



9.23 TOWNSHIP OF VERNON

This section presents the jurisdictional annex for the Township of Vernon. The annex includes a general overview of the Township of Vernon; an assessment of the Township of Vernon’s risk, vulnerability, and mitigation capabilities; and a prioritized action plan to implement prior to a disaster to reduce future losses and achieve greater resilience to natural hazards.

9.23.1 Hazard Mitigation Planning Team

The Township of Vernon followed the planning process described in Section 2 (Planning Process). This annex was developed over the course of several months with input from many jurisdiction representatives. All departments were asked to contribute to the annex development through reviewing and contributing to the capability assessment, reporting on the status of previously identified actions, and participating in action identification and prioritization. The coronavirus pandemic resulted in a strain on local resources that limited some participation, but every effort was made to connect with staff and stakeholders and gain diverse input. Due to safety precautions, all meetings were held virtually. The following table summarizes who participated and in what capacity. Additional documentation on the municipality’s planning process through Planning Partnership meetings is included in Section 2 (Planning Process) and Appendix C (Meeting Documentation).

Table 9.23-1. Hazard Mitigation Planning Team

Primary Point of Contact		Alternate Point of Contact
Name / Title: Ken Clark, OEM Coordinator Address: 21 Church Street, Vernon, NJ 07462 Phone Number: (973) 600-7612 Email: kenclark213@gmail.com		Name / Title: Dan Young, Deputy OEM Coordinator/Police Chief Address: 21 Church Street, Vernon, NJ 07462 Phone Number: 973-764-6155 Email: dyoung43@vernonpolice.com
NFIP Floodplain Administrator		
Name / Title: Robert Westenberger, Construction Official Address: 21 Church Street Vernon NJ 07462 Phone Number: (973) 764-4055 Email: rwestenberger@vernontwp.com		
Name	Title	Method of Participation
Ken Clark	OEM Coordinator	Provided data and information for the annex update; contributed to the mitigation strategy; attended the kickoff meeting, annex training, risk assessment meeting and mitigation strategy workshop
Dan Young	Dep OEM Coordinator PD Chief	Attended the annex training, risk assessment meeting and mitigation strategy workshop

9.23.2 Jurisdiction Profile

Vernon Township is located in the northeast corner of Sussex County. It has a total area of 70.6 square miles. The Township is most populous municipalities and has the largest area in the county. It is bordered to the north by New York State, to the south by Hardyston Township, to the east by Passaic County, and to the west by Wantage Township. The following unincorporated communities are located within the Township: Owens, Willow Brook, Wantage, Independence Corner, McAfee, Sand Hills, Glenwood, Vernon Valley, DeKays, Highlands Lakes, Kampe, Cherry Ridge, and Wawayanda. There are many ponds and streams located throughout the Township and include, but not limited to: Highland Lake, Wawayanda Lake, Lake Wildwood,





Double Kill, Wawayanda Creek, Pochuck Creek and its tributaries, Black Creek and its tributaries, and the Wallkill River.

According to the U.S. Census, the 2010 population for the Township of Vernon was 23,943. The estimated 2019 population was 21,989, an 8.16 percent decrease from the 2010 Census. Data from the 2019 U.S. Census American Community Survey indicate that 4.4 percent of the population is 5 years of age or younger and 13.7 percent is 65 years of age or older. Communities must deploy a support system that enables all populations to safely reach shelters or to quickly evacuate a hazard area.

9.23.3 Growth/Development Trends

Understanding how past, current, and projected development patterns have or are likely to increase or decrease risk in hazard areas is a key component to understanding a jurisdiction’s overall risk to its hazards of concern. Table 9.22-2 summarizes recent and expected future development trends, including major residential/commercial development and major infrastructure development. The figures at the end of this annex illustrate the geographically-delineated hazard areas and the location of potential new development.

Table 9.23-2. Recent and Expected Future Development

Type of Development	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
Number of Building Permits for New Construction Issued Since the Previous HMP										
	Total	Within SFHA	Total	Within SFHA	Total	Within SFHA	Total	Within SFHA	Total	Within SFHA
Single and Two-Family Units	7	0	5	0	7	0	8	0	3	0
Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (commercial, mixed-use, etc.)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Property or Development Name	Type of Development	# of Units / Structures		Location (address and/or block and lot)		Known Hazard Zone(s)*		Description / Status of Development		
Recent Major Development and Infrastructure from 2015 to Present										
No major developments constructed.										
Known or Anticipated Major Development and Infrastructure in the Next Five (5) Years										
No major developments anticipated.										

* Only location-specific hazard zones or vulnerabilities identified.
SFHA = Special Flood Hazard Area

9.23.4 Capability Assessment

Section 5 (Capability Assessment) describes the components included in the capability assessment and their significance for hazard mitigation planning. The Township of Vernon performed an inventory and analysis of existing capabilities, plans, programs, and policies that enhance its ability to implement mitigation strategies. This section summarizes the following findings of the assessment for this jurisdiction:

- An assessment of legal and regulatory capabilities
- Development and permitting capabilities
- An assessment of fiscal capabilities
- An assessment of education and outreach capabilities
- Information on NFIP compliance



- Classification under various community mitigation programs
- The community’s adaptive capacity for the impacts of climate change

For a community to succeed in reducing long-term risk, hazard mitigation must be integrated into the day-to-day local government operations. As part of this planning effort, planning/policy documents were reviewed, and each jurisdiction was surveyed to obtain a better understanding of their progress in plan integration. Areas with current mitigation integration are summarized below. The Township of Vernon identified specific integration activities that will be incorporated into municipal procedures; these actions are included in the updated mitigation strategy.

PLANNING, LEGAL AND REGULATORY CAPABILITY

The table below summarizes the legal and regulatory tools that are available to the Township of Vernon and where hazard mitigation has been integrated.

Table 9.23-3. Planning, Legal and Regulatory Capability

	Do you have this? (Yes/No)	Authority that enforces (Federal, State, Regional, County, Local)	Is this State Mandated?	Have aspects of the HMP been integrated into your codes/ordinances/plans?	
				If yes- how? Describe in comments.	If no - add Mitigation Action #, if applicable.
Codes, Ordinances, & Requirements					
Building Code	Yes	State & Local	Yes	No	-
Comment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State mandated on local level under NJAC 5:23-3.14. International Building Code – New Jersey Edition, 2018, NJAC 5:24-3.14 Adopted 9/3/2019 • The Construction Department is responsible for this code in compliance with State Uniform Construction Code Act (N.J.S. 52:27D-119 et seq.). 					
Zoning Code	Yes	Local	Yes – if municipality has a Planning Board	No	-
Comment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State permissive on local level. Per State of NJ Municipal Land Use Law (MLUL) L. 1975, s. 2, eff Aug 1, 1976, 40-55D-62: 49. Power to zone, requires all jurisdictions to have current zoning and other land development ordinances after the planning board has adopted the land use element and master plan. • The Land Use Department and Engineering Department are responsible for this code in compliance with Code Chapter 330. 					
Subdivisions	Yes	Local	Yes – if municipality has a Planning Board	No	-
Comment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P.L.1975, c.291 (C.40:55D-47); 40:55D-37. Grant of power; referral of proposed ordinance; county planning board approval a. The governing body may by ordinance require approval of subdivision plats by resolution of the planning board as a condition for the filing of such plats with the county recording officer and approval of site plans by resolution of the planning board as a condition for the issuance of a permit for any development, except that subdivision or individual lot applications for detached one or two dwelling-unit buildings shall be exempt from such site plan review and approval; provided that the resolution of the board of adjustment shall substitute for that of the planning board whenever the board of adjustment has jurisdiction over a subdivision or site plan pursuant to subsection 63b. of this act . Dictated by the Municipal Land Use Law. NJ Statute 40:27-6.2 - the board of freeholders of any county having a county planning board shall provide for the review of all subdivisions of land within the county by said county planning board and for the approval of those subdivisions affecting county road or drainage facilities as set forth and limited hereinafter in this section. • The 					
Stormwater Management	Yes	Local	Yes	No	-
Comment:					





