

Coplay Borough, Lehigh County Annex

Hazard Mitigation Plan Points-of-Contact

Primary:

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Alternate:

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Municipal Profile

Coplay Borough is located in central-eastern Lehigh County, sharing its eastern border with Northampton Borough (Northampton County). Situated along the Lehigh River, about 5 miles north of Allentown, Coplay Borough covers 0.6 square miles of land and is home to 3,348 residents (2020 Census). The Borough is surrounded by Whitehall Township to the north, south and west and by Northampton Borough (Northampton County) to the east.

The Lehigh River is the only significant body of water in the Borough and forms the borough's eastern border.

Chestnut Street is the primary east west corridor running through Coplay Borough, connecting with Whitehall Township to the west and crossing the Lehigh River towards Northampton County to the east. North 2nd Street runs North-South through the borough, becoming Coplay Road, connecting with SR 329 to the north, and becoming N. Front Street before intersecting with SR 1014 to the south.

Municipal Participation

1. Identify municipal stakeholders to be involved in the planning process such as, floodplain administrator, public works, emergency management, engineers, planners, etc., and include their specific role in the process.

Tiffany Benson, Treasurer	Paul Boyle, Public Work Director
Role: Primary	Role: Secondary

**please update table as needed*

2. Identify community stakeholders such as; neighborhood groups, religious groups, major employers / businesses, etc., that will be informed and / or involved in the planning process and describe how they will be involved.

None

3. Describe how the public **will be engaged** in the current planning process (examples, newsletters, social media, etc.), **and how they were engaged** since the 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Current: Newsletter (monthly) and Facebook
Past: Same

Compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

Topic	Identify source of information, if different from the one listed.	Additional Comments
1. Staff Resources		
Is the Community Floodplain Administrator (FPA) or NFIP Coordinator certified?	Community FPA	No
Is floodplain management an auxiliary function?	Community FPA	Yes
Provide an explanation of NFIP administration services (e.g., permit review, GGIS, education or outreach, inspections, engineering capability)	Community FPA	Per zoning ordinance
What are the barriers to running an effective NFIP program in the community, if any?	Community FPA	None
2. Compliance History		
Is the community in good standing with the NFIP?	State NFIP Coordinator, FEMA NFIP Specialist, or community records	N/A
Are there any outstanding compliance issues (i.e., current violations)?		No
When was the most recent Community Assistance Visits (CAV) or Community Assistance Contact (CAC)?		N/A
Is a CAV or CAC scheduled or needed?		No
3. Regulation		
When did the community enter the NFIP?	NFIP Community Status Book	Unknown
Are the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) digital or paper? How are residents assisted with mapping?	Community FPA	Paper map, assisted by borough office
Do floodplain regulations meet or exceed FEMA or State minimum requirements? If so, in what ways?	Community FPA	Meets requirements
Describe the permitting process	Community FPA, State, FEMA NFIP	Per zoning ordinance
4. Insurance Summary		
How many NFIP policies are in the community? What is the total premium and coverage?	State NFIP Coordinator or FEMA NFIP Specialist	2 policies, unknown
How many claims have been paid in the community? What is the total amount of paid claims? How many substantial damage claims have there been?	FEMA NFIP or Insurance Specialist	Unknown

Compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) - *Continued*

5. Community Rating System (CRS)		
Topic	Identify source of information, if different from the one listed.	Additional Comments
Does the community participate in CRS?	Community FPA, State, or FEMA NFIP	No
If so, what is the community's CRS Class Ranking?	Flood Insurance Manual (http://www.fema.gov/floodinsurancemanual.gov)	N/A
What categories and activities provide CRS points and how can the Class be improved?		N/A
Does the plan include CRS planning requirements?	Community FPA, FEMA CRS Coordinator, or ISO representative	N/A

Community Assets

Community assets are defined to include anything that is important to the character as well as the function of a community, and can be described in four categories, they are; people, economy, natural environment and built environment. Please identify the community assets and location under each category.

1. People

- Concentrations of vulnerable populations such as the elderly, physically or mentally disabled, non-English speaking, and the medically or chemically dependent.

Home for disabled adults

Apartment building for older residents

- Types of visiting populations where large numbers of people are concentrated such as visitors for special events and students.

Coplay Community Days, end of August

Coplay Halloween Parade, 3rd Tuesday in October

2. Economy

- Major employers, primary economic sectors such as agriculture and commercial centers where losses would have a severe impact on the community.

