



# Lake County All Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan – 2011 Update

## Frequently Asked Questions (ANHMP Update FAQs)



**September 2011**

### **1. What is the Lake County All Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan?**

The Lake County All Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan (ANHMP) is a plan that addresses natural hazards that may impact Lake County, such as floods, severe summer storms, winter storms and tornadoes, and identifies activities that can be undertaken by both the public and the private sectors to reduce safety hazards, health hazards, and property damage caused by natural hazards. While the ANHMP was developed countywide, it is considered to be a “multi-jurisdictional plan.”

### **2. Why was the ANHMP developed?**

Having an adopted mitigation plan allows Lake County and participating Lake County municipalities to be eligible for mitigation grant funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The ANHMP was developed to fulfill the federal mitigation planning requirements of Section 104 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and the Stafford Act for funding under the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant programs. The ANHMP is also eligible for credit for communities that participate in FEMA’s Community Rating System (CRS) under the National Flood Insurance Program.

### **3. Who developed the ANHMP?**

The ANHMP was developed through a mitigation planning committee that included Lake County, participating Lake County municipalities and other stakeholders, and through the assistance of a planning consultant. The mitigation planning committee (now called the Local Planning Committee or LPC) was established as a permanent advisory body to Lake County in 2006 and has been meeting annually.

### **4. Why update the ANHMP?**

FEMA requires hazard mitigation plans to be updated and re-adopted every five (5) years.

### **5. What is the update “process”?**

Our update process included four meetings of the LPC to review the ANHMP’s goals and action items, and the draft updated plan. We also requested information from municipalities regarding mitigation activities of the past five years. The updated 2011 ANHMP is drafted and is available for public review until October 4, 2011. When public comments are collected and IEMA and FEMA review and approve the plan, the County and participating municipalities will need to adopt the updated ANHMP by resolution.

### **6. What does my municipality need to do at this juncture?**

You are welcome to review and comment on the draft 2011 ANHMP. If your staff has already commented, then we will let you know when the updated ANHMP is ready for municipal adoption. We will provide you with a sample adoption resolution at that time and a copy of the final plan.

**7. The ANHMP is considered multi-jurisdictional. Is this the same as “countywide”?**

No, the ANHMP is *not* a countywide plan like the Lake County Stormwater Management Plan. FEMA allows for the multi-jurisdictional development of hazard mitigation plans. Each government agency must adopt and implement the ANHMP for its own purposes. The County Board adoption of the ANHMP is for unincorporated areas of the County. Each municipality must adopt the ANHMP for themselves.

**12. If we don’t adopt the 2011 ANHMP will our community is eligible for IEMA/FEMA disaster assistance following a disaster declaration for Lake County?**

Yes. This ANHMP is for the mitigation grant purposes. It is not tied to disaster assistance. Recognize that often mitigation projects come to light following a disaster. It is prudent to have an adopted mitigation plan.

**13. What are the types of mitigation grants available?**

Planning grants and project grants. Examples of mitigation planning grants would be for the study of repetitive flood loss areas, or the evaluation of critical facilities to determine if they are disaster resistant. Examples of mitigation project grants would be for floodplain property acquisitions, or construction of a tornado shelter at a senior care facility. All plans and projects are funded 75% by FEMA and 25% by the community or agency.

**14. How do we apply for a mitigation grant?**

Mitigation grants are applied for through the IEMA. An online “eGrant” application is used. Communities can contact Ron Davis, the State Hazard Mitigation Officer at IEMA, at 217/782-8719 (Ron.Davis@illinois.gov) for more information.

**15. What is the FEMA web site for hazard mitigation grants programs?**

For more information about FEMA mitigation grant programs, or HMA, visit:  
<http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/hma/index.shtm>

Also, visit IEMA’s web site at:

<http://www.state.il.us/iema/planning/planning.htm>

**16. How can I learn more about the Community Rating System (CRS)?**

Information on the CRS can be found at FEMA’s web site:

<http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/crs.shtm>

**17. Who do we contact about the ANHMP update?**

Feel free to contact Susan Vancil of the SMC at [svancil@lakecountyil.gov](mailto:svancil@lakecountyil.gov) or 847-377-7714.