	Do you have this? (Yes/No)	Authority that enforces (Federal, State, Regional, County, Local)	Is this State Mandated?	Have aspects of the HMP been integrated into your codes/ordinances/plans?	
				If yes- how? Describe in comments.	If no - add Mitigation Action #, if applicable.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Title 7 of the NJ Administrative Code, N.J.A.C. 7:8 This ordinance follows Code Chapter 330-Article XII. 					
Post-Disaster Recovery	No	Local	No	No	-
<i>Comment:</i>					
Real Estate Disclosure	No	State, Division of Consumer Affairs	Yes	No	-
<i>Comment: N.J.A.C. 13:45A-29.1 - Before signing a contract of sale, all purchasers must receive a New Jersey Public Offering Statement (POS) approved by the New Jersey Real Estate Commission. The POS provides information such as estimated completion dates for improvements, fees for services and amenities, the type of title and ownership interest being offered, its proximity to hospitals, schools, fire and police, as well as any hazards, risks or nuisances in or around the subdivision.</i>					
Growth Management	No	N/A	Yes – if municipality has a Planning Board	No	-
<i>Comment:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Mandated on a municipal level. See Zoning Ordinance ; Also - Plan Endorsement Process via the State Development & Redevelopment Plan provides for the delineation of Growth Areas and Environs; Use of the endorsed plans in the implementation of state environmental regulations makes the Plan Endorsement process a growth management strategy. 					
Site Plan Review	Yes	Local	Yes – if municipality has a Planning Board	No	-
<i>Comment:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dictated by the Municipal Land Use Law which sets forth minimum requirements for plans, etc., timeframes for development review. NJ Statute 40:27-6.2: The board of freeholders of any county having a county planning board shall provide for the review of all subdivisions of land within the county by said county planning board and for the approval of those subdivisions affecting county road or drainage facilities as set forth and limited hereinafter in this section. 40:27-6.10 In order that county planning boards shall have a complete file of the planning and zoning ordinances of all municipalities in the county, each municipal clerk shall file with the county planning board a copy of the planning and zoning ordinances of the municipality in effect on the effective date of this act and shall notify the county planning board of the introduction of any revision or amendment of such an ordinance which affects lands adjoining county roads or other county lands, or lands lying within 200 feet of a municipal boundary, or proposed facilities or public lands shown on the county master plan or official county map. Such notice shall be given to the county planning board at least 10 days prior to the public hearing thereon by personal delivery or by certified mail of a copy of the official notice of the public hearing together with a copy of the proposed ordinance. The Land Use Department and Engineering Department are responsible for these requirements in compliance with Code Chapter 333-Article VI. 					
Environmental Protection	Yes	Regional/Local	No	No	-
<i>Comment: Vernon Township is located in both the Highlands Preservation and Planning Areas. The Township’s master planning and zoning ordinances reflect initiatives to protect water resources, preserve land, and promote compatible uses.</i>					
Flood Damage Prevention	Yes	Federal, State & Local	Yes	No	2021-Vernon-004
<i>Comment:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NJ State Law Flood Area Control Act (N.J.S.A. 58:16A-52) and the National Flood Control Act of 1968 (NFIP) are state and federal acts to support minimization of flood losses. They do not require local adoption but as enforced by the NJDEP, the floodplain ordinances of each municipality must be reviewed for compliance with these regulations. In addition, participation in the NFIP requires a floodplain ordinance. Regulations for the Flood Control Hazards Act were adopted in 2007 and amended effective June 20, 2016. The Construction Official is responsible for this ordinance in compliance with Code Chapter 275. 					
Wellhead Protection	Yes	State/Local	No	No	-
<i>Comment: Vernon Township has several well head protection areas. The identification of wellhead protection areas are required as part of permit applications in the Highlands Preservation Area</i>					
Emergency Management	Yes	State & Local	No	No	-
<i>Comment: A Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan was last updated in January 2020.</i>					
Climate Change	No	Local	No	-	-
<i>Comment:</i>					



	Do you have this? (Yes/No)	Authority that enforces (Federal, State, Regional, County, Local)	Is this State Mandated?	Have aspects of the HMP been integrated into your codes/ordinances/plans?	
				If yes- how? Describe in comments.	If no - add Mitigation Action #, if applicable.
Disaster Recovery Ordinance	No	Local	No	-	-
<i>Comment:</i>					
Disaster Reconstruction Ordinance	No	Local	No	-	-
<i>Comment:</i>					
Other: NFIP Freeboard	Yes	State & Local	No	No	2021-Vernon-004
<i>Comment:</i>					
Other [Special Purpose Ordinances (i.e., sensitive areas, steep slope)]	No	Local	No	-	-
<i>Comment: The Land Use Department and Engineering Department are responsible for these ordinances in compliance with Code Chapter 330-Article XII and slopes, environmental sensitive areas, etc..</i>					
Planning Documents					
Comprehensive / Master Plan	Yes	Local	Yes	-	-
<i>Comment:</i>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2018 Revised NJ Statute 40:27-2; the county planning board shall make and adopt a master plan for the physical development of the county. The master plan of a county, with the accompanying maps, plats, charts, and descriptive and explanatory matter, shall show the county planning board's recommendations for the development of the territory covered by the plan, and may include, among other things, the general location, character, and extent of streets or roads, viaducts, bridges, waterway and waterfront developments, parkways, playgrounds, forests, reservations, parks, airports, and other public ways, grounds, places and spaces; the general location and extent of forests, agricultural areas, and open-development areas for purposes of conservation, food and water supply, sanitary and drainage facilities, or the protection of urban development, and such other features as may be important to the development of the county. The county planning board shall encourage the co-operation of the local municipalities within the county in any matters whatsoever which may concern the integrity of the county master plan and to advise the board of chosen freeholders with respect to the formulation of development programs and budgets for capital expenditures. Per State of NJ Municipal Land Use Law (MLUL) L. 1975, s. 2, eff Aug 1, 1976 40:55D-28 provides the required components of a municipal Master Plan and requires that each municipality prepare a master plan and update it every 6 years. Further, all zoning ordinances must be consistent with the Master Plan or will not be benefitted from a presumption of validity. The Land Use Department and Engineering Department are responsible for this plan in compliance with the 2010 Master Plan Update. 					
Capital Improvement Plan	Yes	Local	No	-	-
<i>Comment: The Administrator is responsible for this plan.</i>					
Disaster Debris Management Plan	Yes	State & Local	No	-	-
<i>Comment: December 2020- adopted</i>					
Floodplain or Watershed Plan	Yes	County & Local	No	No	-
<i>Comment: The Engineering Department is responsible for this plan in compliance with Code Chapter 275-3.4.</i>					
Stormwater Management Plan	Yes	Local	Yes	-	-
<i>Comment:</i>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Stormwater Management rules (N.J.A.C. 7:8) rules were published in the February 2, 2004 NJ Register. These rules set forth the required components of regional and municipal stormwater management plans and establish the stormwater management design and performance standards for new (proposed) development. The design and performance standards for new development include groundwater recharge, runoff quantity controls, and runoff quality controls. The rules emphasize, as a primary consideration, the use of nonstructural stormwater management techniques including minimizing disturbance, minimizing impervious surfaces, minimizing the use of stormwater pipes, preserving natural drainage features, etc. The rules also set forth requirements for groundwater recharge, stormwater runoff quantity control, stormwater runoff quality control, and the prohibition of major development to be located within or to discharge runoff from the major development into a 300-foot riparian zone without prior authorization from the Department under the Flood Hazard Area Control Act Rules, N.J.A.C. 7:13. The Land Use Department and Engineering Department are responsible for this plan in compliance with Code Chapter 330-Article XII. 					
Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan	Yes	Local	Yes	No	-
<i>Comment:</i>					





