPEAK:



PRESENTER: JANE LINDELOF

Meeting Purpose & Agenda



This meeting formally convenes the **Carver County HMP Planning Team** for a presentation on the draft plan and discussion of key items prior to public review and submission of the plan to HSEM and FEMA.

Agenda

- Recap of Key HMP Points
- Preview of Deliverables
- Review of Risk Assessment & Vulnerability Analysis in Website
- Overview of FEMA HMA Funding and Mitigation Action Charts
- Review & Feedback
- Next Steps

PRESENTER: JANE LINDELOF

Overview of Plan Update

Carver County is updating its **Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP)** to fulfill a state & federal requirement. The plan must be updated every 5 years. The last plan was adopted in 2019.

The purpose of the plan is to identify & assess natural hazards that pose risk to the county and its jurisdictions and **develop long-term strategies and mitigation actions** that will help to reduce or eliminate the impact of future hazard or disaster events.



Hazard Mitigation is any action taken to reduce or eliminate long term risk to people and property from natural disasters.

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Who the Plan Covers

This is a **multi-jurisdictional plan** that covers Carver County, including all cities and townships within the county.

The plan also takes into consideration the needs and concerns of other stakeholders such as schools, watershed districts, and agencies or organizations involved in mitigation or services to vulnerable populations within the county.



PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Stakeholder Involvement



Planning Team

- County and local government, neighboring jurisdictions, and related agencies or organizations.
- Participation in planning team meetings, public outreach, local mitigation survey, provision of spatial or other data, and review of draft plan.

The Public

- Opportunity to learn about the plan and provide feedback on local-level concerns, mitigation ideas, and review of draft plan.

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

PDF document:

- All FEMA required elements
- Limited figures & images
- Integrated links to website
- Local mitigation surveys
- Plans & programs in place
- Past mitigation action review
- Planning team meetings
- Outreach & engagement documentation



- Risk and vulnerability of each hazard
- Mitigation actions!

Both formats

Deliverables



Website companion:

- Links to PDF components
- Interactive maps and context
- Critical infrastructure and assets
- Simple, concise explanations
- Public input form on site

PRESENTER: JANE LINDELOF

Prioritization of Hazards for Carver County

NATURAL HAZARDS

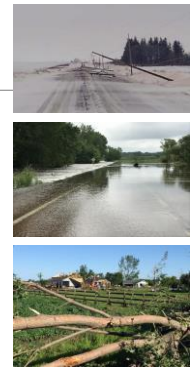
- Probability and Severity of natural hazard events (risk)
- Observed increase or decrease in risk since last plan
- Jurisdictional variations in risk (i.e., local vulnerabilities, changes in development)

Natural Hazards	Current Priority
Flooding	High
Winter Storms	High
Windstorms	High
Tornadoes	High
Hailstorms	Moderate
Extreme Cold	Moderate
Extreme Heat	Moderate
Drought	Moderate
Wildfire	Low
Landslides	Low
Lightning	Low
Dam Failure	Low

PRESENTER: JANE LINDELOF

Hazards Risk Assessment

- Validates the prioritization of hazards
- Provides probability and severity of future events as possible
- Identifies vulnerable populations and structures at risk as possible
- Considers variable geographic vulnerability
- Informs Mitigation Actions in the HMP



PRESENTER: JANE LINDELOF

Website Demo

Under Development:
z.umn.edu/CarverHMP

PRESENTER: JANE LINDELOF

Comments and Questions?

PRESENTER: JANE LINDELOF

Overview of Mitigation Action Charts



Mitigation Action Charts are the end product of the HMP.

They demonstrate a community's 5-year plan to:

- Reduce future risk to natural hazard events.
- Address local vulnerabilities through targeted activities.
- Utilize local capabilities to implement actions.



Eligible FEMA HMA grant activities must be identified in the plan of action.

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Carver County					Mitigation Action Chart	
#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Possible Funding
18	Severe Winter Storms	Local Planning & Regulations	Implement snow removal and ice control to ensure the safety of county roads impacted by winter storms.	Existing High 2008-2031	CC Public Works Dept.	Internal: CC Public Works Dept. budget
19	Severe Summer Storms	Education & Awareness Programs	Work with the National Weather Service (NWS) to provide disaster training and develop a network of trained Storm Spotters throughout the county.	Existing High 2008-2031	CCEM in coord with NWS	Internal: NWS
20	Severe Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure outdoor warning sirens are located where needed and functioning properly.	Existing High 2008-2031	CCEM in coord with local jurisdictions	Internal: CCEM Dept. budget External: FEMA EDRP, Local Govt Funding, FEMA HMAF

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

City of Cologne					Mitigation Action Chart	
#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Possible Funding
6	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Trim trees near power lines and work with our local utility to convert overhead power line to underground to reduce the risk of power outages from severe storms.	Existing Moderate 2008-2031	City Public Works Dept.	Internal: City Gov. Operating Budget External: Xcel Energy
7	Severe Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure that the city's outdoor warning sirens are maintained and functioning.	Existing High 2008-2031	City ERM	Internal: City Gov. Operating Budget
8	Severe Summer Storms	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of severe windstorms and tornado weather, to understand warning siren alerts, and to be prepared with personal evacuation or shelter plans.	Existing High 2008-2031	City Admin / City ERM	Internal: City Gov. Operating Budget
9	Extreme Temperatures Heat/Cold	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Be prepared to provide emergency sheltering to vulnerable residents during periods of extreme heat or cold temperatures.	Existing High 2008-2031	City Admin, City ERM	Internal: City Gov. Operating Budget
10	Flooding	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work to address flood mitigation measures that help the city to handle future high rain events.	Existing High 2008-2031	City Public Works Dept.	Internal: PW Dept. Budget External: MVA, FEMA, other possible sources TBD

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

"Previous Integration of HMP"



In addition to jurisdictional review of local mitigation action charts:

- Participating jurisdictions (county and cities) must provide a description of how the past HMP was integrated into other planning mechanisms.
- If information from the prior HMP was not integrated, this just be stated (and if possible, why).

What are "Planning Mechanisms"?

- Plans, Policies, Ordinances
- Public Education & Outreach
- Implementation of projects (i.e., warning sirens, flood mitigation, installation of generators)
- Other EM related programs or projects (i.e., shelter planning)
- County and partner coordination

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

FEMA Mitigation Grant Funding



Example Section 404 activities:

- Property Acquisition
- Tornado Safe Rooms
- Bury Overhead Powerlines
- Wildfire Mitigation
- Soil Stabilization
- Flood Risk Reduction
- Green Infrastructure
- Other projects difficult to conduct a standard BCA (i.e., tornado warning sirens, generators for critical facilities)

Section 406

Available after a disaster occurs. Focuses on mitigation measures for facilities that have actually been damaged in a particular disaster.

Section 404

Requires an approved & adopted HMP. Funds mitigation projects for both damaged and non-damaged facilities. Several different grant programs.

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Strategy #1 - Local Planning & Regulations



Carver County Examples:

- Enforcement of ordinances that reduce impacts of high rain events (Floodplain, Shoreland)
- Participation in regional watershed planning with SWCD and area WD's (1W1P).
- Establishing of watering restrictions during periods of extreme drought.
- Enforcement of state or local regulations for new development.



PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Strategy #2 - Structure & Infrastructure Projects

Carver County Examples:

- Installation of new outdoor warning sirens
- Construction of tornado safe rooms (Mobile Home Parks, Schools, i.e., Mayer Lutheran High School)
- Burying powerlines to reduce power failure
- Conducting property buyouts for flooding
- Stormwater management improvements (culvert replacements, Wastewater pond capacity – New Germany)
- Road and bridge improvements



PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Strategy #3 - Natural Systems Protection

Carver County Examples:

- Conduct vegetation management along roads to reduce the risk of downed trees and branches resulting from heavy snow, ice, or high winds.
- Riverpointe Shore Stabilization Project (City of Watertown)
- Other examples:
 - Planting Living Snow Fences to reduce snow drifting
 - Installing Rain Gardens to reduce impacts of high rain events



PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Strategy #4 - Education & Awareness Programs

Carver County Examples:

- Promoting sign-up for the county's emergency notification system.
- Encouraging residents to be aware of and prepared for severe weather events, extreme temperatures, wildfire risk, and extended power outages.
- Sharing information across platforms – county and city websites & social media, community bulletin boards, local newspapers, public meetings, or other in-person events.



PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Strategy #5 - Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support

Carver County Examples:

- Obtaining generators for backup power
- Update of county EOP
- Plan for temporary warming/cooling facilities
- Planning assistance to schools and LTC Facilities for vulnerable populations
- Testing of outdoor warning sirens.
- Participation in regional EM planning, training, and exercising



PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Comments and Questions?



Review of Draft Plan and Public Review & Comment Period



October, 2025

Following Planning Team Mtg. #2

- Completion of City MAC reviews + description of "Previous Integration of Past HMP"
- Government review of draft plan
- Public review & comment period (News Release #2) – documentation of local postings

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER



Nov-Dec, 2025

Draft Plan Submission to HSEM & FEMA, Plan Approval, and Collection of Adopting Resolutions

- Draft plan will be submitted first to HSEM and then to FEMA for approval for meeting all Federal requirements.
- Typically requires 1-2 months.
- **FEMA "APA" letter**
- EM coordination of adopting resolutions and submission to HSEM.
- **Final FEMA approval letter**

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Questions?

What questions do you have for U-Spatial@UMD about the draft HMP or next steps ?

PRESENTER: JANE LINDELOF

Contact Information

Stacey Stark, MS, GISP

U-Spatial@UMD

slstark@d.umn.edu

218-726-7438

U-SPATIAL
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA DULUTH
Driven to Discover

Bonnie Hundrieser, HM Planner

Hundrieser Consulting LLC

hundrieserconsulting@outlook.com

218-343-3468


**HUNDRIESER
CONSULTING LLC**

PRESENTER: JANE LINDELOF

Appendix G – Public Outreach & Engagement Documentation

Carver County HMP News Release #1 Record of Public Input & Incorporation

Overview: On September 5, 2024 Carver County Emergency Management put out a news release titled “Public Input Wanted as Carver County Updates Hazard Mitigation Plan” to announce the start of the county’s Hazard Mitigation Plan. The news release provided information on the purpose and content of the plan, who the plan covers, stakeholders involved in the plan update and examples of hazard mitigation activities. Carver County used the news release to gather feedback from residents and businesses from across the county to incorporate into the plan, inviting feedback to the following:

- **What are the natural hazards you feel pose the greatest risk to your community?**
- **Are there specific populations or assets in your community that you feel are more vulnerable to future storm events?**
- **What concerns do you have, and what sorts of actions do you feel would help to reduce damages of future hazard events in your community or the county as a whole?**

The public was strongly encouraged contact Carver County Emergency Management to submit comments, concerns, or questions regarding natural disasters and potential mitigation actions to be included into the plan update process. The public was also able to post comments electronically on county or city Facebook sites where the news release was posted.

