



Town of Grafton

Jurisdictional Annex to the

MULTIJURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

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Town of Grafton Annex

This is the jurisdictional annex for the Town of Grafton. The jurisdiction’s governing body passed a formal resolution to participate in updating this multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan (HMP). A copy of its resolution is maintained at the local government offices and at the Rensselaer County Bureau of Public Safety.

Contact Information

Table 1: Contact Information for the Town of Grafton

Name	Title	Contact Information
Ingrid Gundrum	Planning Director	Phone: 518-522-723 Email: supervisor@townofgraftonny.org, habsfan19@aol.com

Introduction

The Town of Grafton has a fully integrated approach to hazard mitigation planning and program implementation. Table 2 lists the participants in the 2024 process for updating the HMP.

Table 2: Participants in the Hazard Mitigation Plan Update for the Town of Grafton

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Ingrid Gundrum	Supervisor	Town of Grafton
Doug La Rocque	Deputy Supervisor	Town of Grafton

Jurisdiction Profile

Location and Land Area

The Town of Grafton is in north central Rensselaer County, in the eastern part of New York State. It shares a border with Pittstown and Hoosick to the north, Poestenkill and Berlin to the south, Petersburg to the east, and Brunswick to the west.

According to the 2023 U.S. Census, Rensselaer County has a total area of 665 square miles (1,720 km²), of which 652 square miles (1,690 km²) is land and 13 square miles (34 km²) (1.9%) is water. Of that, the Town

of Grafton has a total area of 45.96 square miles (119.04 km²), of which 44.72 square miles (115.83 km²) is land and 1.24 square miles (3.21 km²) is water.

Population

According to the 2020 U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) Five-Year Estimates, the Town of Grafton would have a population of 1,914. The 2020 U.S Census population count reported an increase in population to 2,051.¹

Demographics

The population of the Town of Grafton includes 124.1 males per 100 females (all ages). Persons under 18 years old make up 19.1% of the population, and persons 65 years and older make up 22.3%.² Young and old subsets of the population may have unique needs regarding care requirements and potential cognitive and/or mobility limitations before, during, and after a disaster.

The portion of the population who speak a language other than English is 0.2%, of which 0% speak English less than "very well." People who do not speak English well may have trouble understanding instructions regarding disaster preparation, response, and recovery.

Of those 25 years and older, 93.1% are high school graduates or higher, and 23.7% have received their bachelor's degree or higher.³ Higher education can help enhance skills associated with cognition and evaluation of risk. Higher education can, therefore, foster an overall improved perception of risk, particularly where individuals may not have prior direct experience preparing for, responding to, or recovering from a particular hazard in their daily lives.

In 2022, there were 831 total households and 2.30 persons per household. Persons living alone sometimes have less of a direct social circle for support before, during, and after a disaster.

The U. S. Census Bureau classifies all people not living in housing units (houses, apartments, mobile homes, rented rooms) as living in group quarters. The two types of group quarters are institutional (correctional facilities, nursing homes, mental hospitals) and non-institutional (college dormitories, military barracks, group homes, missions, shelters). The Census Bureau maintains no group quarters information for this municipality. The needs of persons living in group quarters are unique, and residents are likely to have access and functional needs and unique care requirements before, during, and after a disaster.

According to the 2022 U.S. Census ACS, the median household income of the Town of Grafton was \$93,482, and the percentage of people in poverty was 12.7%. Lower-income people have limited financial

¹ U. S. Census Bureau, 2025, "Town of Grafton, New York Census Data", https://data.census.gov/profile/Grafton_town,_Rensselaer_County,_New_York?g=060XX00US3608329674

² U.S. Census Bureau. "U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: Rensselaer County, New York." 2022. <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/rensselaercitynewyork,rensselaercountynewyork/BPS030223>.

³ Ibid.

resources to draw from in both a pre- and post-disaster scenario and are likely to require support as they prepare for and recover from hazard events.

Non-institutionalized civilians with disabilities accounted for 14.8%, and people over 65 with a disability accounted for 21.7%. The total number of persons (civilian, non-institutionalized) without health insurance is 1.0%. Persons with disabilities have access and functional needs, such as cognitive or mobility limitations, that may put them at greater risk before, during, and after a hazard event.

Brief History

The area that is now Rensselaer County was inhabited by the Algonquian-speaking Mohican Indian tribe at the time of the European encounter. Kiliaen van Rensselaer, a Dutch jeweler and merchant, purchased the area in 1630 as part of the Dutch colony of New Netherland. The land passed from English rule (1664) to Dutch control (1673), then back to English rule (1674) until American independence in 1776. Rensselaer County was created in the 1790s from an area originally part of the extensive Albany County. In 1807, the county reorganized.

The location of the first settlements are unclear; however, the Town of Grafton was originally a part of the Manor of Rensselaerwyck. Grafton was the last in Rensselaer County to be settled, formed from Troy and Petersburg on March 20, 1807. Van Rensselaer built a grist mill in 1836 or 1837. For many years, these were the principal business enterprises in Grafton.

Governing Body

The municipality's governing body consists of a Town Supervisor, a Deputy Supervisor, and Town Board members. This body serves as the town's municipal/local government, performing various executive functions. The people elect members of this governing body.