	Do you have this? (Yes/No)	Authority that enforces (Federal, State, Regional, County, Local)	Is this State Mandated?	Have aspects of the HMP been integrated into your codes/ordinances/plans?	
				If yes- how? Describe in comments.	If no - add Mitigation Action #, if applicable.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Phase II New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Stormwater Regulation Program (NJPDES) rules (N.J.A.C. 7:14A) were published in the February 2, 2004, NJ Register. These NJPDES rules are intended to address and reduce pollutants associated with existing stormwater runoff. The NJPDES rules establish a regulatory program for existing stormwater discharges as required under the Federal Clean Water Act. These NJPDES rules govern the issuance of permits to entities that own or operate small municipal separate storm sewer systems, known as MS4s. Under this program, permits must be secured by municipalities, certain public complexes such as universities and hospitals, and State, interstate and federal agencies that operate or maintain highways. The permit program establishes the Statewide Basic Requirements that must be implemented to reduce nonpoint source pollutant loads from these sources. The Statewide Basic Requirements include measures such as: the adoption of ordinances (litter control, pet waste, wildlife feeding, proper waste disposal, etc.); the development of a municipal stormwater management plan and implementing ordinance(s); requiring certain maintenance activities (such as street sweeping and catch basin cleaning); implementing solids and floatables control; locating discharge points and stenciling catch basins; and a public education component. The Township's Stormwater Management Plan was adopted in 2005 					
Urban Water Management Plan	No	N/A	No	No	-
<i>Comment:</i>					
Habitat Conservation Plan	Yes	Federal	No	No	-
<i>Comment:</i> The US Fish and Wildlife Service has produced a Comprehensive Conservation Planning document for the Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge, which includes portions of Vernon Township.					
Economic Development Plan	No	N/A	No	No	-
<i>Comment:</i>					
Shoreline Management Plan	No	N/A	No	No	-
<i>Comment:</i>					
Community Wildfire Protection Plan	No	N/A	No	No	-
<i>Comment:</i>					
Community Forest Management Plan	No	N/A	No	No	-
<i>Comment:</i>					
Transportation Plan	Yes	Local	No	No	-
<i>Comment:</i> The Township's Master Plan incorporates a Circulation Element.					
Agriculture Plan	No	N/A	No	No	-
<i>Comment:</i>					
Climate Action Plan	No	N/A	No	No	-
<i>Comment:</i>					
Tourism Plan	No	N/A	No	No	-
<i>Comment:</i>					
Business Development Plan	No	N/A	No	No	-
<i>Comment:</i>					
Other: Open Space Plan	Yes	Local	No	No	-
<i>Comment:</i>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Land Use Department and the Planner are responsible for this plan in compliance with Code Chapter 244. Part 2 of the Master Plan includes Parks and Open Space. The Plan was adopted in 1995 and updated in 2016. 					
Response/Recovery Planning					
Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) / Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)	Yes	Local	Yes	Yes	
<i>Comment:</i>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each county and municipality in the State shall prepare a written Emergency Operations Plan with all appropriate annexes necessary to implement the plan. Each Emergency Operations Plan shall be adopted no later than one year after the State 					



	Do you have this? (Yes/No)	Authority that enforces (Federal, State, Regional, County, Local)	Is this State Mandated?	Have aspects of the HMP been integrated into your codes/ordinances/plans?	
				If yes- how? Describe in comments.	If no - add Mitigation Action #, if applicable.
<p><i>Emergency Planning Guidelines have been adopted by the State Office of Emergency Management and shall be evaluated at such subsequent scheduled review of the State Emergency Operations Plan. L.1989, c.222, s.19.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The Office of Emergency Management Coordinator is responsible for this plan in compliance with the Emergency Operations Plan.</i> 					
Threat & Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment (THIRA)	Yes	Local	No	Yes	
<i>Comment:</i>					
Post-Disaster Recovery Plan	No	N/A	No	No	-
<i>Comment:</i>					
Continuity of Operations Plan	Yes	Local	No	Yes	
<i>Comment:</i>					
Public Health Plan	No	N/A	No	No	-
<i>Comment:</i>					
Other: Stream Corridor Management Plan	No	N/A	No	No	-
<i>Comment:</i>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>This plan follows Code Chapter 330-Article XII.</i> 					

Table 9.23-4. Development and Permitting Capability

Criterion	Response
Does your jurisdiction issue development permits? - If no, who does? If yes, which department?	Yes Building Department and Planning/Zoning
Does your jurisdiction have the ability to track permits by hazard area?	No
Does your jurisdiction have a buildable lands inventory? -If yes, please describe briefly. -If no, please quantitatively describe the level of buildout in the jurisdiction.	Yes

ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL CAPABILITY

The table below summarizes potential staff and personnel resources available to the Township of Vernon.

Table 9.23-5. Administrative and Technical Capabilities

Staff/Personnel Resource	Available?	Department/Agency/Position
Administrative Capability		
Planning Board	Yes	Vernon Township Land Use Board
Mitigation Planning Committee	No	
Environmental Board / Commission	Yes	Vernon Township Environmental Commission
Open Space Board / Committee	No	
Economic Development Commission / Committee	Yes	Vernon Township Economic Development Advisory Committee
Warning Systems / Services (reverse 911, outdoor warning signals)	No	
Maintenance program to reduce risk	No	
Mutual aid agreements	Yes	
Technical/Staffing Capability		





Staff/Personnel Resource	Available?	Department/Agency/Position
Planners or engineers with knowledge of land development and land management practices	Yes	Engineer/Planner
Engineers or professionals trained in building or infrastructure construction practices	Yes	Engineer
Planners or engineers with an understanding of natural hazards	Yes	Engineer
Staff with training in benefit/cost analysis	No	
Staff with training in green infrastructure	Yes	Engineer/Planner
Staff with education/knowledge/training in low impact development	Yes	Engineer/Planner
Surveyor	No	
Stormwater engineer	Yes	Cory Stoner (Harold Pellow & Associates)
Personnel skilled or trained in GIS applications	No	
Local or state water quality professional	No	
Scientist familiar with natural hazards in local area	No	
Emergency manager	Yes	Ken Clark, Emergency Management Coordinator
Watershed planner	No	
Environmental specialist	No	
Grant writers	No	
Resilience Officer	No	
Other: NFIP Floodplain Administrator	Yes	Construction Official (contracted service)

FISCAL CAPABILITY

The table below summarizes financial resources available to the Township of Vernon.

Table 9.23-6. Fiscal Capabilities

Financial Resource	Accessible or Eligible to Use?
Community Development Block Grants (CDBG, CDBG-DR)	No
Capital Improvements Project Funding	Yes
Authority to Levy Taxes for Specific Purposes	Yes
User Fees for Water, Sewer, Gas or Electric Service	Sewer only
Incur Debt through General Obligation Bonds	Yes
Incur Debt through Special Tax Bonds	No
Incur Debt through Private Activity Bonds	No
Withhold Public Expenditures in Hazard-Prone Areas	No
State-Sponsored Grant Programs	Yes
Development Impact Fees for Homebuyers or Developers	No
Clean Water Act 319 Grants (Nonpoint Source Pollution)	No
Other: Open Space Acquisition Funding Programs	Yes

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH CAPABILITY

The table below summarizes the education and outreach resources available to the Township of Vernon.





Table 9.23-7. Education and Outreach Capabilities

Criterion	Response
Do you have a public information officer or communications office?	No
Do you have personnel skilled or trained in website development?	Yes- individual contractor
Do you have hazard mitigation information available on your website? -If yes, briefly describe.	OEM Facebook page—daily weather
Do you use social media for hazard mitigation education and outreach? -If yes, briefly describe.	Yes- OEM Facebook page
Do you have any citizen boards or commissions that address issues related to hazard mitigation? -If yes, briefly describe.	No
Do you have any other programs already in place that could be used to communicate hazard-related information? If yes, briefly describe.	No

COMMUNITY CLASSIFICATIONS

The table below summarizes the classifications for community programs available to the Township of Vernon.

Table 9.23-8. Community Classifications

Program	Participating?	Classification	Date Classified
Community Rating System	No	N/A	N/A
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS)	No	N/A	N/A
Public Protection (Fire ISO Protection Class)	Yes	5x	Update to 3y
Storm Ready Certification	No	N/A	N/A
Firewise Community Classification	No	N/A	N/A
Sustainable Jersey	Yes	Bronze	11/3/2017

ADAPTIVE CAPACITY

Adaptive capacity is defined as “the ability of systems, institutions, humans and other organisms to adjust to potential damage, to take advantage of opportunities, or respond to consequences” (IPCC 2014). In other words, it describes a jurisdiction’s current ability to adjust to, protect from, or withstand a hazard event. This term is often discussed in reference to climate change; however, adaptive capacity also includes an understanding of local capacity for adapting to current and future risks and changing conditions. The table below summarizes the adaptive capacity for each hazard and the jurisdiction’s rating.