Distribution: The news release was sent via email to the county’s HMP Jurisdictional Contact List, which includes the names, titles, phone numbers, and email addresses of key stakeholders to be engaged in the HMP update, including county, city, and township contacts; other related agency and organizational stakeholder contacts, and neighboring jurisdiction contacts. (A copy of the Jurisdictional Contact List can be found in Appendix F). The news release was additionally sent to local media contacts with a request to carry the news release.

Postings: Attached is documentation of the news release postings by Carver County, participating jurisdictions, local media, and other stakeholders. Cities and townships were encouraged to help share the news release locally by posting it on their websites, social media, or community bulletin boards.

Public Input & Incorporation:

Following is a record of public responses to the news release and how their input will be incorporated into the plan update, and if not relevant to be addressed, why.

10/10/24 City of Chaska Resident Email to Carver County Emergency Management

Hello, Please see my responses below.

- **What are the natural hazards you feel pose the greatest risk to your community?**

Flooding, drought, extreme heat, tornadoes - all climate change related impacts.

- Are there specific populations or assets in your community that you feel are more vulnerable to future storm events?

Aging infrastructure (e.g., water treatment plants, roads)

- What concerns do you have, and what sorts of actions do you feel would help to reduce damages of future hazard events in your community or the county as a whole?

Burying electric lines to minimize disruptions in power. Installing green infrastructure and renewable energy sources

Thank you,
Lauren Salvato
Chaska, MN

Incorporation: The Carver County HMP update will include working with each city jurisdiction to identify local vulnerabilities to severe weather events and responding mitigation actions to help reduce risk. This information provided will be shared with the City of Chaska as part of this process.

10/16/24 Email inquiry from Molly Koivumaki molly@beyondnewbeginnings.org

Hello, I am in the process of writing an Emergency Operations Manual for my organization. I understand the County's HMP is currently being updated, according to an October 4, 2024, article in the City of Chaska News. When do you expect the update will be completed and available for public viewing? I was interested in the Risk Assessment piece that is in the HMP doc. It will be interesting to see the update.

Thank you,
Molly Koivumaki (she/her)
Executive Director
Beyond New Beginnings

10/16/24 Return Email from Carver County Emergency Management

Hi Molly,

Thanks for reaching out. My Carver is Alyssa and I work with Deb at Carver County Emergency Management. You are correct that the County's HMP is currently being updated. The HMP is different from an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) as its focus is mitigating natural disasters and prevention. An EOP would be response focused. So, it may not provide you with the information that you need to write an Emergency Operations Manual.

The HMP will be available for public viewing during 3rd quarter, 2025. Please feel free to reach out with any additional questions!

Thank you,

Alyssa Martinson | Emergency Management Specialist | Carver County Sheriff's Office
606 East 4th Street, Chaska, MN 55318 | C: 612.206.5013 | O: 952.361.1249

From: [Debra Paige](#)
To: [Jason Kamerud](#); [Patrick Barry](#); [Dave Hemze](#); [Gayle Degler](#); [Tom Workman](#); [Matthew Udermann](#); [Tim Lynch](#); [John P. Fahey](#); [Shelby Sovell](#); [Lyndon Robient](#); [Brad Hanzel](#); [Peter Henschel](#); [Chad Riley](#); [Craig Prislant](#); [Ryan Johnson](#); [Paul Moline](#); [Jason Mielke](#); [Martin Walsh](#); [Heather Goodwin](#); [Richard Scott](#); [Samantha Downs](#); [Sharon Heath](#); [Sonja Wolter](#); [Dave Hemze](#); [ctrimbo@cityofcarver.com](#); [cjohnson@cityofcarver.com](#); [bmareck@cityofcarver.com](#); [cshell@cityofcarver.com](#); [Vicky Sons-Eiden](#); [aheger@chanhassenmn.gov](#); [eryan@chanhassenmn.gov](#); [lhokkanen@chanhassenmn.gov](#); [jpotter@chanhassenmn.gov](#); [skraus@chaskamn.gov](#); [mwindschitl@chaskamn.gov](#); [matt@chaskamn.gov](#); [rseibert@chaskamn.gov](#); [bjung@chaskamn.gov](#); [colognefireadmin@ci.cologne.mn.us](#); [mattl@colognemn.com](#); [michellem@colognemn.com](#); [chief1@cityofhamburgmn.com](#); [chief2@cityofhamburgmn.com](#); [clund@cityofhamburgmn.com](#); [Jeremy Gruenhagen](#); [fire@cityofmayer.com](#); [cityadmin@cityofmayer.com](#); [cityadmin@cityofmayer.com](#); [Janell Gildemeister](#); [newgermanyfirechief@gmail.com](#); [Twyla Menth](#); [Twyla Menth](#); [Steve Zumberge](#); [clagergren@nyacouncil.com](#); [cityadmin@cityofnva.com](#); [info@cityofnva.com](#); [tklos@ci.victoria.mn.us](#); [dmcmillan@ci.victoria.mn.us](#); [dhardie@ci.victoria.mn.us](#); [cettesvold@ci.victoria.mn.us](#); [jsorensen@waconia.org](#); [nwaldron@waconia.org](#); [sfineran@waconia.org](#); [thanson@watertownmn.gov](#); [mwalters@watertownmn.gov](#); [jfooster@watertownmn.gov](#); [mreisdorf@watertownmn.gov](#); [commeresc@gmail.com](#); [Lisa Goede](#); [clerk@dahlgrentownship.com](#); [tamara ekstrom](#); [Pam Henry-Neaton](#); [leanne@laketownmn.gov](#); [Heidi Schmidt](#); [1goose@frontiernet.net](#); [Watertown Township](#); [Alan Herrmann](#); [Jon.Dotterer@state.mn.us](#); [Mike Wanous](#); [Wes.Saunders-Pearce@state.mn.us](#); [khani.sahebjam@state.mn.us](#); [JoeG@MVEC.net](#); [ebrady@McLeodcoop.com](#); [lnordby@whe.org](#); [pwyffels@chaskamn.gov](#); [petersonjulie@district112.org](#); [rathkee@district112.org](#); [tschochenmaier@central.k12.mn.us](#); [bgersich@isd110.org](#); [darren.schuler@wm.k12.mn.us](#); [hagaM@district112.org](#); [brennanm@hfchs.org](#); [d_beckering@swchs.org](#); [joel.landskroener@mayerlutheran.org](#); [dkermes@swmetro.k12.mn.us](#); [roystons@crown.edu](#); [morgan.sommers@redcross.org](#); [rachel.sullivannight@redcross.org](#); [michele.heaver@usc.salvationarmy.org](#); [Nicole.Weiler@gtcuw.org](#); [vyanf@beaconinterfaith.org](#); [nloten@mymrci.org](#); [angiecruzen@waconiafoodshelf.org](#); [patti@bountifulbasketfoodshelf.org](#); [hhfresourcecenter@gmail.com](#); [latinvoicesofminnesota@gmail.com](#); [maryhndz@micasamn.org](#); [Heather Tran](#); [gpavett@humanityalliance.org](#); [jessica@actunited.org](#); [rschneider@beaconinterfaith.org](#); [jhansen@capagency.org](#); [christielealarson@gmail.com](#); [tyler@chaskatreehouse.org](#); [Charles.hallman@180degrees.org](#); [anorby@loveinccc.org](#); [Dan Turzinski](#); [Richard Scott](#); [connieR@MyHealthMN.org](#); [eric.waage@co.hennepin.mn.us](#); [shaas@co.scott.mn.us](#); [andrewh@co.sibley.mn.us](#); [casey.stotts@mcLeodcountymn.gov](#); [seth.hansen@co.wright.mn.us](#); [Terry.stoltzman@anokacountymn.gov](#)
Cc: [Bonnie K Hundrieser](#); [Kate Miner](#); [Arianna Lyksett](#)
Subject: Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan News Release #1
Date: Thursday, September 5, 2024 4:28:26 PM
Attachments: [Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update News Release #1.docx](#)
[Press Release 952024.msg](#)
[Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update News Release #1.pdf](#)

Greetings,

Carver County Emergency Management is commencing work on the update of the Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). Attached is a news release (Word/PDF formats) for your information. I also attached the email with the Carver County Sheriff's Office News Release.

Your assistance is requested to please also post this news release to help notify the public about the plan update and to have an opportunity to provide feedback. If you have a website and/or Facebook page we encourage you to post the news release electronically (for about 2-4 weeks) to those places. You may also post a hardcopy of the news release in locations that are common to the public, such as City Hall. We welcome as many of ways of posting that you can cover. As part of the plan update, we must document the public outreach that was conducted.

For FEMA documentation requirements, please send me an email letting me know when and where you posted the news release. Again, if you have a city website or social media such as Facebook, please post to those locations. You are also encouraged to post printed hardcopies in areas such as at City Hall, the Post Office, a local Community Center, or Senior Center, etc. Publications could be posted for about 2-4 weeks. Outreach to the public should be done in as many ways as you can to reach a wide audience.

-

All city governments within the county are requested to participate in order to meet FEMA requirements. Townships, businesses, and other agencies or organizations are also strongly encouraged to participate.

If you receive any return public comments, please notify me so we may document this and incorporate this feedback into the plan update.

The timely return of your posting documentation within the **next 7 days** is appreciated.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you!

Sincerely,
Deb

Deb Paige | Emergency Management Director

Carver County Sheriff's Office

606 E. 4th St., Chaska, MN 55318

emergencymanagement@carvercountymn.gov

O: 952.361.1292

From: [Kate Miner](#)
To: [Sheriff-Media](#)
Subject: Press Release 9/5/2024
Date: Thursday, September 5, 2024 3:08:03 PM
Attachments: [2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update.pdf](#)

Please see the attached Press Release asking for input on updates to the Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Kate Miner
Administrative Services Manager
Carver County Sheriff's Office
606 E. 4th Street, Chaska, MN 55318
Office: 952.361.1065 | Email: kminer@carvercountymn.gov



Press Release

Date: 09/05/2024

Time: 3:15 PM

Original

AGENCY: CARVER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SHERIFF: JASON KAMERUD *602kem*

CLASSIFICATION: INPUT WANTED - HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

LOCATIONS: COUNTY WIDE

TELEPHONE: 952-361-1212

Public Input Wanted as Carver County Updates Hazard Mitigation Plan

Carver County residents, community leaders, business owners, area agencies and organizations now have an opportunity to share how severe weather events impact their property and lives. There is also an opportunity to share their ideas on how to reduce local impacts in the future.

The Carver County Office of Emergency Management is working with U-Spatial at the University of Minnesota Duluth to update the county's Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). The plan assesses the natural hazards that pose risk to the county, such as tornadoes, straight line winds, ice storms, blizzards, wildfire, flooding, and extreme temperatures and identifies ways to minimize the damage of future events. As the county works to update the plan, it wants to hear from the public.

The Carver County HMP is a multi-jurisdictional plan that covers Carver County, including all cities and townships within the county. The Carver County HMP also incorporates the concerns and needs of school districts, watershed districts, and other related agencies, organizations, or businesses participating in the planning process. The plan will be updated by a planning team made up of representatives from county departments, local municipalities, and other key stakeholders. When completed, the plan will be submitted to the Minnesota Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for approval.

