17. TOWN OF NEWTON

This jurisdictional annex to the Sussex County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) provides information to assist public and private sectors in the Town of Newton with reducing losses from future hazard events. This annex is not guidance of what to do when a disaster occurs; its focus is on actions that can be implemented prior to a disaster to reduce or eliminate damage to property and people. The annex presents a general overview of Newton, describes who participated in the planning process, assesses Newton's risk, vulnerability, and capabilities, and outlines a strategy for achieving a more resilient community.

17.1 HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING TEAM

The Town of Newton identified primary and alternate HMP points of contact and developed this plan over the course of several months, with input from many Town departments. The Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator represented the community on the Sussex County HMP Planning Partnership supported the local planning process by securing input from persons with specific knowledge to enhance the plan. 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.

Table 17-1 summarizes Town officials who participated in the development of the annex and in what capacity. Additional documentation of the Town's planning activities through Planning Partnership meetings is included in Volume I.

Table 17-1. Hazard Mitigation Planning Team

Primary Point of Contact	Alternate Point of Contact
Name/Title: Dan Finkle / EMC Address: 39 Trinity St., Newton, NJ 07860 Phone Number: (973) 383-3521 ext. 266 Email: dfinkle@newtonoem.org	Name/Title: Jason Miller / Deputy EMC Address: 39 Trinity St., Newton, NJ 07860 Phone Number: (973) 383-3521 ext. 362 Email: jmiller@newtonoem.org
National Flood Insurance Program Floodplain Administrator	
Name/Title: Harold E. Pellow, Harold E. Pellow & Associates, Inc. Address: 17 Plains Road, Augusta, NJ 07822 Phone Number: (973) 948-6463 x213 Email: hpellow@hpellow.com	
Additional Contributors	
Name/Title: Dan Finkle, EMC Method of Participation: Assisted in the completion of municipal worksheets; reviewed and approved draft annex.	
Name/Title: Jason Miller, Deputy EMC Method of Participation: Assisted in the completion of municipal worksheets.	
Name/Title: Joe Butto, Construction Official Method of Participation: Assisted in the completion of municipal worksheets.	
Name/Title: Cory Stoner, Town Engineer Method of Participation: Assisted in the completion of municipal worksheets.	
Name/Title: Harold E. Pellow, Floodplain Administrator Method of Participation: Reviewed and approved draft annex.	

17.2 COMMUNITY PROFILE

The Town of Newton is located centrally in Sussex County and is the county seat of the County. It is bordered to the north by Hampton Township, to the south and east by Andover Township and to the west by Fredon Township. The Town covers an area of approximately 3.2 square miles. The Paulins Kill Tributary flows through the Town and the Pequest River is found in the southern end of the Town. According to the U.S. Census, the 2020 population for Newton was 8,374, a 4.7-percent increase from the 2010 Census.

Research has shown that some populations are at greater risk from hazard events because of decreased resources or physical abilities. These populations can be more susceptible to hazard events based on a number of factors including their physical and financial ability to react or respond during a hazard, and the location and construction quality of their housing. Data from the 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Population Estimates indicates that 4-percent of the population is 5 years of age or younger, 7-percent is 65 years of age or older, 10.6-percent is non-English speaking, 10-percent is below the poverty threshold, and 7.6-percent is considered disabled.

The Steering Committee also identified households that are above the Federal Poverty Level but earn less than the basic cost of living as socially vulnerable. For the Town of Newton, 44-percent of households earn less than the basic cost of living and are considered socially vulnerable.

Communities must deploy a support system that enables all populations to safely reach shelters or to quickly evacuate a hazard area.

17.3 JURISDICTIONAL CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT AND INTEGRATION

Newton performed an inventory and analysis of existing capabilities, plans, programs, and policies that enhance its ability to implement mitigation strategies. Volume I describes the components included in the capability assessment and their significance for hazard mitigation planning. The jurisdictional assessment for this annex includes analyses of the following:

- Planning and regulatory capabilities
- Development and permitting capabilities
- Administrative and technical capabilities
- Fiscal capabilities
- Education and outreach capabilities
- Classification under various community mitigation programs
- Adaptive capacity to withstand hazard events

For a community to succeed in reducing long-term risk, hazard mitigation must be integrated into day-to-day local government operations. As part of the hazard mitigation analysis, planning and /policy documents were reviewed, and each jurisdiction was surveyed to obtain a better understanding of their progress toward plan integration. Development of an updated mitigation strategy provided an opportunity for Newton to identify opportunities for integrating mitigation concepts into ongoing Town procedures.

17.3.1 Planning and Regulatory Capability and Integration

Table 17-2 summarizes the planning and regulatory tools that are available to Newton.

Table 17-2. Planning and Regulatory Capability and Integration

	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Citation and Date (code chapter or name of plan, date of enactment or plan adoption)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Responsible Person, Department or Agency
CODES, ORDINANCES, & REGULATIONS				
Building Code	Yes	State Uniform Construction Code Act (N.J.S. 52:27D-119 et seq.); Chapter 85 – Uniform Construction Codes	State, Local	Construction Official
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? *The State Uniform Construction Code, building subcode, is hereby adopted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-119 and N.J.A.C. 5:23. The code is hereby adopted and incorporated as fully as if set forth at length herein. The provisions shall be controlling in the construction, alteration, renovation, rehabilitation, maintenance, occupancy, and use of all buildings and structures therein contained within the corporate limits of the Town.*				
Zoning/Land Use Code	Yes	Chapter 320 – Zoning (2011)	Local	Code Enforcement
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? *The code enables where appropriate, flexibility of design and development of land in such a manner as to preserve its natural and scenic qualities, protect areas of meaningful ecological value, reduce flood hazards, facilitate the adequate and economical provision of streets and utilities, minimize negative environmental impacts, improve the aesthetic quality of new residential developments, encourage the conservation of energy, increase recreational opportunities, and otherwise promote the planned and environmentally desirable use of land.*				
Subdivision Code	Yes	Chapter 240 – Land Subdivision and Site Plan Review (2011)	Local	Planning Board
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? *Land to be subdivided shall be of such character that it can be used safely for building or development purposes without danger to health or peril from fire, flood, or other menace, and without resulting in significant damage to the ecology of the area in which it is located. Land subject to fire, flood or other hazards shall not be subdivided nor developed for residential purposes, nor for such other uses as may increase danger to health, life, or property, or aggravate a flood hazard, but such land may be set aside for uses as shall not involve such danger nor produce unsatisfactory living conditions.*				
Site Plan Code	Yes	Chapter 240 – Land Subdivision and Site Plan Review (2011)	Local	Planning Board
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Approval of a site plan by the Planning Board is required for a) the development or redevelopment of any building, structure or lot or portion thereof for a new use; b) the expansion or relocation of any existing use; or c) any change of use of a building, structure or lot or portion thereof. The Planning Board sets forth appropriate conditions and safeguards which are in harmony with several identified purposes, including drainage. Per the ordinance, a proposed stormwater drainage system shall be adequate to prevent any increase in the rate of surface runoff or otherwise contribute to downstream flooding during a storm of any magnitude, up to and including a one-hundred-year frequency storm.				
Stormwater Management Code	Yes	Chapter 258 – Stormwater Management Ordinance (2021)	Local	Planning Board
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? *The purpose of this article is to establish minimum stormwater management requirements and controls to protect and safeguard the general health, safety, and welfare of the public residing within this jurisdiction. An identified objective of this ordinance is to minimize increases in the volumes and rates of stormwater runoff from land development activities in order to reduce flooding and streambank erosion.*				

	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Citation and Date (code chapter or name of plan, date of enactment or plan adoption)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Responsible Person, Department or Agency
Post-Disaster Recovery/ Reconstruction Code	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
Real Estate Disclosure Requirements	Yes	Senate Bill 3110; P. L. 2023, c. 93, July 3, 2023	State	Sellers and Landlords of commercial or residential property

How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?
For leases, the law amends the New Jersey Truth-in-Renting Act, N.J.S.A. 46:8-43 et seq., to require every landlord to notify in writing each of the landlord's tenants, prior to lease signing or renewal, whether the property is located in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Special Flood Hazard Area ("100-year floodplain") or Moderate Risk Flood Hazard Area ("500-year floodplain") and if the landlord has actual knowledge that the rental premises or any portion of the parking areas of the real property containing the rental premises has been subjected to flooding. The law does not apply to (1) landlords who lease commercial space or residential dwellings for less than one month, (2) residential dwellings in a premises containing not more than two units, (3) owner-occupied premises containing not more than three units, or (4) hotels, motels, or other guest houses serving transient or seasonal guests for a period of less than 120 days.

The model notice is to contain the heading "Flood Risk" and questions for the landlord to answer regarding the landlord's actual knowledge of past flooding of the property. The questions regarding the property being in a FEMA Special or Moderate Risk Flood Hazard Area shall not contain the option for "unknown." To determine how the questions are to be answered, FEMA's current flood insurance rate maps for the leased premises area must be consulted. The landlord will be required to answer whether the rental premises or any portions of the parking areas of the real property containing the rental premises ever experienced any flood damage, water seepage, or pooled water due to a natural flood event and, if so, the number of times that has occurred.

The notice to residential tenants must also indicate that flood insurance may be available to renters through FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program to cover their personal property and contents in the event of a flood and that standard renter's insurance does not typically cover flood damage.

For sales, the law also amends the New Jersey Consumer Fraud Act, N.J.S.A. 56:8-1 et seq., to require sellers of real property to disclose, on the property condition disclosure statement, whether the property is located in the FEMA Special or Moderate Risk Flood Hazard Area and any actual knowledge of the seller concerning flood risks of the property to the purchaser before the purchaser becomes obligated under any contract for the purchase of the property.