Table 9.23-9. Adaptive Capacity of Climate Change

Hazard	Adaptive Capacity (Capabilities) - High/Medium/Low
Dam Failure	Moderate
Disease Outbreak	Moderate
Drought	Moderate
Earthquake	Moderate
Flood	Moderate
Geologic	Moderate





Hazard	Adaptive Capacity (Capabilities) - High/Medium/Low
Hazardous Materials	Moderate
Hurricane and Tropical Storm	Moderate
Invasive Species	Moderate
Nor’Easter	Moderate
Severe Weather	Moderate
Severe Winter Weather	Strong
Wildfire	Moderate

Notes:

High = Capacity exists and is in use; Medium = Capacity may exist, but is not used or could use some improvement;

Low = Capacity does not exist or could use substantial improvement; Unsure = Not enough information is known to assign a rating.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

This section provides specific information on the management and regulation of the regulatory floodplain.

Table 9.23-10. National Flood Insurance Program Compliance

Criterion	Response
What local department is responsible for floodplain management?	Building
Who is your floodplain administrator? (name, department/position)	Construction Official (contracted service to Harold Pellow & Associates)
Are any certified floodplain managers on staff in your jurisdiction?	No
What is the date that your flood damage prevention ordinance was last amended?	September 12 th 2011
Does your floodplain management program meet or exceed minimum requirements? -If exceeds, in what ways?	The program meets minimum requirements set by FEMA and the State.
When was the most recent Community Assistance Visit or Community Assistance Contact?	July 27, 1994
Does your jurisdiction have any outstanding NFIP compliance violations that need to be addressed? -If so, state what they are.	No
Are any RiskMAP projects currently underway in your jurisdiction? If so, state what they are.	No
Do your flood hazard maps adequately address the flood risk within your jurisdiction? -If no, state why.	Yes
Does your floodplain management staff need any assistance or training to support its floodplain management program? - If so, what type of assistance/training is needed?	No
Does your jurisdiction participate in the Community Rating System (CRS)? -If yes, is your jurisdiction interested in improving its CRS Classification? -If no, is your jurisdiction interested in joining the CRS program?	No
How many flood insurance policies are in force in your jurisdiction?*	26 policies
-What is the insurance in force?	
-What is the premium in force?	
How many total loss claims have been filed in your jurisdiction?*	18 claims \$119,012 in payments
-How many claims are still open or were closed without payment?	
-What were the total payments for losses?	





Criterion	Response
Do you maintain a list of properties that have been damaged by flooding?	No
Do you maintain a list of property owners interested in flood mitigation?	No

*According to FEMA statistics as of October 13, 2020
 Reference: FEMA 2020

ADDITIONAL AREAS OF EXISTING INTEGRATION

- The Division of Planning and Zoning and the Township’s Land Use Board consider the Hazard Mitigation Plan and the information contained therein and will use the plan when updating the Township’s Master Plan.
- The Township has taken steps to ensure the continuity of operations of municipal operations and infrastructure.

9.23.5 Hazard Event History Specific to the Jurisdiction

Sussex County has a history of hazard events, as detailed in Section 4 (Risk Assessment) of this plan. A summary of historical events is provided in each of the hazard profiles in Section 4.3 (Hazards of Concern) and includes a chronology of events that affected Sussex County and its jurisdictions. The Township of Vernon’s history of federally-declared (as presented by FEMA) and significant hazard events (as presented in NOAA-NCEI) is consistent with that of Sussex County. Table 9.22-11 provides details regarding municipal-specific loss and damages the jurisdiction experienced during hazard events. Information provided in the table below is based on reference material or local sources.

Table 9.23-11. Hazard Event History

Date(s) of Event	Event Type (disaster declaration if applicable)	Sussex County Designated?	Summary of Event	Summary of Local Damages and Losses
January 22, 2016 - January 24, 2016	DR-4264: Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm	Yes	A major nor’easter, produced record snowfall and blizzard conditions in parts of New Jersey on January 23 rd and 24 th .	Excessive clean up costs
January 20, 2020 and continuing	EM-3451, DR-4488: COVID-19 Pandemic	Yes	The coronavirus pandemic resulted in the need for shutdowns and social distancing and mask requirements.	Excessive unbudgeted costs for PPE to Emergency Services. Tax revenue down and municipal center closed 5 weeks
Tropical Storm Isais (8/4/20)	DR-4574-NJ	Yes	A major tropical storm produced excessive winds and storm damage August 4, 2020	Clean up costs in excess of \$120,000.00
Jan 31-Feb 2, 2021	Severe Winter storm	No	A major winter snow event that dropped 30+ inches of snow in blizzard conditions.	Clean up Costs in excess of \$100,000.00

*According to FEMA statistics as of October 13, 2020
 Reference: FEMA 2020

9.23.6 Jurisdiction-Specific Vulnerabilities and Hazard Ranking

The hazard profiles in Section 4 (Risk Assessment) provide detailed information regarding each plan participant’s vulnerability to the identified hazards. Refer to Section 4.2 (Methodology and Tools) and Section 4.4 (Hazard Ranking) for a detailed summary for the Township of Vernon risk assessment results and data used to determine the hazard ranking discussed later in this section.





HAZARD AREA EXTENT AND LOCATION

Hazard area extent and location maps were generated for the Township of Vernon that illustrate the probable areas impacted within the municipality. These maps are based on the best available data at the time of the preparation of this plan and are adequate for planning purposes. Maps have been generated only for those hazards that can be clearly identified using mapping techniques and technologies and for which the Township of Vernon has significant exposure.

REPETITIVE FLOOD LOSSES

The following summarizes the repetitive and severe repetitive flood losses in the Township of Vernon.

- Number of repetitive loss (RL) properties: 2
- Number of severe repetitive loss (SRL) properties: 0
- Number of RL/SRL properties that have been mitigated: 0

**According to FEMA statistics as of October 13, 2020*

CRITICAL FACILITIES AND LIFELINES

The table below identifies critical facilities and lifelines in the community located in the 1-percent and 0.2-percent floodplain.

Table 9.23-12. Critical Facilities and Lifelines Flood Exposure

Name	Type	Exposure	
		1% Event	0.2% Event
Dorothy Henry Library Branch	Shelter	Y	Y
Canistear Reservoir #2 Dam	Dam	Y	Y
Lake Wanda Dam	Dam	Y	Y
Kohout Lake Dam	Dam	Y	Y
Hickory Park Dam	Dam	Y	Y

Source: Sussex County Planning Partnership 2020

Note:

**Identified lifeline*

IDENTIFIED ISSUES AND PROBLEM AREAS

The jurisdiction did not identify any problem areas in the Township.

HAZARD RANKING

This section summarizes the jurisdiction’s primary hazards of concern based on identified problems, impacts and the results of the risk assessment as presented in Section 4 (Risk Assessment). The ranking process involves an assessment of the likelihood of occurrence for each hazard; its potential impacts on people, property, and the economy; community capability and changing future climate conditions. This input supports the development of mitigation actions, targeting those hazards with the highest level of concern.

As discussed in Section 4.4 (Hazard Ranking), each plan participant may have differing degrees of risk exposure and vulnerability compared to Sussex County as a whole. Therefore, the Township of Vernon ranked each hazard’s degree of risk as it pertains to their community factoring in their capabilities to withstand impacts and





rebound after the event. The table below summarizes the hazard rankings of potential hazards for the Township of Vernon. The Township of Vernon has reviewed the Sussex County hazard ranking table and has provided input to its individual results to reflect the relative risk of the hazards of concern to the community. During the review of the hazard ranking, the Township of Vernon indicated the following reasons why hazard rankings have changed since the 2016 HMP:

- Geologic hazards were reduced to a “Medium” rank from “high” due to low event frequency and impact.

Table 9.23-13. Township of Vernon Hazard Ranking

Dam Failure	Disease Outbreak	Drought	Earthquake	Flood	Geologic	
Medium	Medium	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium	
Hazardous Materials	Hurricane and Tropical Storm	Invasive Species	Nor’Easter	Severe Weather	Severe Winter Weather	Wildfire
Medium	High	Medium	High	High	High	Medium

9.23.7 Mitigation Strategy and Prioritization

This section discusses past mitigations actions and status, describes proposed hazard mitigation initiatives, and provides action prioritization.