"Hazard mitigation planning is a central part of our emergency management program," said Deb Paige, Carver County Emergency Management Director. "Understanding the natural hazards that can cause

If you need assistance from police, fire, or medical personnel call 9-1-1. Anyone with information related to an incident or crime is asked to contact the Carver County Sheriff's Office at 952-361-1212. After hours, call 952-361-1231.

To remain anonymous, you may leave a message on the tip line: 952-361-1224. You may also use the tip form on the Sheriff's Office website at: <http://www.co.carver.mn.us/departments/county-sheriff/crime-prevention/crime-tips>

serious impact to our communities and taking action to reduce or eliminate the impact of future disasters makes us more resilient. Hazard mitigation helps us to break the cycle of damage and repair caused by things like flooding, ice storms, and severe wind events that can damage property, stress economies, and threaten life safety in our county.”

Examples of hazard mitigation include:

- Conducting public outreach on severe weather awareness and preparedness
- Improving stormwater management systems to better handle high-rain events
- Removing existing buildings from flood or erosion prone hazard areas
- Increasing defensible space around homes in high-risk wildfire areas
- Constructing tornado safe rooms in vulnerable areas such as mobile home parks
- Burying overhead powerlines that may fail due to heavy snow, ice, or windstorms

Some mitigation activities may be eligible for future FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant funding.

Public input is an essential part of the plan update. As part of the planning process, Carver County is seeking feedback from residents and businesses to incorporate into the plan. Your input will be recorded and incorporated into the planning process:

- **What are the natural hazards you feel pose the greatest risk to your community?**
- **Are there specific populations or assets in your community that you feel are more vulnerable to future storm events?**
- **What concerns do you have, and what sorts of actions do you feel would help to reduce damages of future hazard events in your community or the county as a whole?**

Your feedback is wanted. Comments, concerns, or questions regarding natural disasters and your ideas for mitigation projects should be submitted to Carver County Emergency Management by phone, email, or by posting a comment via a social media posting of this article.

There will be additional opportunities for public feedback throughout the planning process. A draft of the plan will be made available for public review prior to submission of the plan to the State of Minnesota. Future news releases will be shared with the media to notify the public of these opportunities.

The Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) requires counties to update their plan every 5 years to maintain eligibility for FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant programs.

Contact

Deb Paige

Carver County Emergency Management Director

952-361-1292

emergencymanagement@carvercountymn.gov

If you need assistance from police, fire, or medical personnel call 9-1-1. Anyone with information related to an incident or crime is asked to contact the Carver County Sheriff’s Office at 952-361-1212. After hours, call 952-361-1231.

To remain anonymous, you may leave a message on the tip line: 952-361-1224. You may also use the tip form on the Sheriff’s Office website at: <http://www.co.carver.mn.us/departments/county-sheriff/crime-prevention/crime-tips>

Carver County HMP News Release #1 (9/5/24)
Chart Documentation of News Release Postings

Jurisdiction or Agency	Posting Representative (name and title)	Date & Location of News Release Posting
Carver County	- Kate Miner – Administrative Svs. Mgr – Sheriff's Office - Arianna Lyksett – Chief Communications Officer – Carver County - Jean Pierson – Public Health Specialist	9/5/24 - 9/6/24 Carver County Sheriff's website, social media FB and Instagram pages; also sent to local media list Carver County news website, Carver County Social Media FB page Carver County Public Health social media FB page
City of Carver	Natalie Meyer – Community Development, City of Carver	9/19/24 - Posted to City of Carver website
City of Chanhassen	Andrew Heger – Fire Chief, City of Chanhassen	9/5/24 - The news release has been posted in the news section of the City of Chanhassen's website. The post will remain for the next four weeks.
City of Chaska	Zack Bonnema – Deputy EM/Assistant Fire Chief, City of Chaska	10/4/2024 - Post to the City of Chaska Facebook.
City of Cologne	- Michelle Morrison – City Administrator/City Clerk - Jenna McInnis – Utility Billing/Admin/Events	9/26/24 - Posted on the City of Cologne website on the main page and under public notices.
City of Hamburg	Jeremy Gruenhagen, City Clerk-Treasurer, City of Hamburg	9/19/24 - Posted at Hamburg City Hall, FB page, and City of Hamburg website.
City of Mayer	Alicia Menzel, City Clerk, City of Mayer	9/23/24 - Posted to Mayer website and also to bulletin board in City Hall.
City of New Germany	Twyla Menth, City Clerk/Treasurer, City of New Germany	9/23/2024 - Posted on city website.
City of Norwood Young America	Andrea Aukrust, City of Norwood Young America	9/30/2024 - Posted on city website.
City of Victoria	Dana Hardie – City Manager, City of Victoria	9/6/24 City of Victoria website, FB, Instagram
City of Waconia	Justin Sorensen – Fire Chief, City of Waconia	9/24/2024 - posted on website, City Hall, and at the Senior Center.
City of Watertown	Tom Hanson – Fire Chief, City of Watertown	9/10/24 Posted on City of Watertown website and city FB page, physical copy on City Hall Bulletin Board.

Dahlgren Township	Mary Olson – Township Clerk, Dahlgren Township	9/19/24 - Posted on Township website and on Township bulletin board. Also sent to resident email list.
Hollywood Township	Pam Henry-Neaton – Township Clerk, Hollywood Township	9/9/24 - Hollywood Township website
Laketown Township	Leanne Kunze – Township Clerk, Laketown Township	9/19/24 - Laketown Township website and posted on outdoor bulletin board.
San Francisco Township	Heidi Schmidt – Township Clerk, San Francisco Township	9/19/24 - Agenda item at Township Board meeting.
Watertown Township	Wayne Hubin, Township Clerk, Watertown Township	9/19/24 - Posting on outdoor bulletin board and township website.

Carver County HMP News Release #2

Record of Public Input & Incorporation

Overview: On November 12, 2025 Carver County Emergency Management put out a news release titled **“Public Comment Sought for County’s Hazard Mitigation Plan”** to announce the completion of the draft Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan and invitation for public review and comment. The news release informed jurisdictional stakeholders and the public that a copy of the draft plan, interactive website, and comment form for public feedback was available online with a website link. The public review period for the draft plan was open from 11/12/25 – 11/26/25 for a total of 15 days.

Distribution: The news release was sent via email to the county’s HMP Jurisdictional Contact List, which includes the names, titles, phone numbers, and email addresses of key stakeholders to be engaged in the HMP update, including County Contacts, City Contacts, Township Contacts, Other Stakeholder Contacts, and Neighboring Jurisdiction Contacts. The news release was additionally sent to local media contacts such as area newspapers, radio and television channels with a request to carry the news release.

Postings: Attached is documentation of the news release postings by Carver County, participating jurisdictions, and local media. Cities and townships were encouraged to help share the news release locally by posting it on their websites, social media, or community bulletin boards.

Public Input & Incorporation:

Following is a record of public responses to the Carver County news release and how the input will be incorporated into the plan update, and if not relevant to be addressed, why.

Public Input & Incorporation:

Following is a record of public responses to the Blue Earth County news release and how the input will be incorporated into the plan update, and if not relevant to be addressed, why.

- **There were no public comments submitted via the Carver County HMP website.**
- **No public input was received directly by Carver County Emergency Management or local jurisdictions.**

From: [Alyssa Martinson](#)
To: [Patrick Barry](#); [Kate Miner](#)
Cc: [Benjamin Rutter](#); [Bonnie K Hundrieser](#)
Subject: Carver County News Release HMP Public Review
Date: Thursday, November 13, 2025 9:29:15 AM
Attachments: [Carver County News Release HMP Public Review \(11-12-25\).docx](#)

Hi Pat,

The next step in our Hazard Mitigation Plan update is to send a press release notifying the public that there is a 15-day window for comments and review. I'm attaching a press release to this email.

Can you assist by approving and distributing? If anything needs to be edited, please let me know.

Thank you!

Alyssa Martinson | Emergency Management Specialist | Carver County Sheriff's Office

606 East 4th Street, Chaska, MN 55318 | C: 612.206.5013 | O: 952.361.1249

From: Alyssa Martinson <amartinson@carvercountymn.gov>

Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2025 11:58 AM

To: Tim Walsh <twalsh@cityofcarver.com>; Courtney Johnson <cjohnson@cityofcarver.com>; Brent Mareck <bmareck@cityofcarver.com>; Lynn Tschudi <ltschudi@cityofcarver.com>; Vicky Sons-Eiden <vsonseiden@cityofcarver.com>; Heger, Andrew <aheger@chanhassenmn.gov>; eryan@chanhassenmn.gov <eryan@chanhassenmn.gov>; Hokkanen, Laurie <lhokkanen@chanhassenmn.gov>; Potter, Jenny <jpotter@chanhassenmn.gov>; Stephen Kraus <skraus@chaskamn.gov>; Zack Bonnema <zbonnema@chaskamn.gov>; Thubbard@chaskamn.gov <Thubbard@chaskamn.gov>; matt@chaskamn.gov <matt@chaskamn.gov>; Elise Durbin <edurbin@chaskamn.gov>; rseibert@chaskamn.gov <rseibert@chaskamn.gov>; Brian Jung <bjung@chaskamn.gov>; Cologne Fire Admin <colognefireadmin@ci.cologne.mn.us>; mattl@colognemn.com <mattl@colognemn.com>; Michelle Morrison <michellem@colognemn.com>; Steven Siewert <chief1@cityofhamburgmn.com>; Nick Mackenthun <chief2@cityofhamburgmn.com>; clund@cityofhamburgmn.com <clund@cityofhamburgmn.com>; Jeremy Gruenhagen <cityadmin@cityofhamburgmn.com>; Mayer Fire Department <fire@cityofmayer.com>; Nick Johnson <cityadmin@cityofmayer.com>; Nick Johnson <cityadmin@cityofmayer.com>; Janell Gildemeister <janell.gildemeister@cityofmayer.com>; Ryan Goede <newgermanyfirechief@gmail.com>; Twyla Menth <ngcityhall@gmail.com>; Twyla Menth <ngcityhall@gmail.com>; Firechief@cityofnya.com <Firechief@cityofnya.com>; connor.smith@nyacouncil.com <connor.smith@nyacouncil.com>; Andrea Aukrust <cityadmin@cityofnya.com>; info@cityofnya.com <info@cityofnya.com>; tklos@victoriamn.gov <tklos@victoriamn.gov>; dmcmillan@victoriamn.gov <dmcmillan@victoriamn.gov>; dhardie@victoriamn.gov <dhardie@victoriamn.gov>; cettesvold@victoriamn.gov <cettesvold@victoriamn.gov>; Justin Sorensen <jsorensen@waconia.org>; jschulze@waconia.org <jschulze@waconia.org>; nwaldron@waconia.org <nwaldron@waconia.org>; Shane Fineran <sfineran@waconia.org>; Tom Hanson <thanson@watertownmn.gov>; mwalters@watertownmn.gov <mwalters@watertownmn.gov>; dtolsma@watertownmn.gov <dtolsma@watertownmn.gov>; commeresc@gmail.com <commeresc@gmail.com>; camdentownship@yahoo.com <camdentownship@yahoo.com>; clerk@dahlgrentownship.com <clerk@dahlgrentownship.com>; tamara ekstrom <Tjekstrom@yahoo.com>; Pam Henry-Neaton <Hollywoodtownship@hotmail.com>; Leanne Kunze <leanne@laketownmn.gov>; Heidi Schmidt <heidisft@gmail.com>; 1goose@frontiernet.net <1goose@frontiernet.net>; Watertown Township <watertowntownship@gmail.com>; Alan Herrmann <alanfherrmann@outlook.com>

Cc: Benjamin Rutter <brutter@carvercountymn.gov>; Benjamin Rutter <brutter@carvercountymn.gov>

Subject: Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan - News Release

Greetings,

The public review and comment period is now open for the Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan from Wednesday, November 12 to Wednesday, November 26th. This public review period is required prior to the plan being sent to FEMA for review. Your assistance is requested in sharing this information with the public.

