

Hazards in your Community

Use this worksheet to identify the most significant hazards in your municipality. Use the words provided on the opposite side of the worksheet to fill in the fields for each hazard.

Municipality/Organization:				
Name:				
Hazard	Spatial Extent (Geographic Area Affected)	Probable Impact (Magnitude/ Strength)	Probability of Future Events	Overall Significance Ranking
Select	Negligible, Small, Moderate, or Large	Minor, Limited, Critical, or Catastrophic	Unlikely, Possible, Likely or Highly Likely	Low, Medium or High
Drought				
Earthquake				
Flood, Flash Flood, Ice Jam				
Hailstorms				
Hurricane, Tropical Storm, Nor'easter				
Landslide				
Lightning Strikes				
Pandemic/Infectious Disease				
Radon Exposure				
Subsidence, Sinkhole				
Tornado, Wind Storm				
Wildfires				
Winter Storm				
Building/Structure Collapse				
Civil Disturbance				
Dam Failure				
Disorientation				
Drowning				
Environmental Hazards				
Transportation Accidents				
Unconventional Gas Well Incidents				
Urban Fire and Explosion				
Utility Interruptions				

Are there any hazards not listed above that have the potential to significantly impact your community?

Definitions for Classifications

Spatial Extent (Geographic Area Affected)

- **Negligible:** Less than 1 percent of the land area (isolated single-point occurrences)
- **Small:** Between 1 and 10.9 percent of the land area (limited single-point occurrences)
- **Moderate:** 11 to 25 percent of the land area (frequent single-point occurrences)
- **Large:** Greater than 25 percent of the land area (consistent single-point occurrences)

Probable Impact (Magnitude/Strength based on historic events or future probability)

- **Minor:** Limited classification on scientific scale, slow speed of onset or short duration of event, resulting in little to no damage or injuries
- **Limited:** Moderate classification on scientific scale, moderate speed of onset or moderate duration of event, resulting in some damage, minor injuries, and loss of service for days
- **Critical:** Severe classification on scientific scale, fast speed of onset or long duration of event, resulting in devastating damage, multiple deaths/injuries, and loss of services for weeks or months
- **Catastrophic:** Extreme classification on scientific scale, immediate onset or extended duration of event, resulting in catastrophic damage, high number of deaths/injuries and uninhabitable conditions

Probability of Future Events

- **Unlikely:** Less than 1 percent probability of occurrence annually
- **Possible:** 1 to 49.9 percent probability of occurrence annually
- **Likely:** 50 to 90 percent probability of occurrence annually
- **Highly Likely:** Greater than 90 percent probability of occurrence annually

Overall Significance

- **Low:** Event has a minimal impact on the planning area. This rating is sometimes used for hazards with a minimal or unknown record of occurrences or for hazards with minimal mitigation potential.
- **Medium:** Event's impacts on the planning area are noticeable but not devastating. This rating is sometimes used for hazards with a high extent rating but very low probability rating.
- **High:** Event is likely/highly likely to occur with severe strength over a significant to extensive portion of the planning area.