PAST MITIGATION INITIATIVE STATUS

The following table summarizes the jurisdiction’s progress on their mitigation strategy identified in the 2016 HMP. Actions that are carried forward as part of this plan update are included in Table 9.22-15 and Table 9.22-16 with prioritization. Previous actions that are now on-going programs and capabilities are indicated as such in the following table and can also be found under ‘Capability Assessment’ presented previously in this annex.

Table 9.23-14. Status of Previous HMP Mitigation Actions

2016 Action Number	Action Description	Responsible Party	Status (In Progress, No Progress, Ongoing Capability, or Completed)	Include in the 2021 HMP Update?	
				Check if Yes	Enter 2021 HMP Action #
Vernon-1 (new)	Utilize the Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) when updating the Comprehensive Master Plan; consider including hazard identification, hazard zones risk assessment information, and hazard mitigation goals as identified in the HMP. Further, the findings and recommendation of the HMP will be considered during any future site plan review processes.	Planning	Ongoing Capability		





2016 Action Number Action Description		Responsible Party	Status (In Progress, No Progress, Ongoing Capability, or Completed)	Include in the 2021 HMP Update?	
				Check if Yes	Enter 2021 HMP Action #
Vernon-2 (old #2)	When replacing the roof of the Vernon Valley Police Department building on Church Street, ensure that it meets the current snow load standards.	Police Chief	Completed		
Vernon-3 (old #3)	When replacing the roof of the Lounsberry Hollow School building on Sammis Road, ensure that it meets the current snow load standards.	School Board Administrator	Completed		
Vernon-4 (old #4)	When replacing the roof of the High School building on Route 565, ensure that it meets the current snow load standards.	School Board Administrator	Completed		
Vernon-5 (old #5)	Implement the Fire Wise Program throughout the township.	OEM Coordinator	No Progress	X	2021-VernonTwp-003
Vernon-6 (old #6)	When replacing the roof of the Glen Meadows School building on Sammis Road, ensure that it meets the current snow load standards.	School Board Administrator	Completed		
Vernon-7 (old #7)	When replacing the roof of the Cedar Mountain School building on Sammis Road, ensure that it meets the current snow load standards.	School Board Administrator	Completed		
Vernon-8 (old #8)	When replacing the roof of the Rolling Hill School building on Sammis Road, ensure that it meets the current snow load standards.	School Board Administrator	Completed		
Vernon-9 (old #9)	When replacing the roof of the Walnut Ridge School building on Route 517, ensure that it meets the current snow load standards.	School Board Administrator	Completed		
Vernon-10 (old #10)	Stormwater management system upgrade and improvement along Maple Grange Road and Vernon Crossing Road.	DPW	Completed		
Vernon-11 (old #12)	Stormwater management system along Tenneco Pipeline.	DPW	Completed		
Vernon-12 (old #13)	Harden SES Americom building located on route 517 and Edsel Drive to FEMA 361 Standards.	Facility Administrator	No progress		
Vernon-13	Conduct all-hazards public education and outreach program for hazard mitigation	OEM Coordinator in	Ongoing capability		



2016 Action Number Action Description		Responsible Party	Status (In Progress, No Progress, Ongoing Capability, or Completed)	Include in the 2021 HMP Update?	
				Check if Yes	Enter 2021 HMP Action #
(old #14)	and preparedness. This will include providing better information regarding hazard risks and high-hazard areas in the Township.	coordination with County OEM			
Vernon-14 (new)	Ensure continuity of operations at critical facilities, municipal buildings, and infrastructure. At this time, the following was identified: Develop an action plan to improve the damage resistance of utilities (electricity, communications) throughout the Township.	Township with support from utility providers	Ongoing capability		

PROPOSED HAZARD MITIGATION INITIATIVES FOR THE PLAN UPDATE

The Township of Vernon participated in a risk assessment workshop in October 2020 in which detailed information was provided about assets exposed and vulnerable to the identified hazards of concern. The Township of Vernon participated in a mitigation action workshop in November 2020 and was provided a Mitigation Toolbox that included a mitigation catalog developed specifically for Sussex County and its hazards of concerns; challenges and opportunities identified during the capability and risk assessments; mitigation funding sources, and the following FEMA publications to use as a resource as part of their comprehensive review of all possible activities and mitigation measures to address their hazards: FEMA 551 *Selecting Appropriate Mitigation Measures for Floodprone Structures* (March 2007) and FEMA *Mitigation Ideas – A Resource for Reducing Risk to Natural Hazards* (January 2013). Section 6 (Mitigation Strategy) and Appendix F (Mitigation Strategy Supplement) provide a more complete description of the Mitigation Toolbox and its resources.

Table 9.22-15 summarizes the comprehensive-range of specific mitigation initiatives the Township of Vernon would like to pursue in the future to reduce the effects of hazards. Initiatives are dependent upon available funding (grants and local match availability) and can be modified or omitted at any time based on the occurrence of new hazard events and changes in municipal priorities. Both the four FEMA mitigation action categories and the six CRS mitigation action categories are listed in the table below to further demonstrate the wide-range of activities and mitigation measures selected.

As discussed in Section 6 (Mitigation Strategy), 14 evaluation/prioritization criteria are used to complete the prioritization of mitigation initiatives. For each new mitigation action, a numeric rank is assigned (-1, 0, or 1) for each of the 14 evaluation criteria to assist with prioritizing actions as *High, Medium, or Low*. The table below summarizes the evaluation of each mitigation initiative, listed by action number.

Table 9.22-16 provides a summary of the prioritization of all proposed mitigation initiatives for this HMP update.



Table 9.23-15. Proposed Hazard Mitigation Initiatives

Initiative Number	Mitigation Initiative Name	Description of the Problem and Solution	New or Existing Assets?	Hazard(s) to be Mitigated	Goals Met	Lead and Support Agencies	Potential Funding Sources	Estimated Benefits	Estimated Cost	Timeline	Priority	Mitigation Category	CRS Category
2021-Vernon-001	PPE Acquisition/Pandemic Response	<p>Problem: During the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Township did not have an adequate supply of personal protective equipment (PPE) for municipal staff. Without proper PPE, it puts municipal staff and residents at risk to the spread of infectious diseases.</p> <p>Solution: The Township will purchase PPE to create a stockpile for municipal staff. This will include gloves, masks, gowns, antibacterial handwash, antiviral cleaning solutions, sanitizers, and misters. This equipment can be used for the COVID-19 pandemic response as well as future infectious disease outbreaks, such as pandemic influenza.</p>	N/A	Disease Outbreak	1, 2, 3, 6	Township OEM	BRIC, NJDCA, Township Budget, FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant	Increase protection from diseases; decrease risk of spread	\$75,000	Within 2 years	High	LPR	PR, ES
2021-Vernon-002	Vegetation Management Planning and Implementation	<p>Problem: Vernon experiences frequent storm damage from downed trees. The Township’s roads are surrounded by vegetation over-growth throughout the Township’s 68 square miles. County Route 515, one of the Township’s busiest roads, is particularly impacted by downed trees. The Township has identified that 14 miles of vegetation management is needed to reduce impacts from trees to utility and vehicle right-of-ways. During storm events, delays of up to six hours are reported due to trees in the road.</p> <p>Solution: The Township proposes to develop a proactive vegetation management plan and contract with a vegetation management company to prioritize vegetation removal, implement best practices, and cutback overgrown and dead vegetation to reduce impacts of downed trees.</p>	New	Hurricane and Tropical Storm; Nor’easter; Severe Storm; Severe Winter Storm; Wildfire	1, 2, 3, 6	Sussex County; Vernon Township DPW	BRIC; HMGP; Township Funds;	Enhanced utility of roads and decreased frequency of power outage following hazard events	\$2 million	Within three years	High	LPR	PR, ES
2021-Vernon-003	Firewise Program Participation	<p>Problem: The national Firewise USA® recognition program provides a collaborative framework to help</p>	Both	Wildfire	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Township OEM and	Township Budget, Staff Time	Helps Township	\$10,000+	Within	High	LPR, EAP	PI, ES





