



NEWS RELEASE

County Mitigation Plan To Be Updated, County Residents Input Requested

For Immediate Release, January 12, 2011: The Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) has been working on an update of the 2003 County Mitigation Plan which is due to expire on November 6, 2011.

The public has been invited to attend the CORE Group meetings as well as meetings in their own communities. They are invited to offer suggestions regarding natural hazards that occur in their areas and that they recognize as needing improvements/changes to prevent potential damage caused by disasters. Public input is needed and welcomed.

The next CORE Group meeting will be held January 27th at the County EMA offices located at 241 West Main Street – Suite 100. The meeting will start at 9AM.

Mitigation planning is important for the entire County and will help our communities recover from disasters when they happen. Mitigation planning, or the plans to eliminate or lessen damage in the future by making planned changes now, is an important planning responsibility for EMA, the elected officials, the jurisdictions and the citizens of the communities.

Mitigation grants are also important to our County, Cities, Villages and Townships because following disasters the mitigation funds could be used to clean-up and/or repair structures, fix roads, culverts and bridges. Other mitigation programs available are for flood control projects; providing 'safe rooms' for those affected by tornados; installing public warning systems; and the reduction of flood losses by elevating or re-locating homes.

If our present plan is not updated and approved by FEMA, Fairfield County jurisdictions would **not** be eligible to apply for, or receive, federal mitigation funds in the event of a disaster or for other purposes such as pre-disaster mitigation projects. These funds help a community pay for preventative changes in the future.

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Contact: Robert Clark at the EMA for more information
740-652-7964

Mission

To establish, coordinate and sustain partnerships throughout Fairfield County, united in efforts to prepare for emergencies and to minimize loss of life and property and help the community to return to normalcy when they occur.