Growth and Development Trends

Performing an assessment of growth and development trends is one step of a hazard mitigation plan update. This look into the future is important because development in hazard areas could put more people and property in harm's way and, in turn, could increase potential disaster-related damage and losses at a time when the mitigation plan's purpose is to reduce the potential for damage from natural disasters.

An evaluation of growth and development trends was undertaken by each participating jurisdiction as part of the development of the initial plan in 2011. As part of this plan update, the Town of Grafton reviewed and updated its prior feedback to reflect current conditions in the community as of early 2019.

The Town of Grafton did not note any significant residential or commercial development taking place or any major infrastructure development planned for the next five years. New development within the town is generally characterized by residential subdivision development throughout the town (vacant woodland

areas and waterfront). There have been approximately three to five minor subdivisions per year and one to two major subdivisions per year. Commercial site plans have been low as well, at about one to two per year.

The Town of Grafton enforces State Environmental Quality Review Act requirements and regulations and Town Subdivision and Site Plan Codes to protect new development from the effects of natural hazards. Depending on the type and location of the proposed development, the town requires special conditions.

Hazard Identification

The Calculated Priority Risk Index (CPRI) is a comprehensive assessment tool used to evaluate and prioritize risks in a given context. It considers various factors, such as probability, impact, and urgency, to determine the level of risk associated with particular events or situations. By considering these variables, the CPRI helps organizations and individuals make informed decisions about risk management and mitigation strategies. It provides a systematic approach to identifying and addressing potential issues, allowing for more efficient allocation of resources and proactive risk prevention. With the CPRI, stakeholders can prioritize their focus on the most critical risks, leading to more effective risk management and, ultimately, better outcomes. Table 3 shows the factors for calculating the CPRI.

Table 3: Factors in the Calculated Priority Risk Index

Risk Index Factor	Degree of Risk Level		Criteria	Factor Weight for Degree of Risk Level
Probability What is the likelihood of the hazard occurring?	1	Unlikely	Less than 1% probability of occurrence in the next year or a recurrence interval of greater than every 100 years.	30%
	2	Occasional	1%–10% probability of occurrence in the next year or a recurrence interval of 11–100 years	
	3	Likely	11%–90% probability of occurrence in the next year or a recurrence interval of 1–10 years.	
	4	Highly Likely	91%–100% probability of occurrence in the next year or a recurrence interval of less than 1 year.	

Risk Index Factor	Degree of Risk Level		Criteria	Factor Weight for Degree of Risk Level
Potential Consequences What will be the overall impact in terms of injuries, damage, death, continuity of operations, and environmental and economic impacts?	1	Negligible	Very few injuries, if any. Only minor property damage and minimal disruption of quality of life. Temporary shutdown of critical facilities.	30%
	2	Limited	Minor injuries only. More than 10% of property in affected area damaged or destroyed. Complete shutdown of critical facilities for more than one day.	
	3	Critical	Multiple deaths/injuries possible. More than 25% of property in affected area damaged or destroyed. Complete shutdown of critical facilities more than one week.	
	4	Catastrophic	High number of deaths/injuries possible. More than 50% of property in affected area damaged or destroyed. Complete shutdown of critical facilities for 30 days or more.	
Warning Time How long will be there be between when it is recognized the hazard is approaching and when the hazard will begin to affect the community?	1	Self-defined	More than 24 hours	10%
	2	Self-defined	12–24 hours	
	3	Self-defined	6–12 hours	
	4	Self-defined	Less than 6 hours	
Duration What is the length of time the hazard will remain active, including how long emergency operations will need to continue after the hazard event?	1	Brief	Up to 6 hours	10%
	2	Intermediate	Up to one day	
	3	Extended	Up to one week	
	4	Prolonged	More than one week	
Spatial Extent How large of an area could be impacted by a hazard event?	1	Negligible	Less than 1% of area affected	20%
	2	Small	1%–25% of area affected	
	3	Moderate	25%–50% of area affected	

Risk Index Factor	Degree of Risk Level		Criteria	Factor Weight for Degree of Risk Level
Are impacts localized or regional?	4	Large	Greater than 50% of area affected	

RISK FACTOR EQUATION

$$RF \text{ Value} = [(Probability \times .30) + (Magnitude \times .30) + (Onset \times .10) + (Duration \times .10) + (Frequency \times .20)]$$

Table 4 presents the CPRI for the Town of Grafton with respect to the different hazards the jurisdiction might experience.