Initiative Number	Mitigation Initiative Name	Description of the Problem and Solution	New or Existing Assets?	Hazard(s) to be Mitigated	Goals Met	Lead and Support Agencies	Potential Funding Sources	Estimated Benefits	Estimated Cost	Timeline	Priority	Mitigation Category	CRS Category
		<p>neighbors in a geographic area get organized, find direction, and take action to increase the ignition resistance of their homes and community and to reduce wildfire risks at the local level. The Township is currently not part of the Firewise program.</p> <p>Solution: The Township will follow the proper steps in applying for and becoming a Firewise community. This includes forming a board/committee, obtaining a wildfire risk assessment, developing an action plan, and hosting outreach events and programs. The application will be completed online.</p>				Fire Department		identify wildfire safety efforts; access to funding and assistance		5 years			
2021-Vernon-004	Update Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance	<p>Problem: The Township’s current flood damage prevention ordinance was last adopted in 2011. It currently does not have a freeboard requirement and does not meet New Jersey’s minimum requirement.</p> <p>Solution: The Township will update its flood damage prevention ordinance to meet the New Jersey requirement of one foot of freeboard.</p>	New and Existing	Flood	1, 2	Township Administration, Construction Official	Township budget	Meet state standards, reduce future flood risk	Staff time	6 months	High	LPR	PR

Notes:

Acronyms and Abbreviations:

- CAV Community Assistance Visit
- CRS Community Rating System
- DPW Department of Public Works
- FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency
- FPA Floodplain Administrator
- HMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance
- N/A Not applicable
- NFIP National Flood Insurance Program
- OEM Office of Emergency Management

Potential FEMA HMA Funding Sources:

- BRIC Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities
- FMA Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program
- HMGP Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

Timeline:

The time required for completion of the project upon implementation

Cost:

The estimated cost for implementation.

Benefits:

A description of the estimated benefits, either quantitative and/or qualitative.

Mitigation Category:

- Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) – These actions include government authorities, policies or codes that influence the way land and buildings are being developed and built.
- Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP) - 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.
- Natural Systems Protection (NSP) – These are actions that minimize damage and losses and preserve or restore the functions of natural systems.





- *Education and Awareness Programs (EAP) – These are actions to inform and educate citizens, 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 and Firewise Communities.*

CRS Category:

- *Preventative Measures (PR) - Government, administrative or regulatory actions, or processes that influence the way land and buildings are developed and built. Examples include planning and zoning, floodplain local laws, capital improvement programs, open space preservation, and storm water management regulations.*
- *Property Protection (PP) - These actions include public activities to reduce hazard losses or actions that involve (1) modification of existing buildings or structures to protect them from a hazard or (2) removal of the structures from the hazard area. Examples include acquisition, elevation, relocation, structural retrofits, storm shutters, and shatter-resistant glass.*
- *Public Information (PI) - Actions to inform and educate citizens, elected officials, and property owners about hazards and potential ways to mitigate them. Actions include outreach projects, real estate disclosure, hazard information centers, and educational programs for school-age children and adults.*
- *Natural Resource Protection (NR) - Actions that minimize hazard loss and preserve or restore the functions of natural systems. Actions include sediment and erosion control, stream corridor restoration, watershed management, forest and vegetation management, and wetland restoration and preservation.*
- *Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) - Actions that involve the construction of structures to reduce the impact of a hazard. Structures include dams, setback levees, floodwalls, retaining walls, and safe rooms.*
- *Emergency Services (ES) - Actions that protect people and property during and immediately following a disaster or hazard event. Services include warning systems, emergency response services, and the protection of essential facilities.*

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Table 9.23-16. Summary of Evaluation and Action Priorities

Initiative Number	Mitigation Initiative Name	Life Safety	Property Protection	Cost Effectiveness	Technical	Political	Legal	Fiscal	Environmental	Social	Administrative	Multi-Hazard	Timeline	Agency Champion	Other Community	Total	High / Medium / Low
001	PPE Acquisition/Pandemic Response	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	High ▲
002	Vegetation Management Planning and Implementation	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	High
003	Firewise Program Participation	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	High
004	Update Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	High

Notes: Section 6 (Mitigation Strategy) conveys guidance on prioritizing mitigation actions. Low (0-4), Medium (5-8), High (9-14).

▲ This action has been identified as being of highest importance to the municipality and an action that the municipality would like to complete as soon as funding is received.

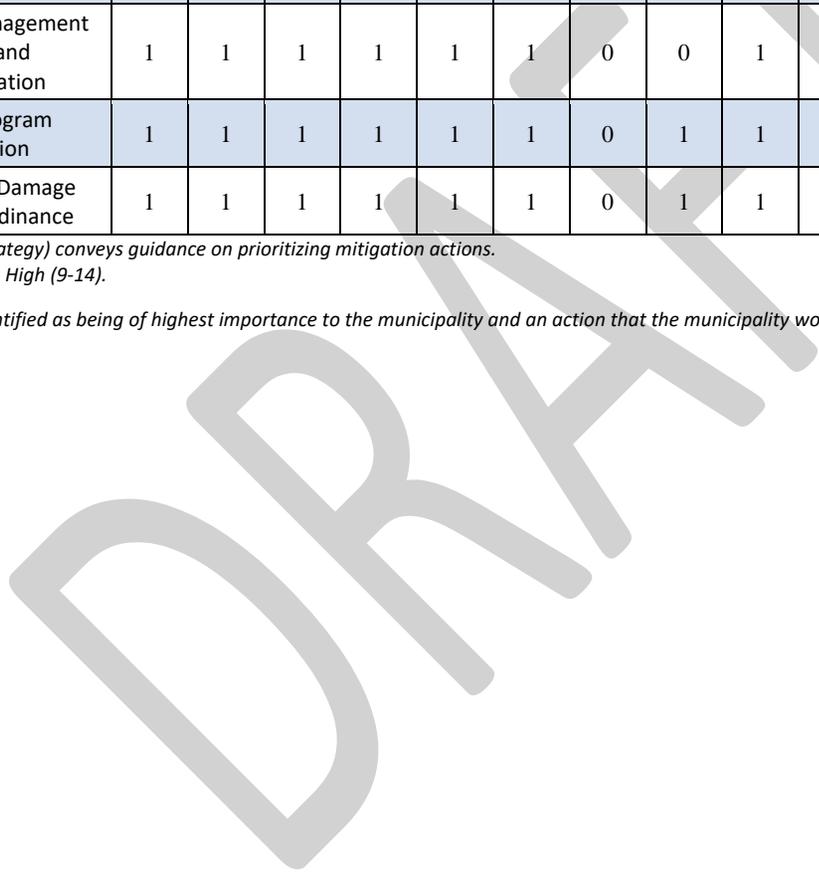




Table 9.23-17. Analysis of Mitigation Actions by Hazard and Category

Hazard	Prevention	Property Protection	Public Education and Awareness	Natural Resource Protection	Emergency Services	Structural Projects	Climate Resilient	Community Capacity Building
Dam Failure								
Disease Outbreak	X				X			
Drought								
Earthquake								
Flood	X							
Geologic								
Hazardous Materials								
Hurricane and Tropical Storm	X				X			
Invasive Species								
Nor'Easter	X				X			
Severe Weather	X				X			
Severe Winter Weather	X				X			
Wildfire	X		X		X			

Note: Section 6 (Mitigation Strategy) provides for an explanation of the mitigation categories.
 high ranked hazard
 ORANGE medium ranked hazard
 YELLOW low ranked hazard