Giant Food Store

3. Natural Environment

- Those areas / features that can provide protective functions that reduce the magnitude of hazard events such as, wetlands or riparian areas, and other environmental features important to protect.

None

4. Built Environment

- Existing structures such as, concentrations of buildings that may be more vulnerable to hazards based on location, age, construction type and / or condition of use.

None

- Infrastructure systems such as water and wastewater facilities, power utilities, transportation systems, communication systems, energy pipelines and storage.

None

- High potential loss facilities such as, dams, locations that house hazardous materials, military and / or civilian defense installations.

None

- Critical facilities such as, hospitals, medical facilities, police and fires stations, emergency operations centers, shelters, schools and airports / heliports.

Police station

Fire station

- Cultural / historical resources such as, museums, parks, stadiums, etc.

Coplay Saylor Cement Kilns

Capability Assessment

Capability	✓ Regulatory ✓ Tools ✓ Programs	Status			Department / Agency Responsible	Effect on Hazard Loss Reduction: -Supports -Neutral -Hinders	Change since 2018 Plan? + Positive - Negative	Has the 2018 Plan been integrated into the Regulatory Tool/Program ? If so, how?	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
		In Place	Date Adopted or Updated	Under Development						
1. Planning & Regulatory	Comprehensive Plan	X	5/11/13		Council	N				
	Capital Improvement Plan									None
	Economic Development Plan									None
	Continuity of Operations Plan									None
	Stormwater Management Plan / Ordinance									None
	Open Space Management Plan (or Parks/Rec., Greenways Plan)	X	3/8/2005		Council					
	Natural Resource Protection Plan									None
	Transportation Plan									None
	Historic Preservation Plan									None
	Floodplain Management Plan	X	10/9/01		Council	N				
	Farmland Preservation									None
	Evacuation Plan									None
	Disaster Recovery Plan									None
	Hazard Mitigation Plan	X	2018							
	Emergency Operations Plan	X	11/12/2013		Council	N				
	Zoning Regulations	X	3/13/12		Council	N				
	Floodplain Regulations	X	10/9/01		Council	N				
	NFIP Participation									None
	Building Code	X	5/11/04		Council	N				
	Fire Code	X	7/9/96		Council	N				
	Other									None

Capability Assessment - *continued*

Capability	Staff Personnel Resources	Ye s	No	Department / Agency	Change since 2018 Plan? + Positive - Negative	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
2. Administrative & Technology	Planners (with land use / land development knowledge)	X					
	Planners or engineers (with natural and / or human-caused hazards knowledge)	X		ACELA (3 rd party)			
	Engineers or professionals trained in building and / or infrastructure construction practices (including building inspectors)	X		Council	No		
	Emergency Manager	X		Council	No		
	Floodplain administrator / manager						
	Land surveyors						
	Staff familiar with the hazards of the community	X		Council	No		
	Personnel skilled in Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and / or FEMA's HAZUS program						
	Grant writers or fiscal staff to handle large / complex grants						
	Other						
3. Financial Resources	Capital improvement programming						
	Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)						
	Special purposes taxes						
	Gas / Electricity utility fees						
	Water / Sewer fees						
	Stormwater utility fees						
	Development impact fees						
	General obligation, revenue, and / or special tax bonds						
	Partnering arrangements or intergovernmental agreements						
	Other						

Capability Assessment - *continued*

Capability	✓ Staff ✓ Personnel ✓ Resources	Yes	No	Department / Agency	Change since 2018 Plan? + Positive - Negative	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
4. Education & Outreach	Firewise Communities Certification						
	StormReady Certification						
	Natural disaster or safety-related school programs						
	Ongoing public education or information programs such as, responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, and environmental education.						
	Public-private partnership initiatives addressing disaster related issues.						
	Local citizen groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations, etc.						
	Other						

Capability		Degree of Capability			Change since the 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan? If so, how?	Additional Comments
		Limited	Moderate	High		
5. Self – Assessment	Planning and Regulatory		X		No Change	
	Administrative and Technical		X		No Change	
	Financial		X		No Change	
	Education and Outreach		X		No Change	

Known or Anticipated Future Development / Redevelopment

Development / Property Name	Type of Development	Number of Structures	Location	Known Hazard Zone	Description / Status
250 N 2 nd Street	Residential	6, each 8 units	250 N 2 nd St	None	Through zoning, beginning of planning stage