Table 4: Types of Hazard Events with Calculated Priority Risk Index for the Town of Grafton

Type of Hazard Event	Probability	Potential Consequences	Warning Time	Duration	Spatial Extent	Risk Factor Value
Drought	3	2	1	4	4	2.8
Earthquake	1	2	4	1	4	2.2
Extreme Temperatures	3	2	1	3	4	2.7
Flooding	3	3	1	3	2	2.6
Hazardous Materials	2	2	4	3	2	2.3
High Winds	3	2	3	1	3	2.5
Hurricane-Tropical Storm	3	2	1	3	3	2.5
Landslide	2	2	4	3	1	2.1
Lightning	4	1	4	1	1	2.2
Terrorism	1	2	4	3	1	1.8
Tornado	2	2	4	3	2	2.3
Utility & Infrastructure Failure	2	2	4	3	2	2.3
Wildfire	2	2	4	3	2	2.3

Type of Hazard Event	Probability	Potential Consequences	Warning Time	Duration	Spatial Extent	Risk Factor Value
Winter Storm	4	3	1	4	4	3.4
Other?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Hazard Event History

Understanding hazard event histories is crucial for effective risk management. Analyzing past events allows us to identify trends, patterns, and recurring risk factors. This knowledge enables us to better prepare for and mitigate the impact of future hazards. Examining hazard event histories provides valuable insights to inform decision-making and help prioritize resources for risk prevention and response efforts. Table 5 lists some of the more notable events in the Town of Grafton since 2020.

Table 5: Notable Hazard Events in the Town of Grafton Since 2020

Type of Hazard Event	FEMA Disaster # (If Applicable)	Date(s)	Damage or Impacts	Description
Drought	None	None	None	None
Earthquake	None	04/05/2024	No reported impacts	Earthquake with epicenter in NJ, felt in some parts of the county
Extreme Temperature Extreme Heat	None	08/12/2021	Heat indices reached 95°F–104°F degrees across parts of the Hudson River from Albany and points southward reaching 105°F–110°F	Extreme Heat
Extreme Temperature Extreme Cold	None	02/03/2023– 02/04/2023	Warming centers were opened.	Arctic Cold: With extreme wind chills some squalls; temperature -39°F in Grafton
Flooding (Including Flooding, Dam Failure, and Ice Jams)	None	None	None	None
Hazardous Materials	None	None	None	None
High Wind	None	03/07/2022– 03/08/2022	National grid power outages throughout county. Grafton had 10.9% of population without power.	High Wind event
Hurricane or Tropical Storm	None	08/04/2020	Flooding/flash flooding in flood prone areas	Tropical Storm Isaias
Landslide	None	None	None	None
Lightning	None	None	None	None
Terrorism	None	None	None	None
Tornado	None	None	None	None

Type of Hazard Event	FEMA Disaster # (If Applicable)	Date(s)	Damage or Impacts	Description
Utility & Infrastructure Failure	None	03/07/2022–03/08/2022	National grid power outages throughout county. Grafton had 10.9% of population without power.	High Wind event
Wildfire	None	None	None	None
Winter Storm (Including Ice Storm and Snowstorm)	None	12/15/2022–12/17/2022	N/A	Nor'easter, snowfall 12 in in Grafton

According to the National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI)⁴ at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the notable events in the Town of Grafton since 2020 include the following:

- **September 8, 2021** – Thunderstorm/Wind: A line of strong to severe thunderstorms resulted in widespread damage over eastern New York. A tree was reported down on State Route 2 in Grafton.
- **July 28, 2022** – Thunderstorm/Wind: A northward lifting warm front brought a hot and humid air mass to portions of eastern New York. Heat indices reached mid-90s to lower 100s across Hudson River Valley from Capital District and points south. In the afternoon and early evening hours, showers and thunderstorms developed ahead of an approaching cold front with a couple of storms becoming severe. These produced isolated wind damage across Rensselaer County. Reportedly, a couple of trees were downed in the Town of Grafton.
- **June 6, 2023** – Hail: Scattered showers and thunderstorms developed withing the proximity of an upper-level low pressure system off the coast of New England. This produced hail ranging from pea-size (approximately 0.25 inches) to as large as ping pong balls (1.50 inches). At some locations, hail fell long enough to accumulate on the ground surfaces. Reportedly, hail around 1 inch in diameter fell in the Town of Grafton.

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Summary

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) program that provides flood insurance to millions of policyholders across the country. The following information is provided to meet federal standards. The Town of Grafton answered the NFIP questions in Table 6 through Table 8 to the best of its ability.

Table 6: Responses on Floodplain Management from the Town of Grafton

Question	Response
Who is the floodplain manager? Is this their primary or secondary role?	Building Code Official
Does the floodplain manager have adequate training and capacity for their role? If not, what else is needed?	Yes
How does the community enforce its floodplain rules? Does enforcement include monitoring compliance and acting to correct violations?	Yes

⁴ National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI). 01/01/2011–09/30/2024. "Rensselaer County, New York." https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/listevents.jsp?eventType=ALL&beginDate_mm=01&beginDate_dd=01&beginDate_yyyy=2011&endDate_mm=09&endDate_dd=30&endDate_yyyy=2024&county=RENSELAER%3A83&hailfilter=0.00&tornfilter=0&windfilter=000&sort=DT&submitbutton=Search&statefips=36%2CNEW+YORK.