Figure 9.23-1. Township of Vernon Hazard Area Extent and Location Map 1

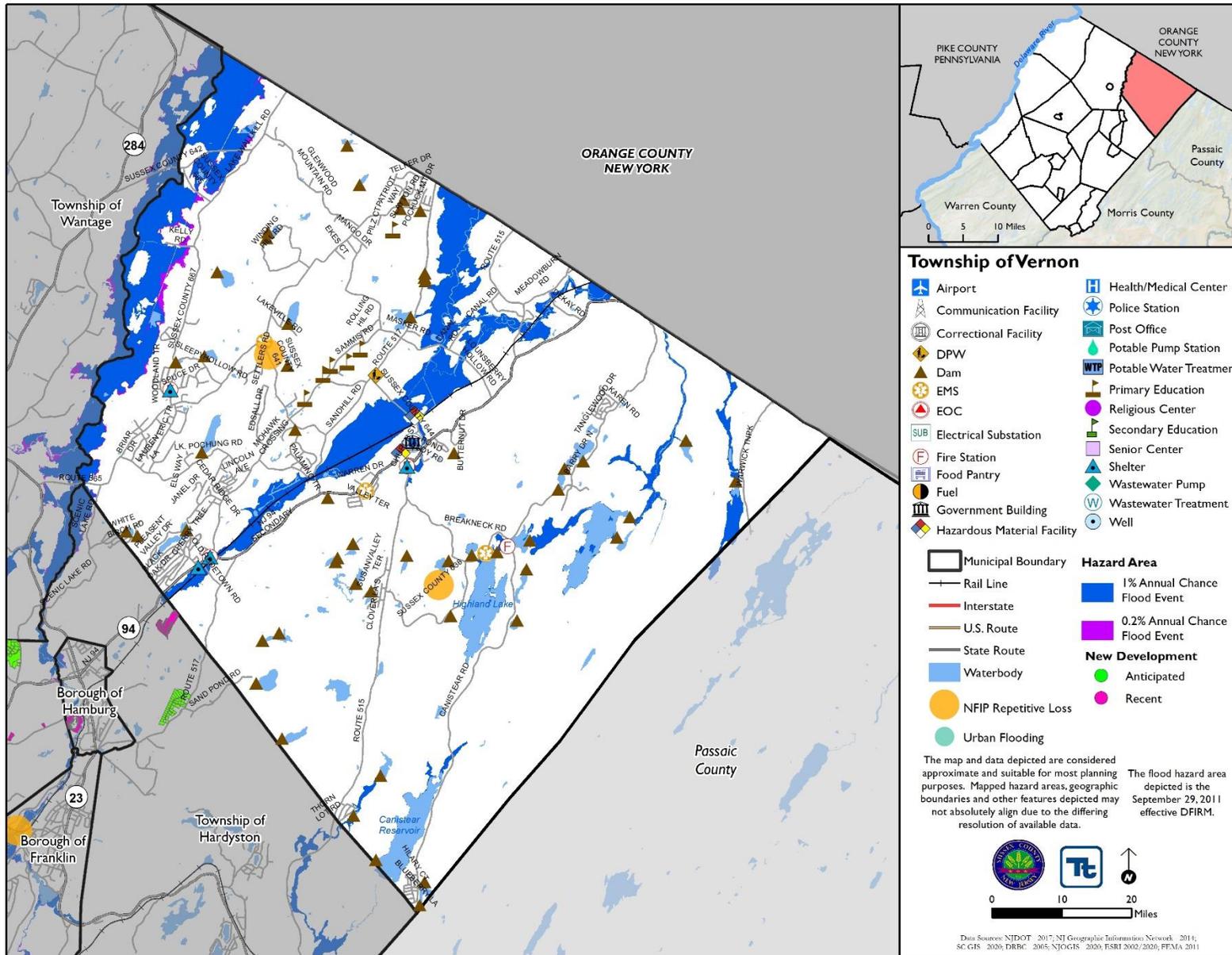




Figure 9.23-2. Township of Vernon Hazard Area Extent and Location Map 2

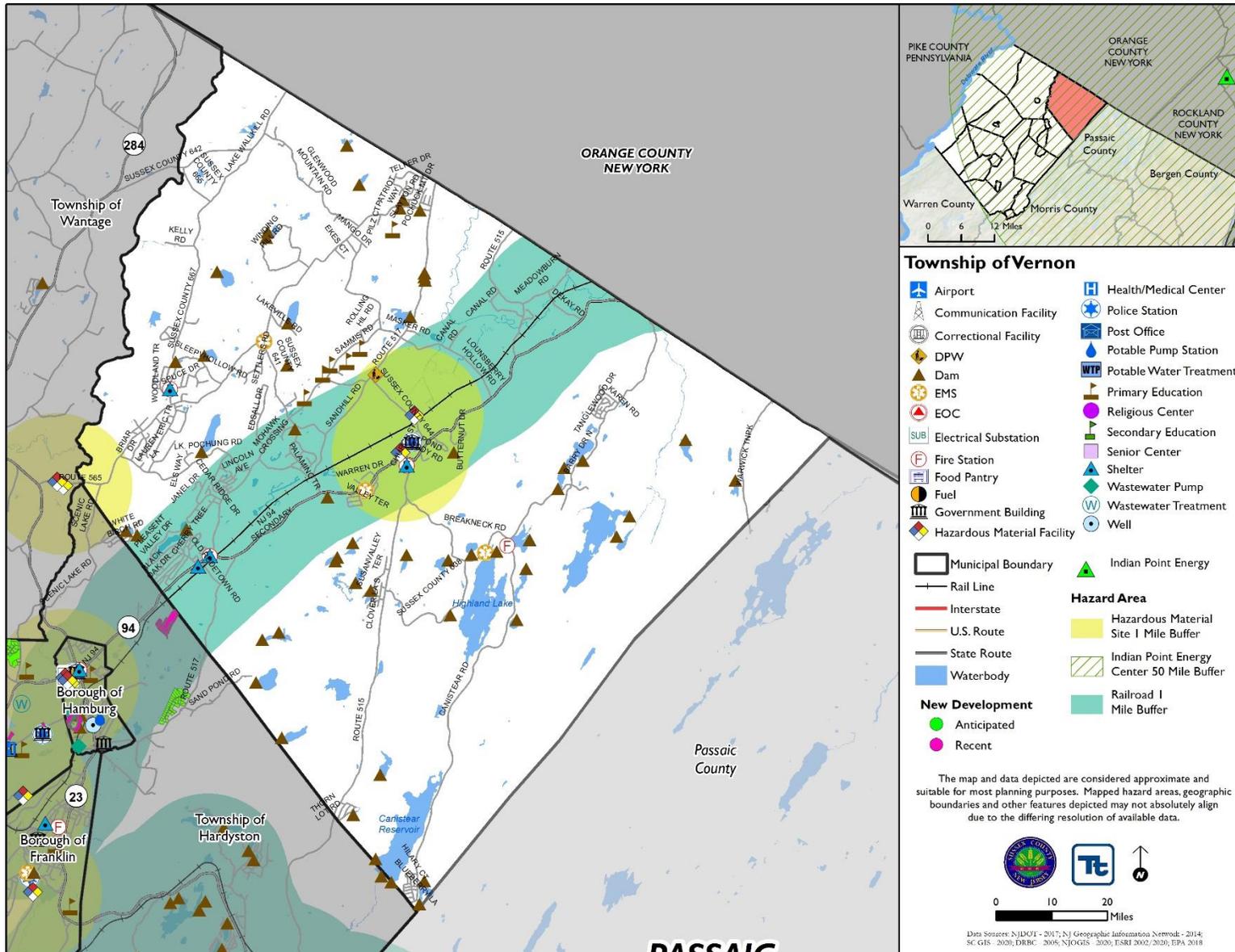
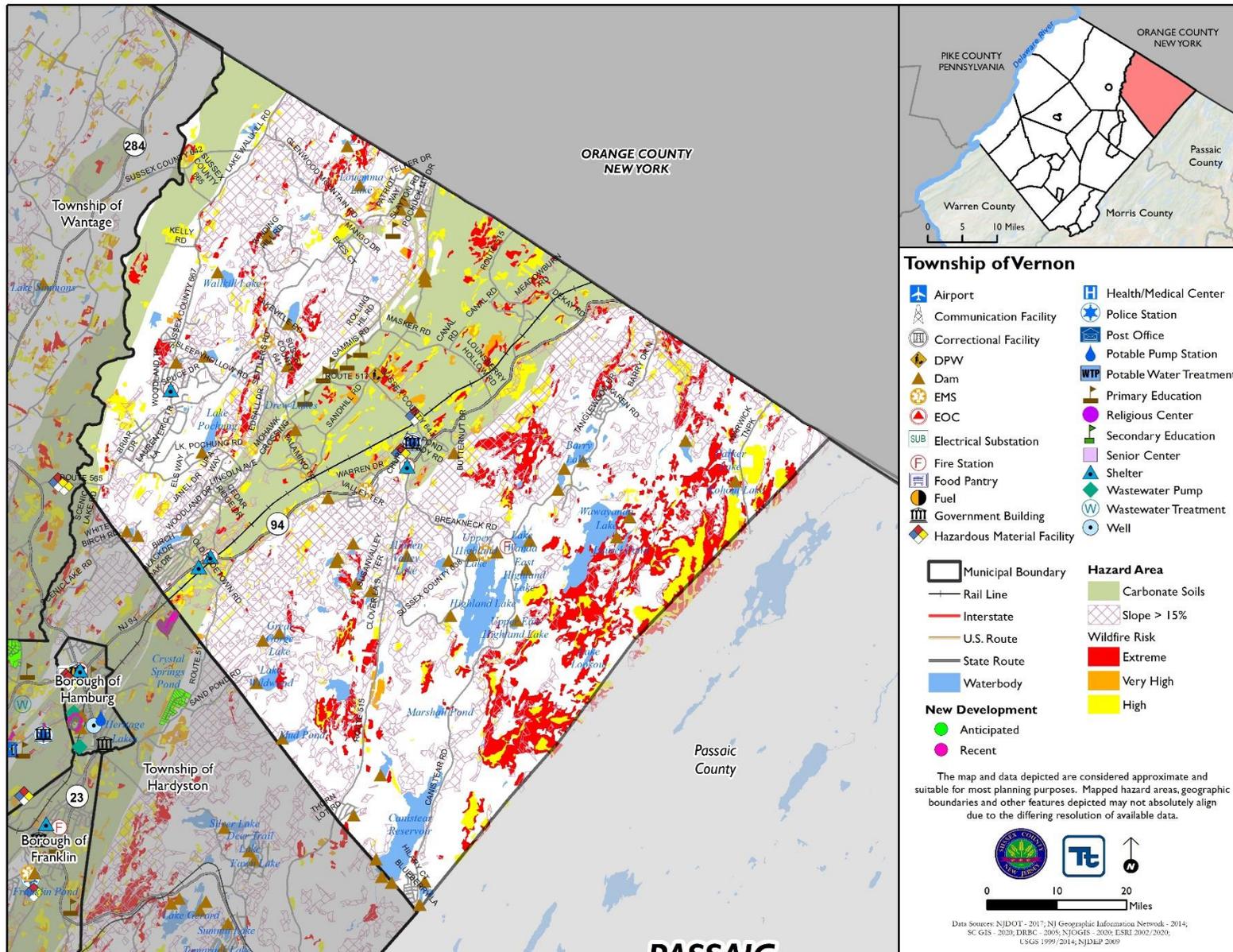