The disclosure statement must contain the heading "Flood Risk" and ask the seller the following questions:

- Is any or all of the property in the Special Flood Hazard Area ("100-year floodplain") or a Moderate Risk Flood Hazard Area ("500-year floodplain") according to FEMA's current flood insurance rate maps?
- Is the property subject to any requirement under federal law to obtain and maintain flood insurance on the property? Properties in the Special Flood Hazard Area with mortgages from federally regulated or insured lenders are required to obtain and maintain flood insurance.
- Have you ever received assistance from, or are you aware of any previous owners receiving assistance from FEMA, the U.S. Small Business Administration, or any other federal disaster flood assistance for flood damage on the property? For properties that have received flood disaster assistance, the requirement to obtain flood insurance passes down to all future owners.
- Is there flood insurance on the property? A standard homeowner's insurance policy typically does not cover flood damage.
- Is there a FEMA elevation certificate available for the property? If so, it must be shared with the buyer. An elevation certificate is a FEMA form, completed by a licensed surveyor or engineer, that provides critical information about the flood risk of the property and is used by flood insurance providers to determine the appropriate insurance rating for the property.
- Have you ever filed a claim for flood damage to the property with any insurance provider? If the claim was approved, what was the amount received?

	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Citation and Date (code chapter or name of plan, date of enactment or plan adoption)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Responsible Person, Department or Agency

- Has the property experienced any flood damage, water seepage, or pooled water due to a natural flood event, such as heavy rainfall, coastal storm surge, tidal inundation, or river overflow? If so, how many times?

Not all provisions of this law have become effective at the time of the writing of this plan.

Growth Management	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
Environmental Protection Ordinance(s)	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance	Yes	Chapter 120 – Flood Damage Prevention (2011)	Local	Construction Official
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? *It is the purpose of this chapter to promote the public health, safety and general welfare and to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions in specific areas by provisions designed to:* *A. Protect human life and health;* *B. Minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;* *C. Minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;* *D. Minimize prolonged business interruptions;* *E. Minimize damage to public facilities and utilities, such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone and sewer lines, streets and bridges located in areas of special flood hazard;* *F. Help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of areas of special flood hazard so as to minimize future flood blight areas;* *G. Ensure that potential buyers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard; and* *H. Ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their actions.*				
Wellhead Protection	Yes	Section 240-10 – Wellhead Protection	Local	Planning Board and Board of Health
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? *The purpose of this section is to protect the public health, safety and welfare through the protection of the groundwater resources underlying the municipality to ensure a supply of safe and healthful drinking water for the present and future generations of local residents, employees and the general public in this municipality, as well as users of these water supplies outside this municipality. Areas of land surrounding each public community well and non-transient noncommunity well, known as wellhead protection areas, from which contaminants may move through the ground to be withdrawn in water taken from the well, have been delineated. Through regulation of land use, physical facilities, placement of toxic and hazardous materials, and other related activities within these areas, the potential for groundwater contamination can be reduced and any such contamination can be more readily found and remediated before reaching a public well.*				
Emergency Management Ordinance	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
Climate Change Ordinance	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				

	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Citation and Date (code chapter or name of plan, date of enactment or plan adoption)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Responsible Person, Department or Agency
Other: Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)	Yes	Chapter 228, Article 7 – Sewer and Water; Municipal Separate Storm Sewer	Local	Utility Advisory Board, Town Council
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? *The purpose of this article is to prohibit the spilling, dumping, or disposal of materials other than stormwater to the municipal separate stormwater sewer system (MS4) operated by the Town of Newton, so as to protect the health, safety and welfare, and to prescribe penalties for the failure to comply.*				
Other: [Special Purpose Ordinances (i.e., sensitive areas, steep slope)]	Yes	Chapter 262 – Stream Obstruction, Chapter 297 – Tree Bank, Chapter 299 – Trees, and Section 240-11 – Step Slopes	Local	Planning Board, Town Manager, Public Works, Code Enforcement
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? • *Chapter 262: Stream Obstruction – restricts the movement of soil, stones, brush, or other obstruction which will prevent free passage of water in any stream or channel which has been constructed or cleared for the purpose of draining land in the Town.* • *Chapter 297: Tree Bank – provides a fund for the planting of trees within the Town of Newton. More specifically, when an applicant for a major site plan cannot or does not wish to fulfill the tree replacement requirements of § 240-7B(6), then the applicant must contribute to the Tree Bank.* • *Chapter 299: Trees – restricts certain acts which may affect the trees, shrubbery or ornamental material planted or growing naturally within the highways or public places under the jurisdiction of the Town, except with a written permit first obtained from the Director of Public Works* • *Section 240-11: Steep Slopes – The purpose of this section is to regulate the intensity of use in areas of steeply sloping terrain in order to limit soil loss, erosion, excessive stormwater runoff, the degradation of surface water and to maintain the natural topography and drainage patterns of land.*				
Other	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
PLANNING DOCUMENTS				
General/Comprehensive Plan	Yes	Town of Newton Master Plan, August 2008, Re-examined July 2019	Local	Planning Board
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? *The broader general development goal for Newton as a Regional Center is to enhance and strengthen Newton's position as a Regional Center in Sussex County in such a way that it will fulfill the social, commercial, governmental, medical, and service needs of a growing County within the constraints of the Town's existing resources.*				
Capital Improvement Plan	Yes	Municipal Budget	Local	Town Manager
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? *The municipal budget, which acts as the Town's Capital Improvement Plan, includes various potential projects which may assist in hazard mitigation efforts.*				
Disaster Debris Management Plan	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
Floodplain Management or Watershed Plan	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				

	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Citation and Date (code chapter or name of plan, date of enactment or plan adoption)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Responsible Person, Department or Agency
Stormwater Management Plan	Yes	Municipal Stormwater Plan, September 1, 2005	Local	Public Works and Engineering
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? *The plan addresses groundwater recharge, stormwater quantity, and stormwater quality impacts by incorporating stormwater design and performance standards for new major development, defined as projects that disturb one or more acre of land. These standards are intended to minimize the adverse impact of stormwater runoff on water quality and water quantity and the loss of groundwater recharge that provides baseflow in receiving water bodies. The plan describes long-term operation and maintenance measures for existing and future stormwater facilities. The plan also addresses the review and update of existing ordinances and other planning documents to allow for project designs that include low impact development techniques. The final component of this plan is a mitigation strategy for when a variance or exemption of the design and performance standards is sought.*				
Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan	Yes	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, June 24, 2019	Local	Public Works and Engineering
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? *The Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan is used to identify all potential pollution sources that could come into contact with stormwater leaving a site.*				
Open Space Plan	Yes	Town of Newton Master Plan, NRI, Conservation Element, Open Space and Recreation, June 2023	Local	Planning Board
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? *The Town of Newton's 2023 Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines and requirements as set forth by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's (NJDEP's) Green Acres Program and the New Jersey Municipal Land Use Law (MLUL). The purpose of this OSRP is to provide updates on open space, recreation, and other land development issues and offers current goals and policies as well as a new action plan.*				
Urban Water Management Plan	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
Habitat Conservation Plan	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
Economic Development Plan	Yes	Town of Newton Master Plan, Strategic Vision Element, May 2013	Local	Planning Board
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? *The Strategic Vision builds on the vision of the Urban Design Plan, which described the vision for Newton as "a holistic vision of a place where the people of Newton want to live, work and feel connected to; a pedestrian friendly place, which can be translated into feasible development opportunities to provide the opportunity for urban living for a variety of households, with additional services and amenities for the entire community." This is the broad vision for the Town and remains a solid foundation for Town policies and decision-making.* *The narrower Strategic Vision focuses on the heart of the Town as the key component to building a vibrant community. The Strategic Vision for Newton is that it is "Sussex County's downtown: a charming, unique place to live and visit that is compact, attractive and offers arts, entertainment, dining, shopping and activities for all ages." This more focused vision provides the basis for economic development and redevelopment within the downtown as the focal point for revitalizing the entire Town.*				

	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Citation and Date (code chapter or name of plan, date of enactment or plan adoption)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Responsible Person, Department or Agency
Shoreline Management Plan	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
Community Wildfire Protection Plan	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
Community Forest Management Plan	Yes	Community Forestry Management Plan 2018-2022	Local	Advisory Shade Tree Commission
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? *Newton has developed this plan in accordance with statewide efforts to preserve and promote sustainable community forest resources, and the goals and objectives of its Municipal Master Plan. This second five-year plan builds upon the successes realized as a result of implementing the Town's 2010-2014 plan, the goals and objectives which were continued through 2017. During the management period, Newton will continue to implement and enhance programs for managing public street trees and continue to increase focus on trees in Town parks and on Town properties. In addition, it is expected that elements of this plan will continue to help stimulate the public's appreciation for trees and contribute to their proper planting, protection, and care.* *This plan was written to improve the quality of life in the Town of Newton by maximizing the environmental, social, and economic benefits of trees to the community while minimizing the associated costs and liabilities.*				
Transportation Plan	Yes	Town of Newton Master Plan, Circulation Plan Element, 2009	Local	Planning Board
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? *The Town of Newton's Circulation Plan Element provides an inventory of existing roads in the Town and examines jurisdiction, function, and high accident locations. The Plan then provides recommendations for the creation of a more in-depth examination of circulation in the Town, including level of service surveys of existing roadways and examining current problem traffic areas as well as potential future problem areas in light of the proposed development and redevelopment outlined in this Plan. This proposed Circulation Plan would result in a capital improvement program to provide for needed traffic improvements within the Town, which could take place through the redevelopment process. Finally, recommendations for alternative transportation, including bike paths and transit services, are provided.*				
Agriculture Plan	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
Climate Action/ Resilience/Sustainability Plan	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
Tourism Plan	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
Business/ Downtown Development Plan	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
Other	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				

	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Citation and Date (code chapter or name of plan, date of enactment or plan adoption)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Responsible Person, Department or Agency
RESPONSE/RECOVERY PLANNING				
Emergency Operations Plan	Yes	Town of Newton Emergency Operations Plan, 2023	Local	Office of Emergency Management
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? *The Emergency Operations Plan aims to assess the Town's ability to respond to emergency and identifies recommendations to improve its capacity to prepare and respond to future events. The plan address both short- and long-term recovery.*				
Continuity of Operations Plan	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
Substantial Damage Response Plan	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
Post-Disaster Recovery Plan	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? *The Post-Disaster Recovery Plan, a portion of the Emergency Operations Plan, aims to assess the Town's ability to respond to emergency and identifies recommendations to improve its capacity to prepare and respond to future events. The plan address both short- and long-term recovery.*				
Public Health Plan	Yes	Town of Newton Emergency Operations Plan, 2023	Local	Office of Emergency Management
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? *The Emergency Operations Plan aims to assess the Town's ability to respond to emergency and identifies recommendations to improve its capacity to prepare and respond to future events. The plan address both short- and long-term recovery. This plan is located within the Public Health Annex of the EOP.*				
Other	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				

17.3.2 Development and Permitting Capability

Table 17-3 summarizes the capabilities of Newton to oversee and track development.