Question	Response
When was the community's most recent Community Assistance Visit (CAV)?	Unknown
Were any violations noted on the community's most recent CAV?	No
Is there an upcoming CAV? If no, is one needed?	No
When was the most recent floodplain management ordinance adopted?	10/13/1978
Does your community participate in the Community Rating System (CRS)? If so, describe the steps the community has taken to achieve the CRS goals.	No
Does the community's floodplain management ordinance include any higher standards? If so, please list.	No
Who is responsible for permitting?	Building Code Official
How does the community issue development permits in the special flood hazard area?	The Building Code Official is responsible for assessing permit applications and issuing permits.
Does the community maintain elevation certificates?	Yes
Does the community track the number of buildings in the special flood hazard area? If yes, are there any trends?	Yes
How many repetitive loss (RL) structures does the community have? (List number and type of structure.)	None
How many severe repetitive loss (SRL) structures does the community have? (List number and type of structure.)	None
Have any RL/SRL properties been mitigated since the last plan update?	None
Who is responsible for making substantial damage/substantial improvement determinations?	Building Inspector
How does the substantial damage/substantial improvement process work in your community?	Handled through Building Department
Is there sufficient staff and training to make substantial damage/substantial improvement determinations?	Yes

Question	Response
How are substantial damage/substantial improvement requirements messaged to the public before and after an event?	Yes
Have any substantially damaged/substantially improved structures been mitigated since the last plan update?	Yes
How will the community remain in compliance with the NFIP moving forward? (Simply stating "the community will continue to comply with the NFIP" will not meet FEMA's planning requirements.)	Yes

Table 7: Responses on Floodplain Mapping from the Town of Grafton

Question	Response
How does the community support map change requests? This could be requests during the Risk MAP process or through Letters of Map Amendment or Revision.	Revision
When did the latest Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) become effective?	1976
When was the latest FIRM adopted?	2020
Is the FIRM and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report in an accessible location? How would the public get access to their flood map information?	Yes
Does the community use any Risk MAP products? If so, describe.	No
Does the community collect updated floodplain data or modeling? Is this shared with partners and with FEMA?	Yes
Other comments?	None

Table 8: Responses on Flood Insurance and Outreach from the Town of Grafton

Question	Response
How does the community educate the public on floodplain management and the availability of flood insurance, in and out of the floodplain?	Through the Building Department
How does the community engage with insurance agents on flood insurance?	Case to case
Does the community (or state) have flood hazard disclosure laws?	Yes
How familiar is the public with their flood insurance options?	Not familiar
How many properties have flood insurance in the community?	5
Are there any areas where flood insurance is lacking?	No
Other comments?	None

Critical Facilities Information

The following information is provided to meet standard F1. Identifying critical facilities in flood-prone areas is crucial for effective emergency planning and risk management. By understanding the potential impact of flooding on these facilities, local authorities can develop proactive strategies to mitigate risks and ensure the safety and functionality of these important assets during flood events. This information is valuable for decision-making and prioritizing resources for emergency response and preparedness efforts. Table 9 lists the critical facilities (emergency facilities, critical infrastructure and utilities, and other key facilities, as presented in Risk Assessment) that are in the floodplain in the Town of Grafton.

Table 9: Critical Facilities Located in the Floodplain in the Town of Grafton

Critical Facility	Type of Facility	Jurisdiction	1% Chance? Zone AE	0.2% Chance? Zone X (Shaded)	How has this facility been protected from flooding?	Feasibility of Mitigating the Flood Risk:
Grafton Volunteer Fire Company	Fire Stations	Town of Grafton	No	No	Structure is slab on grade. Wet or dry floodproofing more likely than elevation. On top of the hill, never had any issues with flooding.	N/A
Grafton Rescue Squad-Ambulance Service	Garage of Town Hall	Town of Grafton	No	No	Structure is slab on grade. Wet or dry floodproofing more likely than elevation. On top of the hill, never had any issues with flooding.	N/A

Jurisdiction/Public Identified Vulnerabilities

Table 10 provides crucial information on critical facilities in the Town of Grafton, highlighting the town's vulnerability to identified hazards. It outlines the susceptibility of future assets to damage from the identified hazards, offering valuable insights into their potential impact on these essential facilities. By understanding the risks associated with these assets, local authorities can develop proactive strategies to mitigate the vulnerabilities and ensure the safety and functionality of these important assets during hazard events. This data is invaluable for decision-making and prioritizing resources for emergency response and preparedness efforts, ultimately contributing to more effective risk management and building the resilience of the community.

Table 10: Vulnerable Assets in the Town of Grafton

Vulnerable Assets	What makes this group/asset vulnerable during hazards? Have there ever been issues with recovery after an event?
People (residents, workers, visiting populations, and socially vulnerable populations like seniors, individuals with disabilities, lower-income individuals, etc.)	
Senior Citizens	Loss of power during snow and windstorms make this segment of our population vulnerable. Outreach is handled by Highway Department, Grafton Volunteer Fire Company and Grafton Rescue Squad, along with our partners at the county level.
Structures (residential, commercial, industrial, government-owned, planned capital improvement, etc.)	
Martin Dunham Reservoir Dam (MDR) Assorted lesser dams	Grafton has many large lakes and ponds with dams. Most are owned by New York State (NYS). All are monitored by NYS. MDR Dam has been inspected and the report from Department of Environmental Conservation engineers is on file. This asset is NYS-owned and located in Grafton. It is continuously monitored by NYS for structural integrity but has been identified as deficient in several areas. Were this dam to catastrophically fail, the impact to the immediate neighborhood on Dunham Road would be devastating, with public safety threatened "downstream" in the Town of Brunswick.
Economic Assets (major employers, primary economic sectors, key infrastructure like telecommunications networks, etc.)	
None	