Please note that the cities of Carver, Chanhassen, Chaska, Cologne, Hamburg, Mayer, New Germany, Norwood Young America, Victoria, Waconia, and Watertown are requested to please post this locally. Townships and other related stakeholders involved in the plan update are also encouraged to share the news release. As this is a 15-day review period, we ask that you attend to posting the release promptly.

From: [Alyssa Martinson](#)
To: [Lisa Anderson](#); [Tom Workman](#); [Matthew Udermann](#); [Tim Lynch](#); [John P. Fahey](#); [Shelby Sovell](#); [Lyndon Robient](#); [Brad Hanzel](#); [Peter Henschel](#); [Chad Riley](#); [Craig Prisland](#); [Ryan Johnson](#); [Paul Moline](#); [Kristen Larson](#); [Jason Mielke](#); [Martin Walsh](#); [Heather Goodwin](#); [Richard Scott](#); [Samantha Downs](#); [Sharon Heath](#); [Sonja Wolter](#); [Dave Hemze](#); [Dotterer, Jon \(DPS\)](#); [Mike Wanous](#); [Wes.Saunders-Pearce@state.mn.us](#); [khani.sahebiam@state.mn.us](#); [JoeG@MVEC.net](#); [ebrady@Mcleodcoop.com](#); [lnordby@whe.org](#); [electric@chaskamn.gov](#); [Haga, Celine](#); [Rathke, Erin](#); [tschochenmaier@central.k12.mn.us](#); [bgersich@isd110.org](#); [Schuler, Darren](#); [Haga, Matthew](#); [brennanm@hfchs.org](#); [d_beckering@swchs.org](#); [Joel Landskroener](#); [dkermes@swmetro.k12.mn.us](#); [roystons@crowns.edu](#); [Sommers, Morgan](#); [Sullivan-Nightengale, Rachel](#); [michele.heaver@usc.salvationarmy.org](#); [angiecruzen@waconiafoodshelf.org](#); [Patti Sinykin](#); [hhfresourcecenter@gmail.com](#); [latinovoicesofminnesota@gmail.com](#); [maryhndz@micasamn.org](#); [Heather Tran](#); [Greg Pavett](#); [jessica@actunited.org](#); [rschneider@beaconinterfaith.org](#); [jhansen@capagency.org](#); [christielealarson@gmail.com](#); [Charles.hallman@180degrees.org](#); [anorby@loveinccc.org](#); [Dan Turzinski](#); [Richard Scott](#); [connieR@MyHealthMN.org](#); [eric.waage@co.hennepin.mn.us](#); [Haas, Scott](#); [casey.stotts@mcleodcountymn.gov](#); [seth.hansen@co.wright.mn.us](#)
Cc: [Benjamin Rutter](#); [Bonnie K Hundrieser](#)
Subject: Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan - News Release
Date: Friday, November 14, 2025 10:41:24 AM
Attachments: [Carver County News Release HMP Public Review \(11-12-25\).docx](#)

Greetings,

The public review and comment period is now open for the Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan from Wednesday, November 12 to Wednesday, November 26th. This public review period is required prior to the plan being sent to FEMA for review. Your assistance is requested in sharing this information with the public.

Please note that the cities of Carver, Chanhassen, Chaska, Cologne, Hamburg, Mayer, New Germany, Norwood Young America, Victoria, Waconia, and Watertown are requested to please post this locally. **Townships and other related stakeholders involved in the plan update are also encouraged to share the news release.** As this is a 15-day review period, we ask that you attend to posting the release promptly.

Instructions:

- **Please post the attached news release to areas where you share information with the public (i.e., your website, social media, or community bulletin boards)**
- **Please email me to let me know the date and location(s) of where the news release was posted.**

There are website links as well as a QR code in the news release that will take you to the HMP website that includes a PDF of the plan and local mitigation action charts. There is an online feedback form to provide any comments, questions, or other feedback. If you have not already reviewed the plan during the government review period, you are strongly encouraged to do so.

Your prompt attention to this is appreciated. Please respond with your posting information.

Thank you for your assistance. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Alyssa Martinson | Emergency Management Specialist | Carver County Sheriff's Office

606 East 4th Street, Chaska, MN 55318 | C: 612.206.5013 | O: 952.361.1249



Press Release

Date: 11/13/2025

Time: 10:40 AM

Original

AGENCY: CARVER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SHERIFF: JASON KAMERUD *602kem*

CLASSIFICATION: INPUT WANTED - HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

LOCATIONS: COUNTY WIDE

TELEPHONE: 952-361-1212

Public Comment Sought for Carver County's Hazard Mitigation Plan

Carver County has completed an updated draft of its Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) and is now seeking public feedback. Like all Minnesota counties, Carver County is vulnerable to a variety of natural hazards such as tornadoes, windstorms, severe winter storms, flooding, drought, and extreme temperatures, which can threaten the loss of life and property in the county. Planning for natural disasters minimizes the impact of events that can cause vast economic loss and personal hardship.

All county residents, as well as other interested agency or organizational stakeholders are strongly encouraged to review and offer feedback on the interactive website, PDF of the draft plan, and proposed local mitigation actions. The review and comment period is open for a period of 15 days through November 26, 2025. The public can access the plan using the following hyperlinks:

[Carver County HMP Website Homepage](#) (feedback form at the bottom of page)

[Carver County Mitigation Action Charts](#) (feedback form at the bottom of page)

The Carver County HMP is a multi-jurisdictional plan that covers Carver County, including all cities and townships within the county. The Carver County HMP also incorporates the concerns and needs of other key stakeholders such as school districts and related agencies, organizations, or businesses participating in the planning process.

If you need assistance from police, fire, or medical personnel call 9-1-1. Anyone with information related to an incident or crime is asked to contact the Carver County Sheriff's Office at 952-361-1212. After hours, call 952-361-1231. To remain anonymous, you may leave a message on the tip line: 952-361-1224. You may also use the tip form on the Sheriff's Office website at: <http://www.co.carver.mn.us/departments/county-sheriff/crime-prevention/crime-tips>

Update of the plan has been under direction of Carver County Emergency Management in cooperation with U-Spatial at the University of Minnesota Duluth and representatives from county departments, city and township governments and other participating stakeholders. Together, the planning team worked to identify cost-effective and sustainable actions to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life or property from natural hazards. Examples include infrastructure projects for areas that experience repetitive flooding; construction of safe rooms in areas where residents and visitors are vulnerable to tornadoes and severe storm events; burying powerlines that may fail due to heavy snow, ice, or wind storms; ensuring timely emergency communication to the public through warning sirens and mass notification systems; and conducting outreach to increase public awareness of severe weather and personal preparedness.

Hazard mitigation planning helps Carver County and other jurisdictions protect their residents. Working with local communities through the process helps identify vulnerabilities and develop strategies to reduce or eliminate the effects of a potential hazard. In addition, increasing public awareness of natural disasters and encouraging personal preparedness helps to create a community that is resilient to disaster, and breaks the cycle of response and recovery. Updating the plan further allows Carver County and its jurisdictions to be eligible to apply for future FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant program funding for projects that help to reduce or eliminate the impacts of future natural hazard events.

Community feedback is vital to the success of the plan. Carver County invites public review and feedback of the draft plan prior to submitting it to the State of Minnesota and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for review. Feedback may be provided via the online comment forms or directly to Carver County Emergency Management.

Contact

Alyssa Martinson

Carver County Emergency Management Specialist

952-361-1249

amartinson@carvercountymn.gov

Please scan the following QR code to go directly to the Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan interactive website:



If you need assistance from police, fire, or medical personnel call 9-1-1. Anyone with information related to an incident or crime is asked to contact the Carver County Sheriff's Office at 952-361-1212. After hours, call 952-361-1231.

To remain anonymous, you may leave a message on the tip line: 952-361-1224. You may also use the tip form on the Sheriff's Office website at: <http://www.co.carver.mn.us/departments/county-sheriff/crime-prevention/crime-tips>

Carver County HMP News Release #2 (11/12/25)
Chart Documentation of News Release Postings

Jurisdiction or Agency	Posting Representative (name and title)	Date & Location of News Release Posting
Carver County	Patrick Barry (Chief Deputy) Alyssa Martinson (EM Deputy Director) Arianna Lyksett (Chief Communications Officer) Nicole Robinson (Records Supervisor) Sharon Heath (Public Health Planner) Jean Pierson (Public Health Planner)	11/13/2025 - Shared with local media. 11/14/2025 - Posted on CCSO Facebook. 11/14/2025 - Posted on CC website and shared to social media. Will reshare a few more times before November 26. 11/14/2025 - Posted on CCSO website. 11/17/2025 - Shared with Health Community Partners, includes clinics, hospitals, long-term care facilities, and schools. 11/18/2025 - Shared on Public Health social media.
City of Carver	Brenda Good (Administrative Services Coordinator)	11/14/2025 - Posted to city website, Facebook and Instagram accounts.
City of Chanhassen	Andrew Heger (Fire Chief)	11/14/2025 - Posted at City Hall, city website, and on social media.
City of Chaska	Elise Durbin (Assistant City Administrator)	11/13/2025 - Posted on the city website.
City of Cologne	Jenna McInnis (Utility Billing/Admin/Events)	11/20/2025 - Posted on city website, Facebook, and at City Hall.
City of Hamburg	Jeremy Gruenhagen (City Clerk)	11/13/2025 - Posted to city website, Facebook, and at City Hall.
City of Mayer	Alicia Menzel (City Clerk)	11/13/2025 - Posted at City Hall and added to city website. 11/14/2025 - Posted on social media.
City of New Germany	Twyla Menth (City Clerk-Treasurer)	11/13/2025 - Posted on Facebook and City Post Office and City Hall
City of Norwood Young America		11/20/2025 - Posted on city website under news & highlights
City of Victoria	Dana Hardie (City Manager)	11/13/2025 - Posted on city website. 11/26/2025 - Will be shared in city e-newsletter.
City of Waconia	Justin Sorensen (Fire Chief)	11/20/2025 - Posted on their city website and on Facebook.