Natural & Non-Natural Event History Specific to Coplay Borough

Type of Event and Date(s)	FEMA Disaster # (if applicable)	Local Damage(s) or Loss(es)
Micro-burst rain/hailstorm – June 30, 2015	PEMA CPAGP	Excessive roof, siding, gutter, auto, trees, electric wires to entire borough
Winter Storm Jonas – January 23, 2016	DR-4267-PA	\$16,000
Pennsylvania COVID-19 Pandemic – 1/2020	DR-4506-PA	Emergency Protective measures to combat COVID-19 Pandemic

2018 Municipal Action Plan Status

Existing Mitigation Action (from 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan)		Status					Additional Comments
		No Progress / Unknown	In Progress	Continuous	Completed	Discontinued	
1	Work with local utilities, during utility outages.			X			
2	Maintain adequate fleet of vehicles and equipment to handle anticipated emergency response.			X			
3	Maintain compliance with and good standing in the NFIP including adoption and enforcement of floodplain management requirements (e.g. regulating all new and substantially improved construction in Special Hazard Flood Areas), floodplain identification and mapping, and flood insurance outreach to the community. Further, continue to meet and/or exceed the minimum.			X			
4	Conduct and facilitate community and public education and outreach for residents and businesses to include, but not be limited to, the following to promote and effect natural hazard risk reduction: Provide and maintain links to the HMP website, and regularly post notices on the Boroughs homepage referencing the HMP webpages. Use email notification system and newsletters to better educate the public on flood insurance, the availability of mitigation grant funding, and personal natural hazard risk reduction measures. Work with neighborhood associations, civic and business groups to disseminate			X			

2018 Municipal Action Plan Status - *continued*

Existing Mitigation Action (from 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan)		Status					Additional Comments
		No Progress / Unknown	In Progress	Continuous	Completed	Discontinued	
	information on flood insurance and the availability of mitigation grant funding.						
5	Begin and/or continue the process to adopt higher regulatory standards to manage flood risk (i.e. increased freeboard, cumulative substantial damage/improvements) and sinkhole risk (e.g. carbonate bedrock standards).			X			
6	Continue to support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updating of this Plan, as defined in Section 7.0.			X			
7	Complete the ongoing updates of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans.			X			
8	Create/enhance/maintain mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities for continuity of operations.			X			
9	Develop and maintain capabilities to process FEMA/PEMA paperwork after disasters; qualified damage assessment personnel – Improve post-disaster capabilities – damage assessment; FEMA/PEMA paperwork compilation, submissions, record keeping.			X			
10	Work with regional agencies (i.e. County and PEMA) to help develop damage assessment capabilities at the local level through such things as training programs, certification of qualified individuals (e.g. code officials, floodplain managers, engineers).			X			

Notes:

- ✓ Actions not carried through to the 2023 Action Plan are so noted.
- ✓ To maintain National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) compliance, actions related to the NFIP were carried through to the 2023 Action Plan even if identified by the municipality as completed.

2023 Mitigation Action Plan

Mitigation Action		Regional Action Category	Mitigation Technique Category	Hazard(s) Addressed	Priority (H / M / L)	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding	Lead Agency / Department	Implementation Schedule	Applies to New and / or Existing Structures
1	Work with local utilities, during utility outages.	17	Structure & Infrastructure	Windstorm/ Tornado, Winter Storm, Utility Interruption	High	Medium	Borough Budget	Borough; working with utilities	Short-term	Existing
2	Maintain adequate fleet of vehicles and equipment to handle anticipated emergency response.	19	Structure & Infrastructure	All Hazards	High	Medium	Borough Budget; available public protection and emergency services grant programs	Borough	Ongoing	N/A
3	Maintain compliance with and good standing in the NFIP including adoption and enforcement of floodplain management requirements (e.g. regulating all new and substantially improved construction in Special Hazard Flood Areas), floodplain identification and mapping, and flood insurance outreach to the community. Further, continue to meet and/or exceed the minimum.	3	Local Plans & Regulations	Flood	High	Low-Medium	Local Budget	Municipality (via Municipal Engineer/NFIP Floodplain Administrator) with support from PEMA, ISO FEMA	Ongoing	New & Existing