Vulnerable Assets	What makes this group/asset vulnerable during hazards? Have there ever been issues with recovery after an event?
Natural, Historic, and Cultural Resources (areas of conservation, beaches, parks, critical habitats, community centers, historic places, etc.)	
Grafton Lake State Park	Unknown
Critical Facilities and Infrastructure (hospitals, law enforcement, water, power, transportation systems, etc.)	
A compound of Communication and Cell Towers is located in Grafton.	Located on high ground, snowstorms make the area vulnerable to being inaccessible until Highway Department can open the access road.
Community Activities (major local events, such as festivals, or economic events, like farming or fishing)	
Summer Festival and Picnic Trunk or Treat	Unknown
Are there any other assets that you can think to include?	
N/A	

Additional Public Involvement

As part of this 2025 plan update, the Town of Grafton undertook various activities to (a) alert the public and other stakeholders to the fact that the HMP Planning Committee was working to develop the update and (b) provide the public and other stakeholders with a forum to ask questions and submit comments and suggestions on the process. Table 11 presents the outreach activities undertaken by the e Town of Grafton for the 2025 plan update.

Table 11: Outreach Activities Undertaken by the Town of Grafton

Activity Date	Type of Activity	Activity Details	Department and/or Staff Member
April 2024–September 2024	Survey	Town supervisor put survey on the website, mentioned during town hall meetings; physical survey was posted town bulletin board, town store, and library.	Town Supervisor

Capabilities Assessment

Local mitigation capabilities are essential for reducing the impact of hazards on communities. Local authorities can effectively mitigate hazards by leveraging existing authorities, policies, programs, and resources. These capabilities encompass a range of strategies, such as land use planning, building codes and enforcement, public education and outreach, infrastructure protection, and natural resource protection. Through collaboration with various stakeholders, including emergency management agencies, public works departments, and environmental organizations, local communities can implement comprehensive mitigation efforts to minimize the impact of disasters. Table 12 through Table 15 provide the capabilities of the Town of Grafton.

Planning and Regulatory

Planning and regulatory capabilities are the plans, policies, codes, and ordinances that prevent and reduce the impacts of hazards.

Table 12: Planning and Regulatory Capabilities of the Town of Grafton

Regulatory Tools (Codes, Ordinances, Plans)	In Place (Y or N)	How has or could this resource be used for hazard mitigation?
Building code	Y	Helps buildings last through natural disasters
Zoning ordinance	N	N/A
Subdivision ordinance or regulations	Y	Helps protect environmental area
Special purpose ordinances (floodplain management, stormwater management, hillside or steep slope ordinances, wildfire ordinances, hazard setback requirements)	Y	Encourages development in areas less disaster or flood prone
Growth management ordinances (also called "smart growth" or anti-sprawl programs)	N	N/A
Site plan review requirements	Y	Minimizes risk from hazards prior to building
General, comprehensive or master plan	Y	Minimizes potential impacts of natural disasters by proactive planning
A capital improvements plan	N	N/A
An economic development plan	N	N/A

Regulatory Tools (Codes, Ordinances, Plans)	In Place (Y or N)	How has or could this resource be used for hazard mitigation?
Emergency response plan	Y	Plan incorporates hazard mitigation planning to reduce risk
Post-disaster recovery plan	N	N/A
Post-disaster recovery ordinance	N	N/A
Real estate disclosure requirements	N	N/A
Other	N	N/A

Administrative and Technical

Administrative and technical capabilities include staff and their skills.

Table 13: Administrative Capabilities of the Town of Grafton

Staff/Personnel Resources	Available (Y or N)	How has or could this resource be used for hazard mitigation?
Planner(s) or engineer(s) with knowledge of land development and land management practices	Y	Planning chair familiar with land management practices. Local engineer hired as needed.
Engineer(s) or professional(s) trained in construction practices related to buildings and/or infrastructure	Y	Local engineers or professional hired as needed familiar with local construction regulations can help design disaster resistant buildings.
Planners or engineer(s) with an understanding of natural and/or human-caused hazards	Y	Local engineers or professional hired as needed familiar with local construction regulations can help design disaster resistant buildings.
Floodplain manager	Y*	Supervisor Ingrid Gundrum, helps manage floodplain regulations
Surveyors	N	N/A
Staff with education or expertise to assess the community’s vulnerability to hazards	Y	Supervisor, Deputy Supervisor, Fire Chief evaluate potential hazards and mitigate as deemed necessary.
Personnel skilled in GIS and/or HAZUS	N	N/A

Staff/Personnel Resources	Available (Y or N)	How has or could this resource be used for hazard mitigation?
Scientists familiar with the hazards of the community	N	N/A
Emergency managers	Y	Supervisor and Fire Chief plan and coordinate as needed.
Grant writers	N	N/A
Staff with expertise or training in benefit/cost analysis	N	N/A

Financial

Financial capabilities are the resources to fund mitigation actions.