City of Watertown	Dan Tolsma (City Admin)	11/21/2025 - Posted on their city website, Facebook, and at City Hall.
Central District 108	Timothy Schochenmaier (Superintendent)	11/14/2025 - Posted on Facebook.

Appendix H – Mitigation Actions by Jurisdiction

City of Carver

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
1	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of and prepared for severe weather events, periods of extreme temperatures, and extended power outages.	Existing High 2026-2031	Fire Chief / City Manager	The city proactively conducts public outreach during Winter Weather Awareness Week and Severe Weather Awareness Week. Important safety messages are shared through the city's social media platforms to help keep residents informed, engaged, and prepared for seasonal hazards.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
2	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to sign up for the county's emergency notification system to receive alerts on severe weather events.	Existing High 2026-2031	Fire Chief	The city will work to implement a more focused to encourage residents to register for the county's Everbridge system by including information and a link to the county website in city newsletters and posting information on our city website and social media.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
3	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Enforce city regulations that help to reduce the risk of storm damages to new development.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Manager	The city of Carver has adopted the MN State Building Code. Enforcement of the state building code is carried out by staff from the city's building department.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
4	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Incorporate mitigation strategies across the city's long-term plans and policies for future growth and new development.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	Community Development Director	The Carver 2040 Comprehensive Plan addresses considerations for future development, including surface water management and multiple areas of flood mitigation (i.e., design of wetlands and new stormwater storage facilities).	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget External:

City of Carver

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
5	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure the city has emergency generator backup power for city services and buildings.	New High 2026-2031	Public Services Director	The city will evaluate where generator backup power is needed for city facilities or infrastructure. The city will purchase generators as funding is available and approved by City Council.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
6	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Work to reduce the risk of downed power lines resulting from severe summer and winter storm events.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	Public Services Director	The city encourages our electric providers (Xcel Energy and Minnesota Valley Electrical Coop) to address any power line vulnerabilities and to convert overhead lines to underground where necessary. The utility companies work to maintain clearance of trees near power lines.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget External: Xcel Energy, MVEC
7	Severe Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure that the city's outdoor warning sirens are maintained and functioning.	Existing High 2026-2031	Fire Chief / Public Services Director	The city has 5 outdoor warning sirens which are maintained and tested monthly in coordination with the Carver County Sheriff's Office. The sirens are designated as the Overlook Sire, 6 th St. Siren, Water Treatment Siren, Downtown Siren, and Fleet Farm Siren.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
8	Severe Summer Storms	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of severe windstorms and tornadic weather, to understand warning siren alerts, and to be prepared with personal evacuation or shelter plans.	Existing High 2026-2031	Fire Chief	The city will participate in the NWS Severe Weather Awareness Week in coordination with Carver County Emergency Management. Local schools also participate in tornado drills.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Carver

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
9	Extreme Temperatures Heat/Cold	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Be prepared to provide emergency sheltering to vulnerable residents during periods of extreme heat or cold temperatures.	Existing High 2026-2031	Fire Chief	In the event of an extreme temperature event coupled with an extended power outage, the city will work with our fire department and Carver County Emergency Management to address assistance such as evacuation or temporary sheltering for the elderly or other vulnerable residents.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
10	Flooding	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work to address flood mitigation measures that help the city to handle future high rain events.	Existing High 2026-2031	Public Services Director	Our historic downtown area has some limited vulnerabilities to flooding from the Minnesota River. During periods of high water, certain businesses and roadways may be affected. The city is in the process of completing a dike project. Efforts and planning have taken place to continue to mitigate flooding risk.	Internal: PW Dept. Budget

City of Carver

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
11	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations	Implement the Carver Levee Certification Project.	New High 2026-2031	City Manager	The City of Carver's levee is no longer certified by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) or Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This means that the levee is not guaranteed to protect Carver from flooding. The city is currently working towards levee certification. The levee's certification will require approximately \$13.3 million. The City of Carver cannot fund this alone and is working with elected state and federal leaders to secure funding for the project. The City has secured funding from the Lower MN River Watershed District, Bond Fund from the MN Legislature, MN/DNR, and Congressionally Dedicated Spending (Federal).	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget External: Lower MN River Watershed District, State Bonding, MN DNR, and Federal (Congressional Dedicated Spending)
12	Drought	Local Planning & Regulations / Education & Awareness Programs	Establish water use restrictions and conduct public outreach on water conservation measures during periods of drought.	New Moderate 2026-2031	Public Services Director / City Manager	City of Carver city code includes an odd-even watering schedule for residential and commercial lawns on odd-numbered and even-numbered days, respectively. The city can implement temporary bans, like the 2022 ban, during water system issues or dry conditions to conserve water. Residents can check the city's Facebook page for updates on any potential temporary restrictions.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Chanhassen

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
1	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of and prepared for severe weather events, periods of extreme temperatures, and extended power outages.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	The city's communications team participates in a variety of outreach opportunities related to Winter Weather Awareness and Severe Awareness week. This messaging is typically communicated via the city's social media channels. The fire department also employs a dedicated Community Risk Reduction Specialist position. Utilizing a variety of methods, such as safety camp, public education sessions, and CPR classes, this position educated the public about risk in the community.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
2	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to sign up for the city's / county's emergency notification system to receive alerts on severe weather events.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	The city of Chanhassen has been heavily promoting a local program, called Community Connect, which allows community members and businesses to opt into emergency alerts from the fire department. We can also work to include information and a link to Carver County's Everbridge emergency notification system on our city website. We also mention this to groups when discussing emergency preparedness.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
3	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Enforce city regulations that help to reduce the risk of storm damages to new development.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin	The city of Chanhassen has adopted the MN State Building Code. Enforcement of the state building code is accomplished with city building department staff.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Chanhassen

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
4	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Incorporate mitigation strategies across the city's long-term plans and policies for future growth and new development.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	Development in the city is reviewed by all departments who can provide feedback/input to help mitigate hazards prior to construction. The Community Development Department & Water Resources enforces floodplain requirements, shoreland management district, and bluff protection. Additionally, the city's 2040 Comprehensive Plan helps guide development across the community. The city's Emergency Operations Plan was rewritten to include Emergency Support Functions and department heads participated in a table top exercise.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
5	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure the city has emergency generator backup power for city services and buildings.	New High 2026-2031	City PW / City EM	The city will evaluate where generator backup power is needed for city facilities or infrastructure. The city will purchase generators as funding is available and approved by City Council.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
6	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Work to reduce the risk of downed power lines resulting from severe summer and winter storm events.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	The city encourages our electric providers (Xcel Energy and Minnesota Valley Electrical Coop) to address any power line vulnerabilities and to convert overhead lines to underground where necessary. The utility companies work to maintain clearance of trees near power lines.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget External: Xcel Energy, MVEC

City of Chanhassen

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
7	Severe Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure that the city's outdoor warning sirens are maintained and functioning.	Existing High 2026-2031	City EM	The city has 9 outdoor warning sirens. Current storm sirens are being rebuilt/upgraded to ensure operational readiness. The city continues to monitor and make upgrades to our outdoor warning siren network to ensure operational readiness. Sirens are tested on a monthly basis.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
8	Severe Summer Storms	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of severe windstorms and tornadic weather, to understand warning siren alerts, and to be prepared with personal evacuation or shelter plans.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	The city will participate in the NWS Severe Weather Awareness Week in coordination with Carver County Emergency Management. Local schools also participate in tornado drills.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
9	Extreme Temperatures Heat/Cold	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Be prepared to provide emergency sheltering to vulnerable residents during periods of extreme heat or cold temperatures.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin, City EM	In the event of an extreme temperature event coupled with an extended power outage, the city will work with our fire department and Carver County Emergency Management to address assistance such as evacuation or temporary sheltering for the elderly or other vulnerable residents.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Chanhassen

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
10	Flooding	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work to address flood mitigation measures that help the city to handle future high rain events.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	The southern portion of the community has some limited vulnerabilities related to flooding on the Minnesota River. Some businesses and roadways can be impacted when water levels rise. The city of Chanhassen's flood mitigation efforts include participation in a statewide program with MnDOT for road improvements like raising roadways during seasonal flooding, and the city's own stormwater management projects, such as maintenance of stormwater ponds and ravine stabilization. Chanhassen also uses updated flood data for permitting and zoning to promote sound development and uses the Adopt-a-Drain program to keep storm drains clear of debris, which helps prevent flooding.	Internal: PW Dept. Budget
11	Landslides	Natural Systems Protection / Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Develop and implement stabilization projects to prevent the possibility of future slope failures due to large rain events along the bluff area.	New High 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	As future development occurs in the bluffs area, opportunities to prevent landslides should be factored into such development. Additionally, tree preservation efforts and slope stabilization practices should continue to occur in existing properties.	

City of Chanhassen**Mitigation Action Chart**

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
12	Drought	Local Planning & Regulations / Education & Awareness Programs	Establish water use restrictions and conduct public outreach on water conservation measures during periods of drought.	New Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	The city of Chanhassen has restrictions that apply to municipal water use from May 1 to September 30. Residents are restricted from watering lawns and plants between 10 AM and 5 PM daily and must follow an odd-even schedule based on property address for watering on calendar days. Residents with odd-numbered addresses can water on odd-numbered days, and those with even-numbered addresses can water on even-numbered days. We work to promote awareness to residents of the restrictions and water conservation measures.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Chaska

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
1	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of and prepared for severe weather events, periods of extreme temperatures, and extended power outages.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	The city maintains our Severe Weather Warning System. The City of Chaska Communications team leads our community outreach efforts. They utilize social media, Direct Mailings, etc. We participate in Severe Weather Awareness and Winter Weather Awareness Week by sharing the messaging on our social media channels.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
2	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to sign up for the county's emergency notification system to receive alerts on severe weather events.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	We will work with Carver County Emergency Management to help us to post information about the county's Everbridge emergency notification system and a link to sign up on the county website.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
3	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Enforce city regulations that help to reduce the risk of storm damages to new development.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin	The city of Chaska has adopted the MN State Building Code. Review and enforcement of the state building code is carried out by building department staff, Fire Inspection Staff, and Community Service Officers.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
4	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Incorporate mitigation strategies across the city's long-term plans and policies for future growth and new development.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	Our Planning and Engineering teams work closely together to facilitate thoughtful & purposeful growth in the city. The city also utilizes its comp plan to provide further guidance on growth and development. The city also enforces our Floodplain Ordinance.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Chaska