Table 17-3. Development and Permitting Capability

	Yes/No	Comment
Do you issue development permits? • If you issue development permits, what department is responsible? • If you do not issue development permits, what is your process for tracking new development?	Yes	The Construction Official grants these permits per Section 120-12 of the Municipal Code.
Are permits tracked by hazard area? (For example, floodplain development permits.)	Yes	Floodplain
Do you have a buildable land inventory? • If you have a buildable land inventory, please describe	Yes	In the Town's master plan.
Describe the level of buildout in your jurisdiction.	N/A	The Town of Newton is nearly fully built out. According to the Town's zoning map, the north western portion of the Town is zoned for future residential development. Within other zones, future development may occur as parcels become available.

17.3.3 Administrative and Technical Capability

Table 17-4 summarizes potential staff and personnel resources available to Newton and their current responsibilities that contribute to hazard mitigation.

Table 17-4. Administrative and Technical Capabilities

Resources	Available? (Yes/No)	Comment (available staff, responsibilities, support of hazard mitigation)
ADMINISTRATIVE CAPABILITY		
Planning Board	Yes	The Planning Board has nine members and four alternate members. Three of the Board members who participate on a regular basis are municipal officials, Mayor, Council representative and Town Manager. The Planning Board is responsible for evaluating and rendering decisions on applications for development such as site plans, subdivisions, and variances. The Planning Board has reviewed a wide array of applications ranging from high-tech industrial development to the establishment of retail, commercial, and residential properties. With the elimination of the Zoning Board of Adjustment at the end of 2010, the Planning Board is now also responsible for use variances.
Zoning Board of Adjustment	No	-
Planning Department	No	-
Mitigation Planning Committee	No	-

Resources	Available? (Yes/No)	Comment (available staff, responsibilities, support of hazard mitigation)
Environmental Board/Commission	Yes	The Advisory Shade Tree Commission has five members that are each appointed to a five-year term by the Town Council. In 1998, the Town Council created the Advisory Shade Tree Commission, which is responsible for recommending ordinances that pertain to the regulation and control of shade and ornamental trees. The Commission has also reviewed landscaping plans for various site plan projects proposed by the Town of Newton.
Open Space Board/Committee	Yes	The Advisory Recreation Commission consists of seven members who are appointed by the Town Council. The main function of the Commission is to assist the Town Manager in identifying recreational interests and needs, and determining the impact that those interests and needs may have on the available recreational facilities. The Advisory Shade Tree Commission has five members that are each appointed to a five-year term by the Town Council. In 1998, the Town Council created the Advisory Shade Tree Commission, which is responsible for recommending ordinances that pertain to the regulation and control of shade and ornamental trees. The Commission has also reviewed landscaping plans for various site plan projects proposed by the Town of Newton.
Economic Development Commission/Committee	Yes	The Economic Development Advisory Commission has seven members that are each appointed to a three-year term by the Town Council. A representative of the Governing Body is appointed annually to the Commission, and the Deputy Town Manager serves as secretary. In 2002, the Town Council created the Economic Development Advisory Commission to be a link between the Governing Body and the business and residential community. Its responsibilities are to research, study, evaluate and make recommendations to the Mayor and Council as to the economic vitality and development in the Town on an ongoing basis.
Public Works/Highway Department	Yes	The Public Works Department is responsible for all the roads that are owned by the Town of Newton. During the year, the Department conducts routine maintenance on the roads, storm drains, and municipally owned buildings. From spring to fall, streets throughout Town are swept. In the winter, the Department is always busy with removal of snow and ice from the roadways. The Department is also responsible for the curbside collection of recyclables and operating the Recycling Center during operational hours.

Resources	Available? (Yes/No)	Comment (available staff, responsibilities, support of hazard mitigation)
Construction/Building/Code Enforcement Department	Yes	The Town of Newton has contracted with Hardyston Township for Construction Department services. The Code Enforcement Department processes citizens request for code enforcement information to fulfill the Town's legal obligations under New Jersey's Open Public Records Act. Code Enforcement will work with property owners in their effort to correct any violation(s).
Emergency Management/Public Safety Department	Yes	Emergency Management is a vital function involving all departmental levels of local government. Each department takes part in efforts to prepare for, respond to, mitigate, and recover from all types of dangerous or hazardous situations. During times when no emergencies exist, some of the duties handled by the Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) include the identification and analysis of the effects of hazards which might pose a threat to the Town of Newton and to attend training courses to keep skills and knowledge current. Emergency Management works closely with the Newton Police Department, Newton Fire Department, Newton First Aid Squad, Newton Department of Public Works, County and State Offices of Emergency Management, and County and State Offices of Homeland Security.
Maintenance programs to reduce risk (stormwater maintenance, tree trimming, etc.)	Yes	The Public Works Department is responsible for all the roads that are owned by the Town of Newton. During the year, the Department conducts routine maintenance on the roads, storm drains, and municipally owned buildings. From spring to fall, streets throughout Town are swept. In the winter, the Department is always busy with removal of snow and ice from the roadways. The Town plans to implement municipal programs to prevent trees from threatening lives and impacting power availability/interruption.
Mutual aid agreements	Yes	Agreements are in place with neighboring communities but require strengthening.
Human Resources Manual - Do any job descriptions specifically include identifying or implementing mitigation projects or other efforts to reduce natural hazard risk?	Yes	There are no job descriptions specifically include identifying or implementing mitigation projects or other efforts to reduce natural hazard risk
Other	No	-
TECHNICAL/STAFFING CAPABILITY		
Planners or engineers with knowledge of land development and land management practices	Yes	Professional Engineer - consultant
Engineers or professionals trained in building or infrastructure construction practices	Yes	Professional Engineer - consultant
Planners or engineers with an understanding of natural hazards	Yes	Professional Engineer and Planners - consultant

Resources	Available? (Yes/No)	Comment (available staff, responsibilities, support of hazard mitigation)
Staff with expertise or training in benefit/cost analysis	No	-
Professionals trained in conducting damage assessments	Yes	Building/Construction Department
Personnel skilled or trained in GIS and/or Hazus applications	Yes	Professional Engineer - consultant
Staff that work with socially vulnerable populations or underserved communities	Yes	The Town of Newton offers various services to seniors.
Environmental scientists familiar with natural hazards	No	-
Surveyors	Yes	Professional Engineer - consultant
Emergency manager	Yes	OEM Coordinator
Grant writers *Consider the following:* Are data and maps from the HMP used to support documentation in grant applications?	Yes	Deputy Town Manager
Resilience Officer	No	-
Other (this could include stormwater engineer, environmental specialist, etc.)	No	-

17.3.4 Fiscal Capability

Table 17-5 summarizes financial resources available to Newton.

Table 17-5. Fiscal Capabilities

Financial Resources	Accessible or Eligible to Use? (Yes/No)
Community Development Block Grants (CDBG, CDBG-DR)	Yes
Capital improvement project funding	Yes
Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes	Yes
User fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric service	Yes
Impact fees for homebuyers or developers of new development/homes	No
Stormwater utility fee	Yes
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
Other federal or state funding programs	Yes
Open Space Acquisition funding programs	Yes
Other (for example, Clean Water Act 319 Grants [Nonpoint Source Pollution])	Yes, Clean Water Act 319 Grants

17.3.5 Education and Outreach Capability

Table 17-6 summarizes the education and outreach resources available to Newton.

Table 17-6. Education and Outreach Capabilities

Outreach Resources	Available? (Yes/No)	Comment
Public information officer or communications office	Yes	Chief of Police and Administrator
Personnel skilled or trained in website development	Yes	Contractor builds and updates the website
Hazard mitigation information available on your website	No	-
Social media for hazard mitigation education and outreach	Yes	Social media is used for emergency management including Fire department, police department, First Aid Squad and Department of Public Works.
Citizen boards or commissions that address issues related to hazard mitigation	No	-
Warning systems for hazard events	Yes	Nixle
Natural disaster/safety programs in place for schools	No	-
Organizations that conduct outreach to socially vulnerable populations and underserved populations	Yes	The Town of Newton offers various services to seniors.
Public outreach mechanisms / programs to inform citizens on natural hazards, risk, and ways to protect themselves during such events	Yes	Municipal website, mailings, social media, Nixle, staff on foot (police and fire).

17.3.6 Community Classifications

Table 17-7 summarizes classifications for community programs available to Newton.