Table 14: Financial Capabilities of the Town of Grafton

Financial Resources	Accessible or Eligible to Use (Yes/No/Don't Know)	How has or could this resource be used for hazard mitigation?
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	Eligible – Y	Through application
Capital improvements project funding	Y	Through application to applicable agencies
Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes	Y	Through bond or local laws
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric service	N - N/A	N/A
Impact fees for homebuyers or developers for new developments/homes	N	N/A
Incur debt through general obligation bonds	Y	Through bond approval and possible permissive referendum
Incur debt through special tax and revenue bonds	Y	Through local law
Incur debt through private activity bonds	N	N/A
Withhold spending in hazard-prone areas	N	N/A

Financial Resources	Accessible or Eligible to Use (Yes/No/Don't Know)	How has or could this resource be used for hazard mitigation?
State mitigation grant programs	Don't know	N/A
Other	None	N/A

Education and Outreach

Education and outreach capabilities are programs and methods that could communicate about and encourage risk reduction.

Table 15: Financial Capabilities of the Town of Grafton

Education and Outreach Capability	In Place (Y/N)	Does this resource currently incorporate hazard mitigation?	Notes
Community newsletter(s)	N	N/A	None
Hazard awareness campaigns (such as Firewise, Storm Ready, Severe Weather Awareness Week, school programs)	N	N/A	Schools have programs but not in town.
Public meetings/events (Please describe.)	Y	N/A	None
Emergency management listserv	Y	N/A	None
Local news	Y	N/A	None
Distributing hard copies of notices (e.g., public libraries, door-to-door outreach)	Y	N/A	None
Insurance disclosures/outreach	N	N/A	None
Organizations that represent, advocate for, or interact with underserved and vulnerable communities (Please describe.)	Y	No	Senior Center, Dyken Pond
Social media (Please describe.)	Y	Yes	Website
Other? (Please describe.)	N	N/A	None

Opportunities to Expand and/or Improve Capabilities

Table 16 presents opportunities for the Town of Grafton to expand or improve capabilities.

Table 16: Opportunities to Expand and/or Improve the Capabilities of the Town of Grafton

Capability Type	Opportunity to Expand and/or Improve
Planning and Regulations	Comprehensive plan can be improved and updated.
Administrative and Technical	Additional floodplain training needed, working to hire grant writer
Financial	Town can utilize grants more effectively by reaching out to county.
Education and Outreach	NFIP education could be done more with the public.

Mitigation Strategy

Table 17 presents details about the 2019 mitigation actions. Table 18 presents the actions in the 2025 update, and Table 19 shows the prioritization of the mitigation actions.

Table 17: Status of Actions for the Town of Grafton in 2019

Initiative Number	Initiative Name	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Project Lead/ Department and Position Title	Status Update
1	Jay Hakes Road Culvert Replacement New	Undersized Culvert: Unable to channel regular runoff. Floods the road and restricts lane passage. Over-wash during heavy flows runs into the road and makes it impassable. Particularly hazardous in winter because of freezing.	T-Upgrade from 4' culvert to box culvert 8'	Town Highway	Majority of the work has been done, minor culvert work still needs to be done.
2	Cranberry Pond Road New	Undersized Culvert: Unable to channel regular runoff. Floods the road and restricts lane passage. Over-wash during heavy flows runs into the road and makes it impassable. Particularly hazardous in winter because of freezing.	Increase CAP to Prevent Flooding Issues	Town Highway	Action has been completed.
3	Roadway Improvements G-1	Inadequate drainage causes over-wash and road closures.	Repair and restoration of 5 miles of town roads including replacement of 3" of granular item 4 material, reshaping and reestablishing the roadway surface, crown in	DPW	Action has been completed.

Initiative Number	Initiative Name	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Project Lead/ Department and Position Title	Status Update
			the road, reestablishing ditches each side of the roadway. Grading/reshaping of roadway, cutting and removal of fallen trees, placement of granular top course and compaction. Work to be done on Jay Hakes and South Long Pond Road, Grafton, NY.		
5	Johnson Road Bridge G-3	Upgrades are necessary to accommodate increased water flows (the bridge needs to be higher and wider).	Repair of elliptical bolted steel plate bridge Johnson Rd., repair bridge structure, concrete abutments, and replacement of failing gabion basket earth retaining structures on the upstream and downstream side of the bridge.	DPW	Some repairs but not replaced
6	Participate in County-Led Hazard Mitigation Outreach (2011 G-CL-1)	Residents could benefit from additional information on hazards, risks, and hazard mitigation measures they can take on their own properties to reduce damages and improve	Public awareness program on hazards, prevention, and mitigation: County will maintain a hazard mitigation and mitigation	County-led action item. CPG Member, Town Supervisor	Participates as much as possible in county-led actions

Initiative Number	Initiative Name	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Project Lead/ Department and Position Title	Status Update
		<p>resident safety before, during and after a hazard event.</p>	<p>planning web presence (local municipal websites to link up to this site, if they haven't already done so); all participating jurisdictions to support preparation of a joint annual hazard mitigation and mitigation planning fact sheet and its distribution; periodic discussion of hazard mitigation and the mitigation plan at other regular local meetings; use of annual flyers, newsletters, advertisements, or radio/to announcements, etc. at the discretion of each jurisdiction (incorporating as much free information as possible from the FEMA Publications Warehouse and other appropriate sources) (public education).</p>		

