



Westmoreland County Press Release

Westmoreland County Stakeholder and Public Kick-off Meeting for the All-Hazards Mitigation Plan

Westmoreland County's Department of Public Safety invites the public to participate in updating the countywide Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). A Stakeholder and Public Kick-Off meeting will be conducted to introduce the HMP planning process on Tuesday, November 12, 2013 at the Westmoreland County Intermediate Unit Amphitheatre, 102 Equity Drive, off of Donahue Road. The meeting will be held from 9:00am – 11:00am and again from 7:00pm – 9:00pm. Residents, local officials, industry representatives, educators, and others are encouraged to attend.

In addition, to inform and engage the public and other local and regional stakeholders in the planning process, Westmoreland County has developed a hazard mitigation planning website at: www.westmorelandhmp.com

This site includes an [online hazard awareness survey](#), and will include sections of the Draft Plan as it becomes available. The public is encouraged to visit the site, take the online survey, review the Draft Plan and provide input on the HMP planning process.

Westmoreland County is in the process of updating its 2009 All-Hazards Mitigation Plan to ensure eligibility for future mitigation funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This detailed plan addresses a variety of potential natural and non-natural hazards that could affect some or all of the county's residents.

“The update of this plan will allow the county and its participating municipalities to continue be eligible for future mitigation funding from FEMA,” said Hazard Mitigation Officer, Chris Tantlinger. “We are eager to get the public's input to help us create a detailed plan that will address a variety of potential hazards and help us reduce the vulnerability of our citizens to those hazards.”

Communities with a FEMA-approved HMP may apply for pre-disaster mitigation funding for projects to mitigate risk to both public and private property, such as home elevations and local flood control measures. Ultimately these projects will reduce vulnerability and enable communities to recovery more quickly from disasters.

For more information, contact Chris Tantlinger at the Westmoreland County Department of Public Safety at 724-600-7349 or CTANTLIN@co.westmoreland.pa.us