Table 17-7. Community Classifications

Program	Participating? (Yes/No)	Classification	Date Classified
Community Rating System (CRS)	No	-	-
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS)	No	-	-
Public Protection (ISO Fire Protection Classes 1 to 10)	No	-	-
National Weather Service StormReady Certification	No	-	-
Firewise Communities classification	No	-	-
New Jersey Sustainable Jersey Community	Yes	None	April 13, 2009
Other: Organizations with mitigation focus (advocacy group, non-government)	No	-	-

N/A = Not applicable
— = Unavailable

17.3.7 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 2022). Each jurisdiction has a unique combination of capabilities to adjust to, protect from, and withstand a future hazard event, future conditions, and changing risk. Table 17-8 summarizes the adaptive capacity for each identified hazard of concern and the Town’s capability to address related actions using the following classifications:

- Strong: Capacity exists and is in use.
- Moderate: Capacity might exist; but is not used or could use some improvement.
- Weak: Capacity does not exist or could use substantial improvement

Table 17-8. Adaptive Capacity

Hazard	Adaptive Capacity - Strong/Moderate/Weak
Dam Failure	Moderate
Disease Outbreak	Moderate
Drought	Moderate
Earthquake	Moderate
Flood	Moderate
Geological Hazards	Moderate
Hazardous Materials	Moderate
Hurricane	Moderate
Infestation	Moderate
Nor’easter	Moderate
Severe Weather	Moderate
Severe Winter Weather	Moderate
Wildfire	Moderate

17.4 NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM COMPLIANCE

This section provides specific information on the management and regulation of the regulatory floodplain, including current and future compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The floodplain administrator listed in Table 17-1 is responsible for maintaining this information.

17.4.1 NFIP Statistics

Table 17-9 summarizes the NFIP policy and claim statistics for Newton.

Table 17-9. Newton NFIP Summary of Policy and Claim Statistics

# Policies	**10**
# Claims (Losses)	**8**
Total Loss Payments	**$295,504.96**
# Repetitive Loss Properties (NFIP definition)	**0**

# Repetitive Loss Properties (FMA definition)	**0**
# Severe Repetitive Loss Properties	**0**

NFIP Definition of Repetitive Loss: The NFIP defines a repetitive loss property as any insurable building for which two or more claims of more than $1,000 were paid by the NFIP within any rolling 10-year period since 1978.

FMA Definition of Repetitive Loss: FEMA's Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program defines a repetitive loss property as any insurable building that has incurred flood-related damage on two occasions, in which the cost of the repair, on average, equaled or exceeded 25 percent of the market value of the structure at the time of each such flood event.

Definition of Severe Repetitive Loss: A residential property covered under an NFIP flood insurance policy and: (a) That has at least four NFIP claim payments over $5,000 each, and the cumulative amount of such claims payments exceeds $20,000; or (b) For which at least two separate claims payments have been made with the cumulative amount of the building portion of such claims exceeding the market value of the building. At least two of the claims must have occurred within any 10-year period, more than 10 days apart.

Source: FEMA Region II 2024

17.4.2 Flood Vulnerability Summary

Table 17-10 provides a summary of the NFIP program in Newton.

Table 17-10. NFIP Summary

NFIP Topic	Comments
Flood Vulnerability Summary	
Describe areas prone to flooding in your jurisdiction.	Flooding in the Town occurs within the SFHA.
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
How many homeowners and/or business owners are interested in mitigation (elevation or acquisition)?	Unknown
Are any RiskMAP projects currently underway in your jurisdiction? If so, state what projects are underway.	No
How do you make Substantial Damage determinations?	Unknown
How many Substantial Damage determinations were declared for recent flood events in your jurisdiction?	Unknown
How many properties have been mitigated (elevation or acquisition) in your jurisdiction? If there are mitigation properties, how were the projects funded?	Unknown
Do your flood hazard maps adequately address the flood risk within your jurisdiction? If not, state why.	Yes
NFIP Compliance	
What local department is responsible for floodplain management?	Construction
Are any certified floodplain managers on staff in your jurisdiction?	No

NFIP Topic	Comments
Do you have access to resources to determine possible future flooding conditions from climate change?	Yes, various online resources from FEMA and other Federal agencies. Access to regional and State resources as well.
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?	The FPA would consider attending continuing education and/or certification training on floodplain management.
Provide an explanation of NFIP administration services you provide (e.g., permit review, GIS, education/outreach, inspections, engineering capability)	Permit review
How do you determine if proposed development on an existing structure would qualify as a substantial improvement?	If the value of the proposed development would increase the structure's value by at least 50 percent.
What are the barriers to running an effective NFIP program in the community, if any?	Staff and funding
Does your jurisdiction have any outstanding NFIP compliance violations that need to be addressed? If so, state the violations.	No
When was the most recent Community Assistance Visit (CAV) or Community Assistance Contact (CAC)?	July 31, 2006
What is the local law number or municipal code of your flood damage prevention ordinance?	Chapter 120: Flood Damage Prevention
What is the date that your flood damage prevention ordinance was last amended?	August 22, 2011
Does your floodplain management program meet or exceed minimum requirements? If exceeds, in what ways?	The Town's floodplain management program meets the minimum requirements.
Are there other local ordinances, plans or programs (e.g., site plan review) that support floodplain management and meeting the NFIP requirements? For instance, does the planning board or zoning board consider efforts to reduce flood risk when reviewing variances such as height restrictions?	The Planning Board considers efforts to reduce flood risk when reviewing variances such as height restrictions. The Town has subdivision and site plan ordinances.
Does your community plan to join the CRS program or is your community interested in improving your CRS classification?	No

17.5 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 appreciating a jurisdiction's overall risk to its hazards of concern. Recent and expected future development trends, including major residential/commercial development and major infrastructure development, are summarized in Table 17-11 through Table 17-13.

Table 17-11. Number of Building Permits for New Construction Issued Since the Previous HMP

	New Construction Permits Issued			
	Single Family	Multi-Family	Other (commercial, mixed-use, etc.)	Total
2019				
Total Permits	0	0	0	0
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0

	New Construction Permits Issued			
	Single Family	Multi-Family	Other (commercial, mixed-use, etc.)	Total
2020				
Total Permits	0	0	0	0
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
2021				
Total Permits	0	0	0	0
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
2022				
Total Permits	0	0	0	0
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
2023				
Total Permits	0	0	0	0
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0

SFHA = Special Flood Hazard Area (1% flood event)

Table 17-12. Recent Major Development and Infrastructure from 2019 to Present

Property or Development Name	Type of Development	# of Units / Structures	Location (address and/or block and lot)	Known Hazard Zones*	Description / Status of Development
There has not been any recent major development or infrastructure in the Town between 2019 to present.					

** Only location-specific hazard zones or vulnerabilities identified.*

Table 17-13. Known or Anticipated Major Development and Infrastructure in the Next Five Years

Property or Development Name	Type of Development	# of Units / Structures	Location (address and/or block and lot)	Known Hazard Zones*	Description / Status of Development
There are no known or anticipated major development or infrastructure in the Town in the next five years.					

17.6 JURISDICTIONAL RISK ASSESSMENT

The hazard profiles in Volume I provide detailed information regarding each planning partner's vulnerability to the identified hazards, including summaries of Newton's risk assessment results and data used to determine the hazard ranking. Key local risk assessment information is presented below.

17.6.1 Hazard Area

Hazard area maps provided below illustrate the probable hazard areas impacted within the Town are shown in Figure 17-1 through Figure 17-3. 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 are provided only for hazards that can be identified

clearly using mapping techniques and technologies and for which Newton has significant exposure. The maps show the location of potential new development, where available.