Figure 9.23-3 Township of Vernon Hazard Area Extent and Location Map 3





Action Worksheet			
Project Name:	PPE Stockpile		
Project Number:	2021-Vernon-001		
Risk / Vulnerability			
Hazard(s) of Concern:	Disease Outbreak		
Description of the Problem:	During the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Township did not have an adequate supply of personal protective equipment (PPE) for municipal staff. Without proper PPE, it puts municipal staff and residents at risk to the spread of infectious diseases. This equipment can be used for the COVID-19 pandemic response as well as future infectious disease outbreaks, such as pandemic influenza.		
Action or Project Intended for Implementation			
Description of the Solution:	The Township will purchase PPE to create a stockpile for municipal staff. This will include gloves, masks, gowns, antibacterial handwash, antiviral cleaning solutions, sanitizers, and misters.		
Is this project related to a Critical Facility or Lifeline?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Level of Protection:	PPE	Estimated Benefits (losses avoided):	Increase protection from diseases; decrease risk of spread
Useful Life:	Supply needs to be replaced after use	Goals Met:	1, 2, 3, 6
Estimated Cost:	\$50,000	Mitigation Action Type:	Local Plans and Regulations
Plan for Implementation			
Prioritization:	High	Desired Timeframe for Implementation:	Within 2 years
Estimated Time Required for Project Implementation:	1 year	Potential Funding Sources:	BRIC, NJDCA, Township Budget, FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant
Responsible Organization:	Township OEM	Local Planning Mechanisms to be Used in Implementation if any:	Hazard Mitigation, Emergency Management
Three Alternatives Considered (including No Action)			
Alternatives:	Action	Estimated Cost	Evaluation
	No Action	\$0	Current problem continues
	Shut down during disease outbreak events	N/A	Loss of continuity of operations
	Rely on county/state/federal distribution	\$0	Supply not guaranteed
Progress Report (for plan maintenance)			
Date of Status Report:			
Report of Progress:			
Update Evaluation of the Problem and/or Solution:			



Action Worksheet		
Project Name:	PPE Stockpile	
Project Number:	2021-Vernon-001	
Criteria	Numeric Rank (-1, 0, 1)	Provide brief rationale for numeric rank when appropriate
Life Safety	1	Protects life from disease outbreak
Property Protection	0	
Cost-Effectiveness	1	Cost-effective project
Technical	1	Technically feasible project
Political	1	
Legal	1	The Township has the legal authority to conduct the project.
Fiscal	0	Project will require funding support.
Environmental	1	
Social	1	Project would help protect families from disease outbreak events
Administrative	1	
Multi-Hazard	1	Disease Outbreak
Timeline	1	
Agency Champion	1	OEM
Other Community Objectives	1	
Total	12	
Priority (High/Med/Low)	High	



Action Worksheet			
Project Name:	Vegetation Management Planning and Implementation		
Project Number:	2021-Vernon-002		
Risk / Vulnerability			
Hazard(s) of Concern:	Hurricane and Tropical Storm; Nor'easter; Severe Storm; Severe Winter Storm; Wildfire		
Description of the Problem:	Vernon experiences frequent storm damage from downed trees. The Township's roads are surrounded by vegetation over-growth throughout the Township's 68 square miles. County Route 515, one of the Township's busiest roads, is particularly impacted by downed trees. The Township has identified that 14 miles of vegetation management is needed to reduce impacts from trees to utility and vehicle right-of-ways. During storm events, delays of up to six hours are reported due to trees in the road.		
Action or Project Intended for Implementation			
Description of the Solution:	The Township proposes to develop a proactive vegetation management plan and contract with a vegetation management company to prioritize vegetation removal, implement best practices, and cutback overgrown and dead vegetation to reduce impacts of downed trees.		
Is this project related to a Critical Facility or Lifeline?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Level of Protection:	PPE	Estimated Benefits (losses avoided):	Enhanced utility of roads and decreased frequency of power outage following hazard events
Useful Life:	Supply needs to be replaced after use	Goals Met:	1, 2, 3, 6
Estimated Cost:	\$2 million	Mitigation Action Type:	Local Plans and Regulations
Plan for Implementation			
Prioritization:	High	Desired Timeframe for Implementation:	Within 3 years
Estimated Time Required for Project Implementation:	1 year	Potential Funding Sources:	BRIC; HMGP; Township Funds
Responsible Organization:	Township DPW/Contractor	Local Planning Mechanisms to be Used in Implementation if any:	Hazard Mitigation, Emergency Management
Three Alternatives Considered (including No Action)			
Alternatives:	Action	Estimated Cost	Evaluation
	No Action	\$0	Current problem continues
	Ad-hoc vegetation management	High	Continued damage/less efficient use of resources
	Vegetation management plan/implementation	\$2 million	Proactive management
Progress Report (for plan maintenance)			
Date of Status Report:			
Report of Progress:			
Update Evaluation of the Problem and/or Solution:			



Action Worksheet		
Project Name:	Vegetation Management Planning and Implementation	
Project Number:	2021-Vernon-002	
Criteria	Numeric Rank (-1, 0, 1)	Provide brief rationale for numeric rank when appropriate
Life Safety	1	Protects life from disease outbreak
Property Protection	1	
Cost-Effectiveness	1	Cost-effective project
Technical	1	Technically feasible project
Political	1	
Legal	1	The Township has the legal authority to conduct the project.
Fiscal	0	Project will require funding support.
Environmental	0	
Social	1	Project would help protect families from disease outbreak events
Administrative	1	
Multi-Hazard	1	Multiple types of storm/wind events
Timeline	1	
Agency Champion	1	County; Township OEM/PW
Other Community Objectives	1	
Total	10	
Priority (High/Med/Low)	High	