Initiative Number	Initiative Name	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Project Lead/ Department and Position Title	Status Update
7	Request code/ordinance review by County as needed (2011 G-CL-2)	Communities are safer and more resilient when new construction and substantial improvements take into account the latest information on hazard vulnerabilities and measures to reduce risk.	Code update: Review existing local codes and ordinances against the identified hazards to determine whether there need to be any amendments to address identified hazards and, where a need is identified, modify/ amend the codes/ordinances as applicable (prevention).	County-led action item. CPG Member, Town Supervisor	Participates as much as possible in county led actions
8	Send CEO to County-Led Training (2011 G-CL-3)	There can be a loss of institutional knowledge with staff changes. Even when staff is the same, continual training improves local capabilities and allows officials to better regulate activities in hazard areas to protect lives and property.	Code enforcement: Enforcement of NYS and Local Building Codes with Continual CEO training (prevention).	County-led action item. CPG Member, Town Supervisor	Goes to training
9	Send Comprehensive Plan Update to County for Review by County Planning (2011 G-CL-4)	A long-term vision for the community that does not take into account hazard areas can put lives and property at risk. Taking into account natural hazards and hazard mitigation measures can make the community more	Ensure that local comprehensive plans incorporate natural disaster mitigation techniques through a courtesy review of draft plans by the county	County-led action item. CPG Member, Town Supervisor	In the process of updating comprehensive plan and will include hazard mitigation when possible

Initiative Number	Initiative Name	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Project Lead/ Department and Position Title	Status Update
		resilient.	Planning Department (prevention).		
10	Attend County-Led Workshops on Natural Hazards and Hazard Mitigation (2011 G-CL-5)	When municipal staff are not armed with information on zoning and planning issues that sometimes arise regarding natural hazards and hazard mitigation, they may make decisions that don't foster community resiliency.	Hold periodic workshops for municipalities regarding zoning and planning issues that arise regarding natural hazards and hazard mitigation (prevention).	County-led action item. CPG Member, Town Supervisor	Participates as much as possible in county-led actions
11	Update Floodplain Management Ordinance per New FEMA Regulations (as needed) (2011 G-NFIP-1)	Outdated ordinances mean that a community is not regulating to the latest codes and standards or hazard information, and that does not foster community resiliency.	Update/revise floodplain management ordinance to comply with latest FEMA regulations.	CPG Member, Town Board, Town Supervisor and Floodplain Manager	Maps are being updated from FEMA, but as maps are updated, ordinances and regulations will be updated as necessary.
12	Update Floodplain Management Ordinance when New FIRMs are Issued (2011 G-NFIP-4)	Outdated ordinances mean that a community is not regulating to the latest codes and standards or hazard information, and that does not foster community resiliency.	Update/revise floodplain management ordinance to be consistent with potential future new FIRMs.	CPG Member, Town Board, Town Supervisor and Floodplain Manager	Maps are being updated from FEMA, but as maps are updated, ordinances and regulations will be updated as necessary.

Table 18: Proposed New 2025 Mitigation Actions Town of Grafton⁵

Project #	Project Name	Action Worksheet (Yes/No)	Goal / Objective being Met	Hazard to be Mitigated	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Lead Agency	Related to CF?	EHP Issues	Estimated Timeline	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources	Priority
1	Johnson Road Bridge G-3	No	Protect existing assets	Flooding	Upgrades are necessary to accommodate increased water flows (the bridge needs to be higher and wider).	Repair of elliptical bolted steel plate bridge Johnson Rd., repair bridge structure, concrete abutments, and replacement of failing gabion basket earth retaining structures on the upstream and downstream side of the bridge.	Department of Public Works	No	No	1 year	Over \$1 million	Prevents delay in emergency services and potential losses	BRIC, HMGP, FMA	High
2	Participate in County- Led Hazard Mitigation Outreach (2011 G-CL-1)	No	Increase public awareness	Drought, earthquake, extreme temperatures, flooding, hazardous materials, high winds, hurricane/tropical storms, landslide, lightning, terrorism, tornado, utility, and infrastructure failure, wildfire, winter storms	Residents could benefit from additional information on hazards, risks, and hazard mitigation measures they can take on their own properties to reduce damages and improve resident safety before, during and after a hazard event.	Public awareness program on hazards, prevention, and mitigation: County will maintain a hazard mitigation and mitigation planning web presence (local municipal websites to link up to this site, if they haven't already done so); all participating jurisdictions to support preparation of a joint annual hazard mitigation and mitigation planning fact sheet and its distribution; periodic discussion of hazard mitigation and the mitigation plan at other regular local meetings; use of annual flyers, newsletters, advertisements, or	County-led action item. CPG Member, Town Supervisor	No	No	1-3 years	<\$100,000	Increasing awareness will reduce losses by empowering the public to add mitigation measures	BRIC, HMGP	Medium

⁵ BRIC = Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities, DEC = Department of Environmental Conservation, FMA = Flood Mitigation Assistance, HMGP = Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, NYSDOT = New York State Department of Transportation