Figure 17-1. Newton Flood and Sinkhole Hazard Area Extent and Location Map

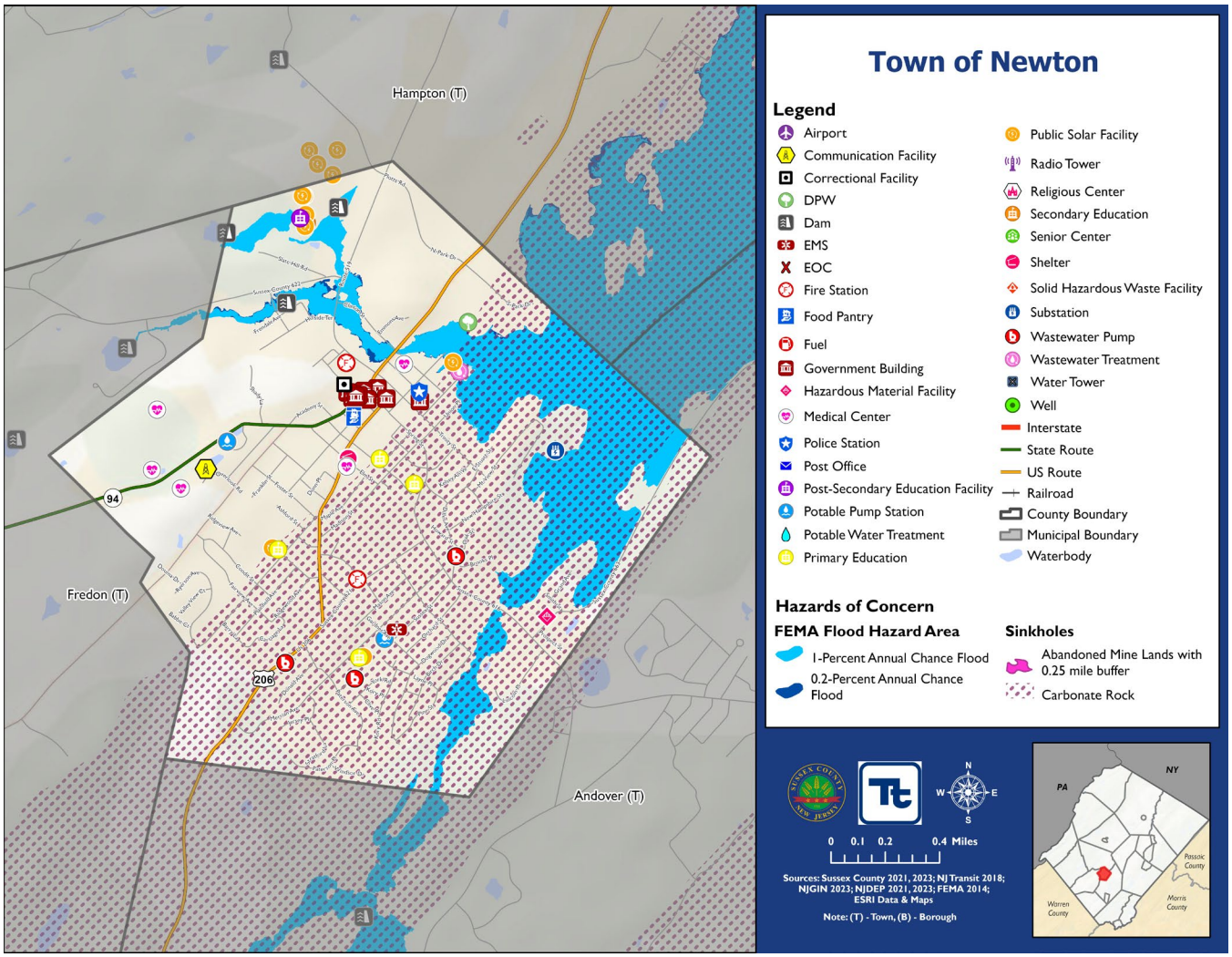


Figure 17-2. Newton Hazardous Materials and Wildfire Hazard Area Extent and Location Map

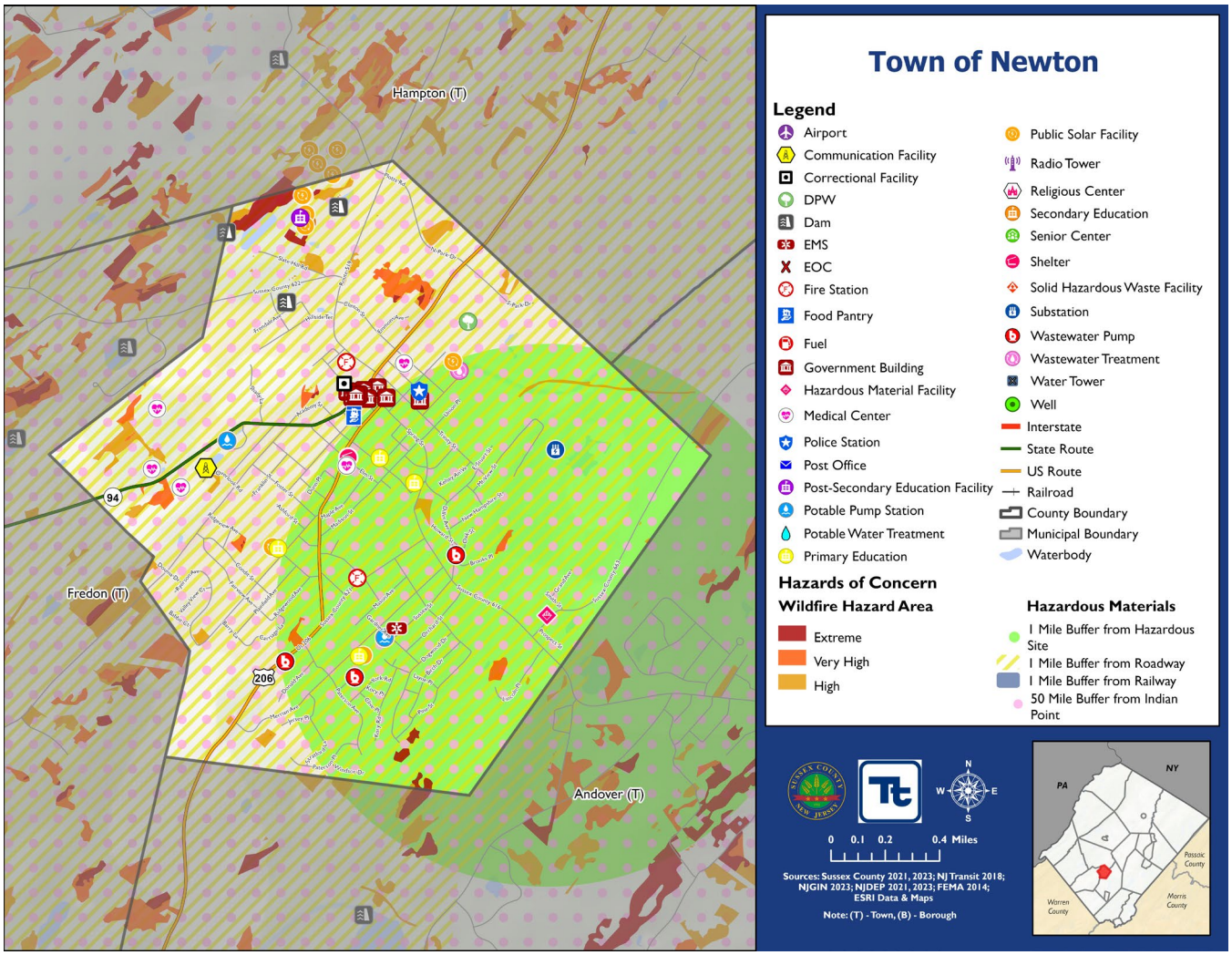
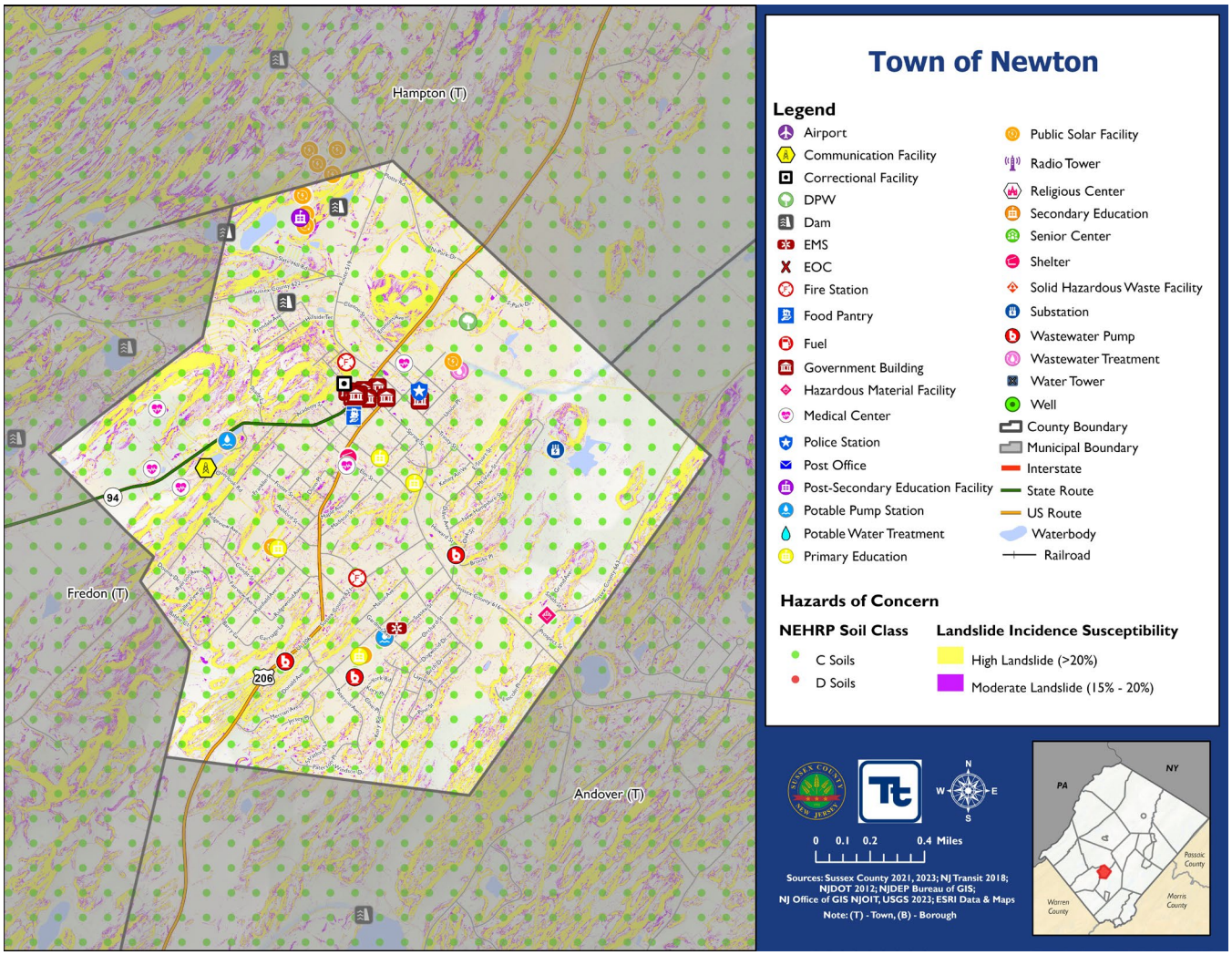


Figure 17-3. Newton Landslide and NEHRP Soils Hazard Area Extent and Location Map



17.6.2 Hazard Event History

The history of natural and non-natural hazard events in Newton is detailed in Volume I, where each hazard profile includes a chronology of historical events that have affected the County and its municipalities. Table 17-14 provides details on loss and damage in Newton during hazard events since the last hazard mitigation plan update.