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
5	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure the city has emergency generator backup power for city services and buildings.	New High 2026-2031	City PW / City EM	The city will evaluate where generator backup power is needed for city facilities or infrastructure. The city will purchase generators as funding is available and approved by City Council. Specific user/physical facilities that could be impacted by severe weather events and power outages include the Carver County Government Center (including CCSO, Dispatch, and Jail), 212 Medical Center, Hazeltine National Golf Club, Multiple School buildings, Chaska Community Center, etc.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
6	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Work to reduce the risk of downed power lines resulting from severe summer and winter storm events.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	Chaska Municipal Electric Dept.	Chaska Municipal Electric Department works to address any power line vulnerabilities and to convert overhead lines to underground where necessary. The department also works to maintain clearance of trees near power lines.	Internal: Chaska Electric Dept.
7	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Encourage nursing homes and assisted living facilities to be prepared with emergency plans and backup power for severe weather events.	New Moderate 2026-2031	City EM	Chaska has experienced rapid growth in nursing homes and assisted living facilities in the last several years. It is the responsibility of these facilities to have emergency plans and equipment in place, such as emergency lighting and generators. The city will work to encourage such facilities to be aware of and prepared for severe weather events.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
8	Severe Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure that the city's outdoor warning sirens are maintained and functioning.	Existing High 2026-2031	City EM	The city has 7 outdoor warning sirens which are maintained and tested monthly in coordination with the Carver County Sheriff's Office.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Chaska

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
9	Severe Summer Storms	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of severe windstorms and tornadic weather, to understand warning siren alerts, and to be prepared with personal evacuation or shelter plans.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	The city will participate in the NWS Severe Weather Awareness Week in coordination with Carver County Emergency Management. Local schools also participate in tornado drills.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
10	Severe Summer Storms	Local Planning & Regulations / Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work with the city's 2 mobile home parks to address evacuation and shelter planning.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City EM in coord with MHP's	We have 2 mobile home parks that have storm shelters for residents for short-term shelter. The city will work with the mobile home parks if they wish to seek to upgrade to a tornado safe room. This would require significant outside grant funding. The city would look to apply for FEMA HMGP grant funding if such projects were to be pursued.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget External: MHP Operators, FEMA HMGP safe room grant funding
11	Extreme Temperatures Heat/Cold	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Be prepared to provide emergency sheltering to vulnerable residents during periods of extreme heat or cold temperatures.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin, City EM	In the event of an extreme temperature event coupled with an extended power outage, the city will work with our fire department and Carver County Emergency Management to address assistance such as evacuation or temporary sheltering for the elderly or other vulnerable residents.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Chaska

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
12	Flooding	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work to address flood mitigation measures that help the city to handle future high rain events.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	The city continues to maintain active maintenance of the levy system and pumps. We have also completed street reconstruction in the downtown area. The downtown area is protected by a levy and multiple pumps. Other lowland areas in town are impacted by high water, including the T.H. 41 Minnesota River Crossing. Our city Public Works department continues to monitor and address these areas of concern.	Internal: PW Dept. Budget
13	Drought	Local Planning & Regulations / Education & Awareness Programs	Establish water use restrictions and conduct public outreach on water conservation measures during periods of drought.	New Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	In Chaska, MN, lawn watering restrictions are in effect from May 1 to September 30 annually. During this period, residents with even-numbered addresses can water on even-numbered days, and residents with odd-numbered addresses can water on odd-numbered days. Watering is prohibited every day between 12 p.m. (noon) and 4 p.m., regardless of the day of the week. We work to promote awareness to residents of the restrictions and water conservation measures.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Cologne

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
1	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of and prepared for severe weather events, periods of extreme temperatures, and extended power outages.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	We use our social media platforms regularly to keep residents up to date with information. New residents are enrolled in our email alert system tied to any updates we post on our website. We also have quarterly newsletters mailed. We post and share information on our Facebook Page/City Newsletter relating to Severe Weather Awareness Week/Winter Weather Awareness Week and various other hazards.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
2	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to sign up for the county's emergency notification system to receive alerts on severe weather events.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	The city promotes sign up for Everbridge using our social media platforms, on our website and in our newsletter. New residents receive a welcome letter/email that encourages enrollment among other helpful information.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
3	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Enforce city regulations that help to reduce the risk of storm damages to new development.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin	The city of Cologne adopts and enforces the MN State Building Code. The city contracts with MetroWest for inspection services.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
4	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Incorporate mitigation strategies across the city's long-term plans and policies for future growth and new development.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	The city of Hamburg adopts the Carver County Emergency Operations Plan and conducts 10-year comp plan updates.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
5	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure the city has emergency generator backup power for city services and buildings.	New High 2026-2031	City PW / City EM	We have community shelter in our Community Center but no backup generator if there is a prolonged power outage. The city will work to purchase a portable generator for the Community Center as funding is available and approved under our city budget.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Cologne

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
6	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Trim trees near power lines and work with our local utility to convert overhead power lines to underground to reduce the risk of power outages from severe storms.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	Our city public works department works to address city trees in the ROW that need to be trimmed. Xcel Energy is our energy provider, and oversee trimming trees near powerlines to maintain clearance. All power lines are put underground in any new developments.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget External: Xcel Energy
7	Severe Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure that the city's outdoor warning sirens are maintained and functioning.	Existing High 2026-2031	City EM	The city has 3 outdoor warning siren which we test monthly in coordination with the Carver County Sheriff's Office. Sirens are maintained as needed.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
8	Severe Summer Storms	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of severe windstorms and tornadic weather, to understand warning siren alerts, and to be prepared with personal evacuation or shelter plans.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	The city will seek to work with Carver County to promote tornado awareness and safety during the NWS Severe Weather Awareness week each April. Local schools practice tornado drills.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
9	Extreme Temperatures Heat/Cold	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Be prepared to provide emergency sheltering to vulnerable residents during periods of extreme heat or cold temperatures.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin, City EM	In the event of an extreme temperature event coupled with an extended power outage, the city will work with our fire department to provide temporary sheltering at our city's Community Center. We are working to obtain a backup generator for this building to ensure we can provide lighting and heat/cooling.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
10	Flooding	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work to address flood mitigation measures that help the city to handle future high rain events.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	Our Public Works Department continues to manage our city's stormwater system to ensure it is capable of handling high rain events. Of current concern is that our Waste Water Treatment Plant is nearing capacity. Design of a new plant is complete but funding will need to be secured.	Internal: PW Dept. Budget External: MN PFA, other possible sources TBD

City of Cologne**Mitigation Action Chart**

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
11	Drought	Local Planning & Regulations / Education & Awareness Programs	Establish water use restrictions and conduct public outreach on water conservation measures during periods of drought.	New Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	During periods of severe drought, the city will establish watering restrictions as per MN DNR guidance. We will also work to promote awareness to residents of the restrictions and water conservation measures.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Hamburg

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
1	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of and prepared for severe weather events, periods of extreme temperatures, and extended power outages.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	The city shares information with the public by posting information on our city website and city Facebook page. We post and share information on our Facebook Page/City Newsletter relating to Severe Weather Awareness Week/Winter Weather Awareness Week and various other hazards.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
2	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to sign up for the county's emergency notification system to receive alerts on severe weather events.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	We will work with Carver County Emergency Management to help us to post information about the county's Everbridge emergency notification system and a link to sign up on the county website.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
3	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Enforce city regulations that help to reduce the risk of storm damages to new development.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin	The city of Hamburg has adopted the Minnesota State Building Code. SAFEbuilt (Waconia) is the City Building Official who enforces the building code.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
4	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Incorporate mitigation strategies across the city's long-term plans and policies for future growth and new development.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	The city of Hamburg has adopted the Carver County Emergency Operations Plan and conducts 10-year comp plan updates.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
5	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure the city has emergency generator backup power for city services and buildings.	New High 2026-2031	City PW / City EM	The city will evaluate where generator backup power is needed for city facilities or infrastructure. The city will purchase generators as funding is available and approved by City Council.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
6	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Work to reduce the risk of downed power lines resulting from severe summer and winter storm events.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	The city encourages our electric provider (Xcel Energy) to address any power line vulnerabilities and to convert overhead lines to underground where necessary. Xcel Energy works to maintain clearance of trees near power lines.	External: Xcel Energy

City of Hamburg

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
7	Severe Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure that the city's outdoor warning sirens are maintained and functioning.	Existing High 2026-2031	City EM	The city has 1 outdoor warning siren which is maintained and tested monthly in coordination with the Carver County Sheriff's Office.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
8	Severe Summer Storms	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of severe windstorms and tornadic weather, to understand warning siren alerts, and to be prepared with personal evacuation or shelter plans.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	The city will participate in the NWS Severe Weather Awareness Week in coordination with Carver County Emergency Management. Local schools also participate in tornado drills.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
9	Extreme Temperatures Heat/Cold	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Be prepared to provide emergency sheltering to vulnerable residents during periods of extreme heat or cold temperatures.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin, City EM	In the event of an extreme temperature event coupled with an extended power outage, the city will work with our fire department and Carver County Emergency Management to address assistance such as evacuation or temporary sheltering for the elderly or other vulnerable residents.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
10	Flooding	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work to address flood mitigation measures that help the city to handle future high rain events.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	We continue to maintain riprap in the city's wastewater ponds.	Internal: PW Dept. Budget
11	Drought	Local Planning & Regulations / Education & Awareness Programs	Establish water use restrictions and conduct public outreach on water conservation measures during periods of drought.	New Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	During periods of severe drought, the city will establish watering restrictions as per MN DNR guidance. We work to promote awareness to residents of the restrictions and water conservation measures.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Mayer

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
1	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of and prepared for severe weather events, periods of extreme temperatures, and extended power outages.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	The city use's our website to raise awareness of the city's watering ordinance during the year. In the past we have not promoted information on weather safety due the availability of cell phone notifications that are available to the public. We will seek to work with Carver County Emergency Management to share information locally during appropriate times, such as the NWS Severe Weather Awareness Week.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
2	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to sign up for the county's emergency notification system to receive alerts on severe weather events.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	We will work with Carver County Emergency Management to help us to post information about the county's Everbridge emergency notification system and a link to sign up on the county website.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
3	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Enforce city regulations that help to reduce the risk of storm damages to new development.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	The city has adopted the MN State Building Code. The city contracts with MetroWest for inspection services for enforcement.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
4	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Incorporate mitigation strategies across the city's long-term plans and policies for future growth and new development.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	The city's Planning and Zoning department enforces our floodplain requirements, shoreland overlay, and the City Code zoning requirements for new development. We have a 20-year Comprehensive Plan that is designed to plan physical growth of the city and appropriate land uses.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Mayer

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
5	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Work to reduce the risk of downed power lines resulting from severe summer and winter storm events.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	The city encourages our electric providers (Xcel Energy and McLeod Power Coop) to address any power line vulnerabilities and to convert overhead lines to underground where necessary. The utility companies work to maintain clearance of trees near power lines.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget External: Xcel Energy, McLeod Power Cooperative
6	Severe Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure that the city's outdoor warning sirens are maintained and functioning.	Existing High 2026-2031	City EM	The city has 1 outdoor warning siren which is maintained and tested monthly in coordination with the Carver County Sheriff's Office.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
7	Severe Summer Storms	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of severe windstorms and tornadic weather, to understand warning siren alerts, and to be prepared with personal evacuation or shelter plans.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	The city will participate in the NWS Severe Weather Awareness Week in coordination with Carver County Emergency Management. Local schools also participate in tornado drills.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
8	Extreme Temperatures Heat/Cold	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Be prepared to provide emergency sheltering to vulnerable residents during periods of extreme heat or cold temperatures.	Existing Low 2026-2031	City Admin, City EM	In the event of an extreme temperature event coupled with an extended power outage, the city will work with our fire department and Carver County Emergency Management to address assistance such as evacuation or temporary sheltering for the elderly or other vulnerable residents.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
9	Flooding	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work to address flood mitigation measures that help the city to handle future high rain events.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	Our Public Works Department continues to maintain and improve our city stormwater system as needed to handle high rain events.	Internal: PW Dept. Budget