Project #	Project Name	Action Worksheet (Yes/No)	Goal / Objective being Met	Hazard to be Mitigated	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Lead Agency	Related to CF?	EHP Issues	Estimated Timeline	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources	Priority
						radio/TV announcements at the discretion of each jurisdiction (incorporating as much free information as possible from the FEMA Publications Warehouse and other appropriate sources) (public education).								
3	Request code/ordinance review by County as needed (2011 G-CL-2)	No	Promote resilient new development	Drought, earthquake, extreme temperatures, flooding, hazardous materials, high winds, hurricane/tropical storms, landslide, lightning, terrorism, tornado, utility, and infrastructure failure, wildfire, winter storms	Communities are safer and more resilient when new construction and substantial improvements take into account the latest information on hazard vulnerabilities and measures to reduce risk.	Code update: Review existing local codes and ordinances against the identified hazards to determine whether there need to be any amendments to address identified hazards and, where a need is identified, modify/ amend the codes/ordinances as applicable (prevention).	County-led action item. CPG Member, Town Supervisor	No	No	1-3 years	<\$100,000	Prevents property damage and losses by ensuring codes are up to date	BRIC, HMGP	Medium
4	Send CEO to County-Led Training (2011 G-CL-3)	No	Promote resilient new development	Drought, earthquake, extreme temperatures, flooding, hazardous materials, high winds, hurricane/tropical storms, landslide, lightning, terrorism, tornado, utility, and infrastructure	There can be a loss of institutional knowledge with staff changes. Even when staff is the same, continual training improves local capabilities and allows officials to better regulate activities in hazard areas to protect lives and property.	Code enforcement: Enforcement of NYS and Local Building Codes with Continual CEO training. (prevention)	County-led action item. CPG Member, Town Supervisor	No	No	1-3 years	<\$100,000	Prevents property damage and losses by ensuring codes are up to date	BRIC, HMGP, FMA	Medium

Project #	Project Name	Action Worksheet (Yes/No)	Goal / Objective being Met	Hazard to be Mitigated	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Lead Agency	Related to CF?	EHP Issues	Estimated Timeline	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources	Priority
				failure, wildfire, winter storms										
5	Send Comprehensive Plan Update to County for Review by County Planning (2011 G-CL-4)	No	Promote resilient new development	Drought, earthquake, extreme temperatures, flooding, hazardous materials, high winds, hurricane/tropical storms, landslide, lightning, terrorism, tornado, utility, and infrastructure failure, wildfire, winter storms	A long-term vision for the community that does not take into account hazard areas can put lives and property at risk. Taking into account natural hazards and hazard mitigation measures can make the community more resilient.	Ensure that local comprehensive plans incorporate natural disaster mitigation techniques through a courtesy review of draft plans by the County Planning Department (prevention)	County-led action item. CPG Member, Town Supervisor	No	No	1–3 years	<\$100,000	Encourages smart development practices and prevents future damages	BRIC, HMGP	High
6	Attend County-Led Workshops on Natural Hazards and Hazard Mitigation (2011 G-CL-5)	No	Promote resilient new development	Drought, earthquake, extreme temperatures, flooding, hazardous materials, high winds, hurricane/tropical storms, landslide, lightning, terrorism, tornado, utility, and infrastructure failure, wildfire, winter storms	When municipal staff aren't armed with information on zoning and planning issues that sometimes arise regarding natural hazards and hazard mitigation, they may make decisions that don't foster community resiliency.	Hold periodic workshops for municipalities regarding zoning and planning issues that arise regarding natural hazards and hazard mitigation. (prevention)	County-led action item. CPG Member, Town Supervisor	No	No	1–3 years	<\$100,000	Encourages smart development practices and prevents future damages	BRIC, HMGP	Medium
7	Update Floodplain Management Ordinance per New FEMA Regulations (as needed) (2011 G-NFIP-1)	No	Improve capabilities	Flooding	Outdated ordinances mean that a community is not regulating to the latest codes and standards or hazard information, and that does not	Update/revise floodplain management ordinance to comply with latest FEMA regulations.	CPG Member, Town Board, Town Supervisor and Floodplain Manager	No	No	2–4 years	<\$100,000	Encourages smart development practices and prevents future damages	BRIC, HMGP, FMA	Low

Project #	Project Name	Action Worksheet (Yes/No)	Goal / Objective being Met	Hazard to be Mitigated	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Lead Agency	Related to CF?	EHP Issues	Estimated Timeline	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources	Priority
					foster community resiliency.									
8	Update Floodplain Management Ordinance when New FIRMs are Issued (2011 G-NFIP-4)	No	Promote resilient new development	Flooding	Outdated ordinances mean that a community is not regulating to the latest codes and standards or hazard information, and that does not foster community resiliency.	Update/revise floodplain management ordinance to be consistent with potential future new FIRMs	CPG Member, Town Board, Town Supervisor and Floodplain Manager	No	No	3-5 years	<\$100,000	Encourages smart development practices and prevents future damages	BRIC, HMGP, FMA	Low

Table 19 Mitigation Action Prioritization

Action #	Social	Technical	Administrative	Political	Legal	Economic	Environmental	Priority
1	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	High
2	4	3	3	4	4	3	3	Medium
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	Medium
4	4	3	2	3	3	3	3	Medium
5	4	4	3	4	3	3	4	High
6	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	Medium
7	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	Low
8	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	Low