Table 17-14. Hazard Event History in Newton

Dates of Event	Event Type (Disaster Declaration)	County Designated?	Summary of Event	Summary of Damage and Losses in Newton
January 20, 2020 – May 11, 2023	Covid-19 Pandemic (EM-3451-NJ, DR-4488-NJ)	Yes	Sussex County accounted for 37,642 positive cases of COVID-19 in the State of New Jersey, and 425 of the reported deaths. A total of 277,542 vaccinations were delivered in the County to both residents and non-residents.	The Town implemented masking and social distancing mandates. Non-emergent personnel were permitted to work from home.
August 4, 2020	Tropical Storm Isaias (DR-4574-NJ)	Yes	Tropical Storm Isaias brought high winds and heavy rain to Sussex County; there were numerous reports of downed trees and power lines. Observations from surrounding areas suggest sustained tropical storm force winds likely occurred.	Downed trees and power lines. Public Works officials assisted in the clean-up on Town maintained roadways and properties.
January 31 – February 2, 2021	Severe Winter Storm (DR-4597-NJ)	Yes	Heavy precipitation developed producing areas of extreme snowfall rates of 2 to 4 inches per hour in northern New Jersey. Numerous reports of 24 to 32 inches were received from across the County.	Heavy snowfall and high snow accumulations impacted the Town. No damages or losses occurred to Town property. Public Works officials assisted in the clean-up on Town maintained roadways and properties.
September 1-3, 2021	Remnants of Hurricane Ida (EM-3573-NJ, DR-4614-NJ)	Yes	The remnants of Hurricane Ida produced heavy rainfall and flash floods. Widespread flash flooding occurred in Sussex County with numerous road closures.	Flash flooding resulted in road closures. Public Works officials assisted in the clean-up on Town maintained roadways and properties.

EM = Emergency Declaration (FEMA)
FEMA = Federal Emergency Management Agency
DR = Major Disaster Declaration (FEMA)
N/A = Not applicable

17.6.3 Hazard Ranking and Vulnerabilities

The hazard profiles in Volume I have detailed information regarding each planning partner's vulnerability to the identified hazards. The following presents key risk assessment results for Newton.

Hazard Ranking

The participating jurisdictions have differing degrees of vulnerability to the hazards of concern, so each jurisdiction ranked its own degree of risk to each hazard. The community-specific hazard ranking is based on problems and impacts identified by the risk assessment presented in Volume I. The ranking process involves an assessment of the likelihood of occurrence for each hazard; the potential impacts of the hazard on people, property, and the economy; community capabilities to address the hazard; and changing future climate conditions. Newton reviewed the County hazard ranking and individual results to assess the relative risk of the hazards of concern to the community. During the review of the hazard ranking, the Town indicated the hazard rankings were accurate.

Table 17-15 shows Newton's final hazard rankings for identified hazards of concern. Mitigation action development uses the ranking to target hazards with the highest risk.

Table 17-15. Hazard Ranking

Hazard	Rank
Dam Failure	Medium
Disease Outbreak	Low
Drought	Low
Earthquake	Low
Flood	Medium
Geological Hazards	Medium
Hazardous Materials	Medium
Hurricane	Medium
Infestation	Low
Nor'easter	High
Severe Weather	High
Severe Winter Weather	High
Wildfire	Medium

Note: The scale is based on the hazard rankings established in Volume I, modified as appropriate based on review by the jurisdiction

Critical Facilities

Table 17-16 identifies critical facilities in the community located in the 1 percent and 0.2 percent annual chance floodplains.

Table 17-16. Critical Facilities Flood Vulnerability

Name	Type	Vulnerability		Addressed by Proposed Action	Already Protected to 0.2% Flood Level (describe protections)
		1% Annual Chance Event	0.2% Annual Chance Event		
Don Bosco Dam	Dam	Yes	Yes	2025-NewtonT-04, 2025-NewtonT-05	-

Name	Type	Vulnerability		Addressed by Proposed Action	Already Protected to 0.2% Flood Level (describe protections)
		1% Annual Chance Event	0.2% Annual Chance Event		
Houghton Dam	Dam	Yes	Yes	2025-NewtonT-04, 2025-NewtonT-05	-
NJSRRE1532193093	Public Solar Facility	No	Yes	2025-NewtonT-04	-

Source: NJGIN 2023; Sussex County 2021, 2023

In addition to critical facilities that are exposed to flooding, the following high hazard dams are located in Newton:

- Paulins Kill Site 4 Dam

17.6.4 Identified Issues

After review of Newton's hazard event history, hazard rankings, hazard location, and current capabilities, Newton identified the following vulnerabilities within the community:

- The Town lacks a Disaster Debris Management Plan to address post disaster cleanup. Without a plan in place, there are no identified resources in place to properly address debris and do not have identified locations for debris storage.
- The Town does not have a formalized list of damaged properties or property owners which may be interested in flood mitigation measures, such as elevation or acquisition. Maintaining these lists can assist the Town in identifying and prioritizing properties to mitigate.
- The Town does not have any certified floodplain managers (CFM) on staff. Becoming a CFM increases the depth of understanding when dealing with FEMA floodplains. The certifications ensures those that bare it understand the regulatory requirements and procedures needed to make floodplain management work effectively and efficiently at the community level.
- Critical facilities located in the floodplain are not only susceptible to flood damage but also create unnecessary complications for the municipality during an emergency event and post-disaster recovery. The Town has three critical facilities in the floodplain – the Don Bosco Dam, Houghton Dam, and a Public Solar Facility.
- The Don Bosco Dam and Houghton Dam, all critical infrastructures, are located in the 1- and 0.2-percent flood hazard areas. The Town also has a high-hazard potential dam, the Paulins Kill Site 4 Dam, within its jurisdiction. These structures have the potential to impact those living nearby.
- The Merriam Avenue School stormwater pump facility is undersized. This results in increased risk of flooding in the surrounding area that is serviced by the pump facility. Should the pump facility not be able to keep up with rainfall rates, flooding conditions could ensue.
- The stormwater management system requires upgrade at the Public Works Garage located on Moran Street. An inefficient stormwater management system can lead to an increased risk of flooding. The Garage also requires improved access, which would permit the operations at the facility to continue during an emergency event.
- The Emergency Operations Plan lacks a dam failure component and does not incorporate hazard mitigation principles. There are dams located in the Town which can cause impacts to their surrounding areas.

Understanding and acknowledging those vulnerable to the hazard, identifying primary and secondary contacts for each dam, and properly planning and storing any emergency action plans or procedures is pertinent to the safety and resilience of the Town.

- The roof of the Newton Municipal Building located on Trinity Street is not designed to withstand high wind. High wind associated with severe winter weather, severe weather, hurricanes, and nor'easters have the potential to damage the roof, which may cause injury to the individuals inside of the building.
- Two buildings at the Sussex County Community College are not designed with windows to withstand wind damages. High winds associated with these hazards can blow debris into windows, potentially endangering those inside the structure, as well as damaging the structure itself, if the windows are not impact resistant.
- Two buildings at the Sussex County Community College are not designed with modern snow load standards. This becomes an issue during severe winter weather and high winds associated with severe weather, hurricane, and nor'easter events, as individuals inside the buildings may become impacted should damage to the roof be significant.
- The Town struggles to communicate the availability of warming and cooling centers. Warming and cooling centers are integral facilities, as they provide relief to vulnerable populations in the Town, who would otherwise be exposed to the hazardous associated with extreme temperatures.
- The Newton First Aid Squad EMS Station, three pumping stations, and a communications tower, all critical facilities, require automatic standby generators to ensure continuity of operations. These facilities provide the community with access to emergency response, ensure rainfall is removed in a timely fashion to prevent flooding, and lines of communication – both amongst themselves and to emergency service providers should it be needed.
- The Town lacks procedures to capture loss and damage data from hazard events. This limits the knowledge of hazard events and lessens the ability to apply for grant funding support. Understanding how a historical hazardous event impacted the community will provide a better understanding of how similar hazard events may impact the Town today.
- The Town lacks procedures to complete post disaster damage assessments. Damage assessment tools have been created and provided by NJOEM; however, the Town is not trained on these capabilities produced by NJOEM. Being able to perform damage assessments can increase the likelihood the Town will receive financial assistance following a hazard event, should a declaration be declared, and the damage threshold be met.
- Falling trees cause damage property, reduce continuity of operations, and can cause injuries or death. Utility companies are responsible for the maintenance of those on or near utility lines. Private homeowners must ensure trees on private property are not threatening power availability/interruption.
- The Town's flood damage prevention ordinance lacks discussion of the state's freeboard requirement. A recent audit of New Jersey's model ordinances by FEMA for conformance with NFIP, resulted in a review of existing local flood damage prevention ordinances. Based upon FEMA's review, specific language related to NFIP regulations was not consistent. Additionally, it was determined that better coordination was needed between the three sets of regulations that regulate development and construction in the floodplain.
- The municipality does not have a Substantial Damage Management Plan in place, nor do they have a formal process in place when conducting substantial damage determinations. The municipality is in need of a formal process and plan to provide a framework for conducting such inspections and determinations.
- Paulins Kill Site 4 Dam is a Class I High Hazard Dam that is located along Little Hortons Pond. The dam is owned by the Town. Failure of the dam could result in inundation of densely populated areas, forested areas, critical facilities and community lifelines, and local roadways including Slate Hill Road and Swartswood Road. Although the dam was last inspected in 2022 and found to be in satisfactory condition,

the risk of dam failure warrants an engineering evaluation to determine if retrofits of the dam would result in safer conditions.