City of Mayer**Mitigation Action Chart**

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
10	Drought	Local Planning & Regulations	Continue to enforce the city's Watering Ordinance to encourage water conservation.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	The City of Mayer's Watering Ordinance was designed to encourage water conservation. Odd/even and time-of-day watering restrictions are in effect May 1 through September 30 each year. We work to promote awareness to residents of the restrictions and water conservation measures.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of New Germany

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
1	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of and prepared for severe weather events, periods of extreme temperatures, and extended power outages.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	We utilize the city's emergency sirens, and our local firefighters also serve as weather watchers in bad weather. We will work with Carver County Emergency Management to help us participate locally in sharing information during the NWS Severe Weather Awareness Week each April and Winter Hazards Awareness Week each November.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
2	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to sign up for the county's emergency notification system to receive alerts on severe weather events.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	We occasionally publish info on Carver County's Everbridge emergency notification system on social media and in the city's newsletter.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
3	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Enforce city regulations that help to reduce the risk of storm damages to new development.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin	The city of New Germany has adopted MN State Building Code. The city contracts with MetroWest, Loretto, MN as our building official to enforce the state building code.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
4	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Incorporate mitigation strategies across the city's long-term plans and policies for future growth and new development.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	The city has an ordinance restricting water use during water emergencies. Every 5 years the city conducts sump pump inspections; We have an "Adopt a Drain" program where we remind residents to keep curb/gutter area clean and to not blow grass onto these areas. We also do less salting to roads in winter.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
5	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure the city has emergency generator backup power for city services and buildings.	New High 2026-2031	City PW / City EM	The city will evaluate where generator backup power is needed for city facilities or infrastructure. The city will purchase generators as funding is available and approved by City Council.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of New Germany

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
6	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Work to reduce the risk of downed power lines resulting from severe summer and winter storm events.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	The city encourages our electric provider (Xcel Energy) to address any power line vulnerabilities and to convert overhead lines to underground where necessary. Xcel Energy works to maintain clearance of trees near power lines.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget External: Excel Energy
7	Severe Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure that the city's outdoor warning sirens are maintained and functioning.	Existing High 2026-2031	City EM	The city has 2 outdoor warning sirens which are maintained and tested monthly in coordination with the Carver County Sheriff's Office. The city will work to upgrade our weather warning system as they age.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
8	Severe Summer Storms	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of severe windstorms and tornadic weather, to understand warning siren alerts, and to be prepared with personal evacuation or shelter plans.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	The city will participate in the NWS Severe Weather Awareness Week in coordination with Carver County Emergency Management. Local schools also participate in tornado drills.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
9	Extreme Temperatures Heat/Cold	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Be prepared to provide emergency sheltering to vulnerable residents during periods of extreme heat or cold temperatures.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin, City EM	In the event of an extreme temperature event coupled with an extended power outage, the city will work with our fire department and Carver County Emergency Management to address assistance such as evacuation or temporary sheltering for the elderly or other vulnerable residents.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
10	Flooding	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work to address flood mitigation measures that help the city to handle future high rain events.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	In 2014 the city underwent a street, curb, gutter, and storm drain project, that also consisted of a new water treatment plant. Our Public Works department continues to maintain and improve our city stormwater system as needed to handle high rain events.	Internal: PW Dept. Budget

City of New Germany

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
11	Flooding	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work to increase the capacity of the city's wastewater ponds to reduce the risk of overflow during high rain events.	New High 2026-2031	City Admin, City Public Works Dept.	Our wastewater ponds are currently facing capacity issues, which are more vulnerable to overflow and failure during high rain events. It is critical that the city of New Germany expand the capacity of our wastewater treatment facility and increase the level of treatment capabilities in order to support growth with the city and support water quality. The city continues to seek state bonding funding to support this effort. The city may seek other potential flood mitigation grant funding to support this significant infrastructure project. The capacity of these wastewater ponds is more vulnerable to failure during high rain and flooding events.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget External: MN State Bonding Request, MN PFA, FEMA HMGP or FMA grant, MN DNR FHM grant
12	Drought	Local Planning & Regulations / Education & Awareness Programs	Establish water use restrictions and conduct public outreach on water conservation measures during periods of drought.	New Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	During periods of severe drought, the city enforces Ordinance No 109, Water Usage in a Critical Water Emergency. We work to promote awareness to residents of the restrictions and water conservation measures.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Norwood Young America

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
1	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of and prepared for severe weather events, periods of extreme temperatures, and extended power outages.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	We post on our website and Facebook (city and fire department FB pages). We plan to also post information our “Notify me” alerts. Also, we send out information in our city newsletter. We participate in Severe Weather Awareness and Winter Weather Awareness Week by sharing the messaging on our social media channels.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
2	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to sign up for the county’s emergency notification system to receive alerts on severe weather events.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	We will work with Carver County Emergency Management to help us to post information about the county’s Everbridge emergency notification system and a link to sign up on the county website.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
3	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Enforce city regulations that help to reduce the risk of storm damages to new development.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin	The city of Norwood Young America has adopted the Minnesota State Building Code. We contract for building official services from Darin Haslip of 101 Development Resources, Inc. for enforcement of the code.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
4	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Incorporate mitigation strategies across the city’s long-term plans and policies for future growth and new development.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	We adopt the Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan and have a variety of SOPs. The city also enforces our Floodplain Ordinance.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
5	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure the city has emergency generator backup power for city services and buildings.	New High 2026-2031	City PW / City EM	The city will evaluate where generator backup power is needed for city facilities or infrastructure. The city will purchase generators as funding is available and approved by City Council.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Norwood Young America

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
6	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Work to reduce the risk of downed power lines resulting from severe summer and winter storm events.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	The city encourages our electric provider (Xcel Energy) to address any power line vulnerabilities and to convert overhead lines to underground where necessary. Xcel Energy works to maintain clearance of trees near power lines.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget External: Excel Energy
7	Severe Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure that the city's outdoor warning sirens are maintained and functioning.	Existing High 2026-2031	City EM	The city has 4 outdoor warning sirens which are maintained and tested monthly in coordination with the Carver County Sheriff's Office.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
8	Severe Summer Storms	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of severe windstorms and tornadic weather, to understand warning siren alerts, and to be prepared with personal evacuation or shelter plans.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	The city will participate in the NWS Severe Weather Awareness Week in coordination with Carver County Emergency Management. Local schools also participate in tornado drills.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
9	Severe Summer Storms	Local Planning & Regulations / Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work with the city's mobile home park to address evacuation and shelter planning. Plan for construction of a new tornado shelter or alternate site evacuation facility.	Existing High 2026-2031	City EM	Severe weather mitigation should be completed in our mobile home park. The city will work with the MHP owner to ensure evacuation and sheltering plans are in place. If new construction of a tornado safe room is to be pursued, the city would seek to apply for FEMA HMGP safe room grant funding.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget External: FEMA HMGP safe room grant
10	Extreme Temperatures Heat/Cold	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Be prepared to provide emergency sheltering to vulnerable residents during periods of extreme heat or cold temperatures.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin, City EM	In the event of an extreme temperature event coupled with an extended power outage, the city will work with our fire department and Carver County Emergency Management to address assistance such as evacuation or temporary sheltering for the elderly or other vulnerable residents.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Norwood Young America

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
11	Flooding	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Identify areas of flood vulnerability and implement mitigation measures that help the city to handle future high rain events.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	The ditch that goes through town is a vulnerability. In the past, it has caused the wastewater plant to flood. The South Street area of town and trailer court are more vulnerable as they are lower income. Friendship Park is at risk for flooding and needs mitigation. Due to flooding in 2024, the fire station is being remodeled, which will include bigger gutters. Mitigation work is being done at Prairie Dawn Park. Our Public Works Department continues to monitor and address stormwater improvements for wastewater treatment plan, South Street Area, and the trailer court.	Internal: PW Dept. Budget External:
12	Drought	Local Planning & Regulations / Education & Awareness Programs	Establish water use restrictions and conduct public outreach on water conservation measures during periods of drought.	New Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	The city of Norwood Young America has permanent water restrictions for lawn and garden watering, allowing it only on odd or even calendar days, respectively, according to a property's address. Watering is restricted between 10 AM and 5 PM daily. We work to promote awareness to residents of the restrictions and water conservation measures.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Victoria

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
1	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of and prepared for severe weather events, periods of extreme temperatures, and extended power outages.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	The city's communications team creates and distributes a variety of communications related to severe weather. This messaging is typically communicated via the city's social media channels and website. The city also uses our outdoor warning sirens to alert the population of emergency situations and hazards. We participate in Severe Weather Awareness and Winter Weather Awareness Week by sharing the messaging on our social media channels.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
2	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to sign up for the county's emergency notification system to receive alerts on severe weather events.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	We will work with Carver County Emergency Management to help us to post information about the county's Everbridge emergency notification system and a link to sign up on the county website. A more focused effort could be made to share information through city newsletters and social media/website postings.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
3	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Enforce city regulations that help to reduce the risk of storm damages to new development.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin	The city of Victoria has adopted the MN State Building Code. The city employs a building permit technician, two building inspectors, and a building official. This department is responsible for enforcement.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Victoria

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
4	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Incorporate mitigation strategies across the city's long-term plans and policies for future growth and new development.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	Development in the city is reviewed by all departments who can provide feedback/input to help mitigate hazards prior to construction. The Community Development Department and city planner enforce floodplain requirements, shoreland management district, and bluff protection.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
5	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure the city has emergency generator backup power for city services and buildings.	New High 2026-2031	City PW / City EM	Permanent generators have been added to all newly installed lift stations and production wells. We continue to maintain all generators to ensure that they are operational.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
6	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Work to reduce the risk of downed power lines resulting from severe summer and winter storm events.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	We have worked to underground more power lines and will continue that initiative. The city encourages our electric providers (Xcel Energy and Minnesota Valley Electrical Coop) to address any power line vulnerabilities and convert overhead lines to underground where necessary. The utility companies work to maintain clearance of trees near power lines.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget External: Xcel Energy and MN Valley Electric Cooperative
7	Severe Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure that the city's outdoor warning sirens are maintained and functioning.	Existing High 2026-2031	City EM	The city has 6 outdoor warning sirens which are maintained and tested monthly in coordination with the Carver County Sheriff's Office. Our most recent warning siren was installed in 2024.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
8	Severe Summer Storms	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of severe windstorms and tornadic weather, to understand warning siren alerts, and to be prepared with personal evacuation or shelter plans.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	The city will participate in the NWS Severe Weather Awareness Week in coordination with Carver County Emergency Management. Local schools also participate in tornado drills.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Victoria