2023 Mitigation Action Plan - continued

Mitigation Action		Regional Action Category	Mitigation Technique Category	Hazard(s) Addressed	Priority (H / M / L)	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding	Lead Agency / Department	Implementation Schedule	Applies to New and / or Existing Structures
4	Conduct and facilitate community and public education and outreach for residents and businesses to include, but not be limited to, the following to promote and effect natural hazard risk reduction: Provide and maintain links to the HMP website, and regularly post notices on the Boroughs homepage referencing the HMP webpages. Use email notification system and newsletters to better educate the public on flood insurance, the availability of mitigation grant funding, and personal natural hazard risk reduction measures. Work with neighborhood associations, civic and business groups to disseminate information on flood insurance and the availability of mitigation grant funding.	4	Education & Awareness	All Hazards	High	Low-Medium	Municipal Budget	Municipality with support from Planning Partners, PEMA, and FEMA	Short-term	N/A
5	Begin and/or continue the process to adopt higher regulatory standards to manage flood risk (i.e. increased freeboard, cumulative substantial damage/improvements) and sinkhole risk (e.g. carbonate bedrock standards).	5	Local Plans & Regulations	Flood; Subsidence Sinkholes	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality (via Municipal Engineer/NFIP Floodplain Administrator) with support from PEMA, FEMA. LVPC for Carbonate Bedrock	Short-term	New & Existing

2023 Mitigation Action Plan - continued

Mitigation Action		Regional Action Category	Mitigation Technique Category	Hazard(s) Addressed	Priority (H / M / L)	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding	Lead Agency / Department	Implementation Schedule	Applies to New and / or Existing Structures
								Standard model ordinance.		
6	Continue to support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updating of this Plan, as defined in Section 7.0.	9	All Categories	All Hazards	High	Low – High (for 5-year update)	Municipal Budget, possibly FEMA Mitigation Grant Funding for 5-year update	Municipality (via mitigation planning point of contacts) w/ support from Planning Partners (through their P-o-C's), PEMA	Ongoing	New & Existing
7	Complete the ongoing updates of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans.	10	Local Plans & Regulations	All Hazards	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality with support from PEMA	Ongoing	New & Existing
8	Create/enhance/maintain mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities for continuity of operations.	11	Education & Awareness	All Hazards	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality w/ support from Surrounding municipalities and County	Ongoing	New & Existing
9	Develop and maintain capabilities to process FEMA/PEMA paperwork after disasters; qualified damage assessment personnel – Improve post-disaster capabilities – damage assessment; FEMA/PEMA paperwork compilation, submissions, and record keeping.	12	Education & Awareness	All Hazards	Low	Medium	Municipal Budget	Municipality with support from County, PEMA, FEMA	Short-term	N/A

2023 Mitigation Action Plan - continued

Mitigation Action	Regional Action Category	Mitigation Technique Category	Hazard(s) Addressed	Priority (H / M / L)	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding	Lead Agency / Department	Implementation Schedule	Applies to New and / or Existing Structures
10 Work with regional agencies (i.e. County and PEMA) to help develop damage assessment capabilities at the local level through such things as training programs, certification of qualified individuals (e.g. code officials, floodplain managers, engineers).	13	Education & Awareness	All Hazards	Medium	Medium	Municipal budget, FEMA HMA grant programs	Municipality with support from County, PEMA	Short-term (depending upon funding)	N/A

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Costs:

- Where actual project costs have been reasonable estimated: Low = < \$10,000; Medium = \$10,000 to \$100,000; High = > \$100,000;
- Where actual project costs cannot reasonably be established at this time:
 - Low** = Possible to fund under existing budget. Project is part of, or can be part of an existing on-going program.
 - Medium** = Could budget for under existing work plan, but would require a reapportionment of the budget or a budget amendment, or the cost of the project would have to be spread over multiple years.
 - High** = Would require an increase in revenue via an alternative source (i.e., bonds, grants, fee increases) to implement. Existing funding levels are not adequate to cover the costs of the proposed project.

Potential Funding (FEMA HMA):

- **BRIC** = Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities
- **FMA** = Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program
- **HMGP** = Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
- **HSGP** = Homeland Security Grant Program
- **EMPG** = Emergency Management Performance Grant

Implementation Schedule:

- **Short Term** = 1 to 5 years
- **Long Term** = 5 years or greater
- **DOF** = Depending on Funding

Applies to New and/or Existing Structures:

- **N/A** = Not Applicable