17.7 MITIGATION STRATEGY AND PRIORITIZATION

This section discusses the status of mitigation actions from the previous HMP, describes proposed hazard mitigation actions, and prioritizes actions to address over the next five years.

17.7.1 Past Mitigation Action Status

Table 17-17 indicates progress on the Town's mitigation strategy identified in the 2021 HMP. Actions that are still recommended but not completed or that are in progress are carried forward and combined with new actions as part of the mitigation strategy for this plan update. Previous actions that are now ongoing programs and capabilities are indicated as such and are presented in the capability assessment earlier in this annex.

17.7.2 Additional Mitigation Efforts

Newton did not identify any additional mitigation efforts completed since the last HMP.

Table 17-17. Status of Previous Mitigation Actions

Project Number	Project Name	Hazard(s) Addressed	Responsible Party	Brief Summary of the Original Problem and the Solution (Project)	Action Review 1. Status (In Progress, Ongoing Capability, No Progress, Complete) 2. Provide a narrative to describe progress or obstacles that have prevented implementation	Next Steps 1. Project to be included in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue 2. If including action in the 2025 HMP, revise/reword to be more specific (as appropriate). 3. If discontinue, explain why.
2021-Newton-001	Merriam Avenue School Pump Facility	Flood, Severe Weather	Town DPW and Engineer	**Problem:** The Merriam Avenue School stormwater pump facility is undersized. This results in increased risk of flooding in the surrounding area that is serviced by the pump facility. **Solution:** The Town will upgrade the capacity of Merriam Avenue School stormwater pump facility. The Engineer will design the improvements and the DPW will carry out the upgrades.	1. No Progress 2. Funding was unavailable to begin work of this action.	1. Include 2. Keep as is 3. Not applicable
2021-Newton-002	DPW Garage Stormwater and Access Upgrades	Flood, Severe Weather	Town DPW and Engineer	**Problem:** The stormwater management system requires upgrade at the DPW Garage located on Moran Street. The Garage also requires improved access. **Solution:** The Engineer will design upgrades to the stormwater management system and access way improvements. The DPW will carry out the work.	1. No Progress 2. Funding was unavailable to begin work of this action.	1. Include 2. Keep as is 3. Not applicable
2021-Newton-003	Dam Failure Emergency Planning	Dam Failure	OEM	**Problem:** The Emergency Operations Plan lacks a dam failure component.	1. No Progress 2. Funding was unavailable to begin work of this action.	1. Include 2. Keep as is 3. Not applicable

Project Number	Project Name	Hazard(s) Addressed	Responsible Party	Brief Summary of the Original Problem and the Solution (Project)	Action Review 1. Status (In Progress, Ongoing Capability, No Progress, Complete) 2. Provide a narrative to describe progress or obstacles that have prevented implementation	Next Steps 1. Project to be included in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue 2. If including action in the 2025 HMP, revise/reword to be more specific (as appropriate). 3. If discontinue, explain why.
				Solution: The Town will complete dam failure inundation mapping and include in updates to the Emergency Operations Plan for Town dams.		
2021-Newton-004	Municipal Building Wind Designs	Severe Winter Weather, Nor'easter	Town Engineer and Administration	**Problem:** The roof of the Newton Municipal Building located on Trinity Street is not designed to withstand high wind. **Solution:** The Engineer will design a new roof to meet current standards for high winds on Newton Municipal Building located on Trinity Street. The Town will then replace the roof.	1. In Progress 2. A new roof was installed on the police department half of the complex.	1. Include 2. Revise solution to updating remaining portion of the roof. 3. Not applicable
2021-Newton-005	Snow Load Improvements at Fire House #2	Severe Winter Weather, Nor'easter	Town Engineer and Fire Department	**Problem:** Fire House #2's roof is not designed with modern snow load standards. Failure of the roof could threaten the critical services of the Fire House. **Solution:** The Engineer will design a new roof to meet current standards for snow load of Fire House #2 located on Woodside Avenue. The Fire Department will then replace the roof.	1. Complete 2. A new fire house was constructed.	1. Discontinue 2. Not applicable 3. A new fire house was constructed.
2021-Newton-006	Wind Resistance Improvements	Severe Winter Weather, Nor'easter	Engineering and School Administration	**Problem:** Two buildings at the Sussex County Community College are not designed with	1. No Progress 2. Funding was unavailable to begin work of this action.	1. Include 2. Keep as is 3. Not applicable

Project Number	Project Name	Hazard(s) Addressed	Responsible Party	Brief Summary of the Original Problem and the Solution (Project)	Action Review 1. Status (In Progress, Ongoing Capability, No Progress, Complete) 2. Provide a narrative to describe progress or obstacles that have prevented implementation	Next Steps 1. Project to be included in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue 2. If including action in the 2025 HMP, revise/reword to be more specific (as appropriate). 3. If discontinue, explain why.
	at Community College			windows to withstand wind damages. **Solution:** The Town Engineer will provide guidance on the retrofit two buildings with impact resistant windows and shutters at the Sussex County Community College.		
2021-Newton-007	Snow Load Improvements at Community College	Severe Winter Weather, Nor'easter	Engineering and School Administration	**Problem:** Two buildings at the Sussex County Community College are not designed with modern snow load standards. **Solution:** The Town Engineer will provide guidance on the retrofit of two buildings to meet current snow load standards at the Sussex County Community College.	1. No Progress 2. Funding was unavailable to begin work of this action.	1. Include 2. Keep as is 3. Not applicable
2021-Newton-008	Hazard Outreach	Dam Failure, Disease Outbreak, Drought, Earthquake, Flood, Geologic, Hazardous Materials, Hurricane and Tropical Storm, Invasive Species, Nor'easter, Severe Weather,	Town Administration, OEM	**Problem:** Increased outreach is needed in the Town to increase public awareness. **Solution:** The Town will design and conduct all-hazards public education and outreach program for hazard mitigation and preparedness.	1. Ongoing 2. This action is now a capability of the Town.	1. Discontinue 2. Not applicable 3. This action is now a capability of the Town.

Project Number	Project Name	Hazard(s) Addressed	Responsible Party	Brief Summary of the Original Problem and the Solution (Project)	Action Review 1. Status (In Progress, Ongoing Capability, No Progress, Complete) 2. Provide a narrative to describe progress or obstacles that have prevented implementation	Next Steps 1. Project to be included in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue 2. If including action in the 2025 HMP, revise/reword to be more specific (as appropriate). 3. If discontinue, explain why.
		Severe Winter Weather, Wildfire				
2021-Newton-009	Automatic Standby Generators at Critical Facilities	Severe Weather, Severe Winter Weather, Hurricane, Nor'easter	Engineer, OEM	**Problem:** The Newton First Aid Squad EMS Station and three pumping stations require automatic standby generators. **Solution:** The Engineer will research what size generators are needed to power each facility. The Town will then purchase and install the selected generators and necessary electrical components to supply backup power to the facilities.	1. No Progress 2. Funding was unavailable to begin work of this action.	1. Include 2. Keep as is 3. Not applicable
2021-Newton-010	Disaster Debris Management Plan	Dam Failure, Drought, Earthquake, Flood, Geologic, Hazardous Materials, Hurricane and Tropical Storm, Invasive Species, Nor'easter, Severe Weather, Severe Winter Weather, Wildfire	DPW, OEM	**Problem:** The Town lacks a Disaster Debris Management Plan. **Solution:** The Town will develop and implement a Disaster Debris Management Plan.	1. In Progress 2. NJDEP approved a facility in the Town as a debris-receiving facility, but there is no formal plan in place for debris management.	1. Include 2. Keep as is 3. Not applicable
2021-Newton-011	Hazard Event Archival Process	Dam Failure, Disease Outbreak, Drought, Earthquake,	OEM, DPW, Administration	**Problem:** The Town lacks procedures to capture loss and damage data from hazard events. This limits the knowledge of hazard events and	1. No Progress 2. The Town had other priorities which restricted work from beginning on this action.	1. Include 2. Keep as is 3. Not applicable

Project Number	Project Name	Hazard(s) Addressed	Responsible Party	Brief Summary of the Original Problem and the Solution (Project)	Action Review 1. Status (In Progress, Ongoing Capability, No Progress, Complete) 2. Provide a narrative to describe progress or obstacles that have prevented implementation	Next Steps 1. Project to be included in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue 2. If including action in the 2025 HMP, revise/reword to be more specific (as appropriate). 3. If discontinue, explain why.
		Flood, Geologic, Hazardous Materials, Hurricane and Tropical Storm, Invasive Species, Nor'easter, Severe Weather, Severe Winter Weather, Wildfire		lessens the ability to apply for grant funding support. **Solution:** The Town will develop programs/ procedures to capture and archive loss data from events including the location and length of roadway closures; high water marks, amount of municipal and residential damage.		
2021-Newton-012	Mutual Aid Agreements	Dam Failure, Disease Outbreak, Drought, Earthquake, Flood, Geologic, Hazardous Materials, Hurricane and Tropical Storm, Invasive Species, Nor'easter, Severe Weather, Severe Winter Weather, Wildfire	OEM, Administration	**Problem:** Large scale disaster events require the assistance of outside municipal departments. **Solution:** The Town will create, enhance, and maintain Mutual Aid agreements with neighboring communities for continuity of operations.	1. Complete 2. There is a countywide mutual aid agreement adopted via resolution by participating jurisdictions, including the Town.	1. Discontinue 2. Not applicable 3. There is a countywide mutual aid agreement adopted via resolution by participating jurisdictions, including the Town.
2021-Newton-013	Damage Assessment Procedures	Dam Failure, Disease Outbreak, Drought, Earthquake, Flood, Geologic, Hazardous	Administration, DPW, OEM	**Problem:** The Town lacks procedures to complete post disaster damage assessments. **Solution:** The Town will identify and develop agreements with entities that can provide support	1. No Progress 2. The Town had other priorities which restricted work from beginning on this action.	1. Include 2. Keep as is 3. Not applicable