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
9	Extreme Temperatures Heat/Cold	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Be prepared to provide emergency sheltering to vulnerable residents during periods of extreme heat or cold temperatures.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin, City EM	In the event of an extreme temperature event coupled with an extended power outage, the city will work with our fire department and Carver County Emergency Management to address assistance such as evacuation or temporary sheltering for the elderly or other vulnerable residents.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
10	Flooding	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work to address flood mitigation measures that help the city to handle future high rain events.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	Some lower lying neighborhoods have been affected by historic rain events. Our city Public Works Department continues to maintain and improve our city stormwater system as needed to handle high rain events.	Internal: PW Dept. Budget
11	Drought	Local Planning & Regulations / Education & Awareness Programs	Establish water use restrictions and conduct public outreach on water conservation measures during periods of drought.	New Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	The City of Victoria, MN has seasonal watering restrictions in effect from May 1 to September 30. During these months, irrigation is prohibited between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. daily. During periods of severe drought, the city will establish watering restrictions as per MN DNR guidance. We will also work to promote awareness to residents of the restrictions and water conservation measures.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Waconia

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
1	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of and prepared for severe weather events, periods of extreme temperatures, and extended power outages.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	We share information on the city's website and social media channels. We participate in Severe Weather Awareness and Winter Weather Awareness Week by sharing the messaging on our social media channels.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
2	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to sign up for the county's emergency notification system to receive alerts on severe weather events.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	We will work with Carver County Emergency Management to help us to post information about the county's Everbridge emergency notification system and a link to sign up on the county website. A more focused effort could be made to share information through city newsletters and social media/website postings.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
3	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Enforce city regulations that help to reduce the risk of storm damages to new development.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin	The city of Waconia has adopted the MN State Building Code. The city contracts with MetroWest for building inspections and enforcement through the building department.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
4	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Incorporate mitigation strategies across the city's long-term plans and policies for future growth and new development.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	Our Community Development and Public Services departments review developments for impacts to floodplains and shoreland areas and monitor growth and its impacts on the comprehensive plan and demands on infrastructure. The city enforces our Floodplain Ordinance. The city has also added space and technology at the new fire station to be able to function as an Emergency Operations Center.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Waconia

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
5	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure the city has emergency generator backup power for city services and buildings.	New High 2026-2031	City PW / City EM	Generators have been placed at all critical buildings and high flow lift stations. We continue to maintain all generators to ensure that they are operational.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
6	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Work to reduce the risk of downed power lines resulting from severe summer and winter storm events.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	The city encourages our electric providers (Xcel Energy and Centerpoint Energy) to address any power line vulnerabilities and convert overhead lines to underground where necessary. The utility companies work to maintain clearance of trees near power lines.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget External: Xcel Energy and Centerpoint Energy
7	Severe Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure that the city's outdoor warning sirens are maintained and functioning.	Existing High 2026-2031	City EM	The city has 5 outdoor warning sirens which are maintained and tested monthly in coordination with the Carver County Sheriff's Office.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
8	Severe Summer Storms	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of severe windstorms and tornadic weather, to understand warning siren alerts, and to be prepared with personal evacuation or shelter plans.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	The city will participate in the NWS Severe Weather Awareness Week in coordination with Carver County Emergency Management. Local schools also participate in tornado drills.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
9	Extreme Temperatures Heat/Cold	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Be prepared to provide emergency sheltering to vulnerable residents during periods of extreme heat or cold temperatures.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin, City EM	In the event of an extreme temperature event coupled with an extended power outage, the city will work with our fire department and Carver County Emergency Management to address assistance such as evacuation or temporary sheltering for the elderly or other vulnerable residents.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Waconia**Mitigation Action Chart**

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
10	Flooding	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work to address flood mitigation measures that help the city to handle future high rain events.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	The city's Public Works Department continues to maintain and improve our city stormwater system as needed to handle high rain events.	Internal: PW Dept. Budget
11	Drought	Local Planning & Regulations / Education & Awareness Programs	Establish water use restrictions and conduct public outreach on water conservation measures during periods of drought.	New Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	The City of Waconia has a year-round odd-even watering restriction and a time-of-day restriction, limiting outdoor watering between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. on all days to conserve water. During periods of severe drought, the city will establish watering restrictions as per MN DNR guidance. We will also work to promote awareness to residents of the restrictions and water conservation measures.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Watertown

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
1	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of and prepared for severe weather events, periods of extreme temperatures, and extended power outages.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	We share information from Carver County Sheriff's Office - Emergency Management on social media and also solicit interest from residents signing up for the Citizen Alert System. We also utilize the IPAWS system for notifications when applicable. We participate in Severe Weather Awareness and Winter Weather Awareness Week by sharing the messaging on our social media channels. We also do Flooding Outreach (informational).	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
2	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to sign up for the county's emergency notification system to receive alerts on severe weather events.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	We will work with Carver County Emergency Management to help us to post information about the county's Everbridge emergency notification system and a link to sign up on the county website.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
3	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Enforce city regulations that help to reduce the risk of storm damages to new development.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin	The city of Watertown has adopted the MN State Building Code. The city contracts with SAFE BUILT for Building Code and Permitting enforcement.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
4	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	Incorporate mitigation strategies across the city's long-term plans and policies for future growth and new development.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin	The city enforces our Floodplain Ordinance. We also utilize the Carver County HMP and consistently evaluate our current flood plan.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
5	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Continue to address any backup power needs the city may have to be prepared for extended power outages.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City PW / City EM	In 2025, the last generator was installed at our final lift station. This completes backup power considerations for all critical infrastructure facilities within our community. Additional generators will be included as expansion warrants.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

City of Watertown Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
6	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Work to reduce the risk of downed power lines resulting from severe summer and winter storm events.	Existing Moderate 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	The city encourages our electric provider (Xcel Energy) to address any power line vulnerabilities and to convert overhead lines to underground where necessary. Xcel Energy works to maintain clearance of trees near power lines.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget External: Excel Energy
7	Severe Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure that the city's outdoor warning sirens are maintained and functioning.	Existing High 2026-2031	City EM	The city has 4 outdoor warning sirens which are maintained and tested monthly in coordination with the Carver County Sheriff's Office.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
8	Severe Summer Storms	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents to be aware of severe windstorms and tornadic weather, to understand warning siren alerts, and to be prepared with personal evacuation or shelter plans.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin / City EM	The city will participate in the NWS Severe Weather Awareness Week in coordination with Carver County Emergency Management. Local schools also participate in tornado drills.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
9	Severe Summer Storms	Local Planning & Regulations / Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work with the city's mobile home park to address evacuation and shelter planning. Plan for construction of a new tornado shelter or alternate site evacuation facility.	Existing High 2026-2031	City EM	We have limited shelter for residents of our two mobile home parks. The city will work with the MHP owners to ensure evacuation and sheltering plans are in place. If we decide to pursue development of a tornado safe room for these mobile home parks, the city would need to seek significant outside grant funding. We would plan to apply for FEMA HMGP safe room grants if funding was available.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget External: MHP Owners, FEMA HMGP safe room grant funding

City of Watertown

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
10	Extreme Temperatures Heat/Cold	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Be prepared to provide emergency sheltering to vulnerable residents during periods of extreme heat or cold temperatures.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Admin, City EM	In the event of an extreme temperature event coupled with an extended power outage, the city will work with our fire department and Carver County Emergency Management to address assistance such as evacuation or temporary sheltering for the elderly or other vulnerable residents.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget
11	Flooding	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work to address flood mitigation measures that help the city to handle future high rain events.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	We experience frequent flooding near our downtown corridor. However, in recent years, only two commercial businesses are affected by flood operations. The city's Public Works Department continues to maintain and improve our city stormwater system as needed to handle high rain events.	Internal: PW Dept. Budget
12	Flooding	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Complete levee certification for the city's downtown levee.	New High 2016-2031	City Admin, City Public Works Dept.	The levee that protects our downtown corridor is not certified and should be evaluated. The city will seek for additional external funding to implement this evaluation process by a professional engineer.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget External: USACE
13	Flooding	Natural Systems Protection	Continue to monitor the city's riverbank stabilization and make improvements as needed.	Existing High 2026-2031	City Public Works Dept.	We have identified and addressed significant erosion along the west bank of the Crow River directly adjacent to the Riverpointe trail system. The project stabilized approximately 150 feet of riverbank. We continue to monitor and address any issues with this area. The city had budgeted funding in the 2022 CIP for the Riverpointe Shore Stabilization.	Internal: City CIP funding

City of Watertown**Mitigation Action Chart**

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
14	Drought	Local Planning & Regulations / Education & Awareness Programs	Establish water use restrictions and conduct public outreach on water conservation measures during periods of drought.	New Moderate 2026-2031	City Admin/Public Utilities Staff	The city of Watertown, MN, enforces year-round lawn watering restrictions for established lawns to conserve water and prevent evaporation, allowing watering on specific days before 8 a.m. or between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. During periods of severe drought, the city will establish watering restrictions as per MN DNR guidance. We will also work to promote awareness to residents of the restrictions and water conservation measures.	Internal: City Gen. Operating Budget

Appendix I – Plan Maintenance & Monitoring Worksheets

During the five-year plan period, the Emergency Management Director (EMD) will require all relevant departments and jurisdictions to report on the status of their mitigation actions. This information will be used to track progress for the next plan update. Participating jurisdictions will use these worksheets to report on the mitigation activities listed in Appendix H.

Mitigation Action Tracking	
Name of Jurisdiction	
Reporting Period	
Describe the action or project.	
Who is responsible for the action?	
Project status:	☐ Complete ☐ In progress, anticipated completion date: _____ ☐ Not started ☐ Canceled
Progress Report	
Has there been any progress with this project so far?	
Are there any obstacles or challenges with this action so far?	
What steps do you need to take to complete this project?	
Other comments:	

Hazard Mitigation Plan Maintenance Schedule			
Plan Maintenance Step	When	How	Who
Monitoring	Twice per year.	Get status updates on jurisdictional mitigation actions, compile progress reports and identify any opportunities for improvement.	Emergency Management Director
Evaluating	Once a year or after a disaster event.	Use a standard form to review how the plan has been carried out so far and record lessons learned.	Emergency Management Director, Lead Jurisdiction Planning Department Manager
Updating	Every 5 years, or after a disaster event.	Review the plan and document necessary updates as necessary for the next plan update.	Emergency Management Director, Lead Jurisdiction Planning Department Manager

The EMD will also seek feedback from the Emergency Managers group on the following:

- Are there any new representatives from jurisdictions, agencies, or organizations that you feel should be included in our stakeholder outreach?
- Do you feel your community has any new vulnerabilities that may be impacted by hazard events? (critical infrastructure, systems, or populations)
- Has your community identified any new mitigation activities that would help reduce risk to future hazard events?
- Are there any funding opportunities or other resources that may be available to help implement local mitigation activities?
- How is your community integrating information from the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms (such as plans, policies, or partnerships)?