Project Number	Project Name	Hazard(s) Addressed	Responsible Party	Brief Summary of the Original Problem and the Solution (Project)	Action Review 1. Status (In Progress, Ongoing Capability, No Progress, Complete) 2. Provide a narrative to describe progress or obstacles that have prevented implementation	Next Steps 1. Project to be included in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue 2. If including action in the 2025 HMP, revise/reword to be more specific (as appropriate). 3. If discontinue, explain why.
		Materials, Hurricane and Tropical Storm, Invasive Species, Nor'easter, Severe Weather, Severe Winter Weather, Wildfire		with FEMA/NJOEM paperwork after disasters; qualified damage assessment personnel – Improve post-disaster capabilities – damage assessment; FEMA/NJOEM paperwork compilation, submissions, record-keeping.		
2021-Newton-014	Vegetation Management	Severe Weather, Severe Winter Weather, Hurricane, Nor'easter, Invasive Species	Administration, DPW	**Problem:** Falling trees cause damage property, reduce continuity of operations, and can cause injuries or death. **Solution:** The Town will implement, review, and enforce municipal policies and programs to prevent trees from threatening lives and impacting power availability/interruption.	1. No Progress 2. The Town had other priorities which restricted work from beginning on this action.	1. Include 2. Keep as is 3. Not applicable
2021-Newton-015	Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance Update	Flood	FPA, Administration	**Problem:** The Town's flood damage prevention ordinance lacks discussion of the state's freeboard requirement. **Solution:** The Town will update the ordinance to include the 1-foot freeboard requirement for new construction in the SFHA.	1. No Progress 2. The Town had other priorities which restricted work from beginning on this action.	1. Include 2. Keep as is 3. Not applicable

17.7.3 Proposed Hazard Mitigation Actions for the HMP Update

Newton participated in the mitigation strategy workshop for this HMP to identify appropriate actions to include in a local hazard mitigation strategy. Its comprehensive consideration of all possible activities to address hazards of concern included review of the following FEMA documents:

- FEMA 551 “Selecting Appropriate Mitigation Measures for Floodprone Structures” (March 2007)
- FEMA “Mitigation Ideas—A Resource for Reducing Risk to Natural Hazards” (January 2013).

The action worksheets included at the end of this annex list the mitigation actions that Newton would like to pursue in the future to reduce the effects of hazards. The actions are dependent upon available funding (grants and local match availability) and may be modified or omitted at any time based on the occurrence of new hazard events and changes in Town priorities.

Table 17-18 indicates the range of proposed mitigation action categories. The four FEMA mitigation action categories and the six CRS mitigation action categories are listed in the table to further demonstrate the wide range of activities and mitigation measures selected.

Volume I identifies 14 evaluation criteria for prioritizing the mitigation actions. To assist with rating each mitigation action as high, medium, or low priority, a numeric rank is assigned (-1, 0, or 1) for each of the evaluation criteria. Table 17-19 provides a summary of the prioritization of all proposed mitigation actions for the HMP update.

Table 17-18. Analysis of Mitigation Actions by Hazard and Category

Hazard	Actions That Address the Hazard, by Action Category									
	FEMA				CRS					
	LPR	SIP	NSP	EAP	PR	PP	PI	NR	SP	ES
Dam Failure	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X
Disease Outbreak	X	X		X	X	X	X			X
Drought	X	X		X	X	X	X			X
Earthquake	X	X		X	X	X	X			X
Flood	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X
Geological Hazards	X	X		X	X	X	X			X
Hazardous Materials	X	X		X	X	X	X			X
Hurricane	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Infestation	X			X	X		X			
Nor'easter	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Severe Weather	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Severe Winter Weather	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Wildfire	X	X		X	X	X	X			X

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 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

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. Such 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. These 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. Such 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

Table 17-19. Summary of Prioritization of Actions

Project Number	Project Name	Scores for Evaluation Criteria															High / Medium / Low
		Life Safety	Property Protection	Cost-Effectiveness	Political	Legal	Fiscal	Environmental	Social Vulnerability	Administrative	Hazards of Concern	Climate Change	Timeline	Community Lifelines	Other Local Objectives	**Total**	
2025-NewtonT-01	Disaster Debris Management Plan	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	11	High
2025-NewtonT-02	Flood Mitigation Interest	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	13	High
2025-NewtonT-03	NFIP Training	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	12	High
2025-NewtonT-04	Critical Facilities in the Floodplain	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	8	Medium
2025-NewtonT-05	Dam Owner Partnership	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	11	High
2025-NewtonT-06	Merriam Avenue School Pump Facility	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	9	Medium
2025-NewtonT-07	Public Works Garage Stormwater and Access Upgrades	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	9	Medium
2025-NewtonT-08	Dam Failure Emergency Planning	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	11	High
2025-NewtonT-09	Municipal Building Wind Designs	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	9	Medium
2025-NewtonT-10	Wind Resistance Improvements at Community College	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	9	Medium
2025-NewtonT-11	Snow Load Improvements at Community College	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	11	High
2025-NewtonT-12	Town Message Boards	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	8	Medium

Project Number	Project Name	Scores for Evaluation Criteria															High / Medium / Low
		Life Safety	Property Protection	Cost-Effectiveness	Political	Legal	Fiscal	Environmental	Social Vulnerability	Administrative	Hazards of Concern	Climate Change	Timeline	Community Lifelines	Other Local Objectives	**Total**	
2025-NewtonT-13	Automatic Standby Generators at Critical Facilities	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	10	Medium
2025-NewtonT-14	Hazard Event Archival Process	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	9	Medium
2025-NewtonT-15	Damage Assessment Training	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	11	High
2025-NewtonT-16	Tree Maintenance	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	10	Medium
2025-NewtonT-17	Code Coordinated Ordinance	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	11	High
2025-NewtonT-18	Substantial Damage Management Plan	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	11	High
2025-NewtonT-19	Paulins Kill Site 4 Dam Rehab	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	11	High

Note: Volume I, Section 21 (Mitigation Strategy) conveys guidance on prioritizing mitigation actions. Low (0-6), Medium (7-10), High (11-14).

Action 2025-NewtonT-01. Disaster Debris Management Plan

Lead Agency:	Emergency Management	
Supporting Agencies:	Public Works, Building Department, Town Administration	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	☒Dam Failure ☐Disease Outbreak ☐Drought ☒Earthquake ☒Flood ☒Geological Hazards ☒Hazardous Materials	☒Hurricane ☐Infestation ☒Nor'easter ☒Severe Weather ☒Severe Winter Weather ☒Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	The Town lacks a Disaster Debris Management Plan to address post disaster cleanup. Without a plan in place, there are no identified resources in place to properly address debris and do not have identified locations for debris storage.	
Description of the Solution:	The municipality will develop a disaster debris management plan. This plan will establish procedures and guidelines for managing disaster debris in a coordinated, environmentally responsible, and cost-effective manner. The plan will identify responsibilities for execution of the plan. The plan will align with permitted temporary collection areas.	
Estimated Cost:	Staff time	
Potential Funding Sources:	Municipal budget	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years	
Goals Met:	5	
Benefits:	The action will result in increased quicker and more efficient cleanup after disaster events.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Not Applicable	
Impact on Future Development:	Not Applicable	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Not Applicable	
Impact on Capabilities:	The action will result in increased post disaster capabilities.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change may result in an increase in the frequency and severity of weather-related disaster events. This action will increase the capabilities to respond to these events.	
Mitigation Category	☒Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
CRS Category	☐Preventative Measures (PR) ☐Property Protection (PP) ☐Public Information (PI)	☐Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☒Emergency Services (ES)
Priority	☒High	☐Medium ☐Low

Alternatives:	**Action**	**Evaluation**
	No Action	Current problem remains
	Rely on federal cleanup	These services may or may not be available
	Rely on state cleanup	These services may or may not be available

Action 2025-NewtonT-02. Flood Mitigation Interest

Lead Agency:	Floodplain Administrator		
Supporting Agencies:	Land Use Board, Town Administration		
Hazard(s) of Concern:	☐Dam Failure ☐Disease Outbreak ☐Drought ☐Earthquake ☒Flood ☐Geological Hazards ☐Hazardous Materials	☐Hurricane ☐Infestation ☐Nor'easter ☐Severe Weather ☐Severe Winter Weather ☐Wildfire	
Description of the Problem:	The Town does not have a formalized list of damaged properties or property owners which may be interested in flood mitigation measures, such as elevation or acquisition. Maintaining these lists can assist the Town in identifying and prioritizing properties to mitigate.		
Description of the Solution:	The Floodplain Administration will develop a list for properties damaged by flood events and property owners who are interested in flood mitigation measures, such as elevation or acquisition.		
Estimated Cost:	Staff time, Low		
Potential Funding Sources:	Town Budget		
Implementation Timeline:	Within 2 years		
Goals Met:	1, 2, 5		
Benefits:	Keeping a list of damaged properties and property owners interested in flood mitigation efforts may lead to the elimination of flood damage to homes and residences, which creating an open space for the municipality and increasing flood storage.		
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Collecting data regarding homeowners that reside within flood prone areas provides an opportunity to introduce location-specific opportunities for assistance. Removing homes from the floodplain immediately removes the risk to life and property.		
Impact on Future Development:	Increased outreach to homeowners within a flood prone area will limit construction in areas that are prone to hazard events. Homes may be acquired, which will remove those structures from the floodplain and prevent future development on those sites.		
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Removing structures from the floodplain decreases the demand on utilities and emergency services including health and medical, law enforcement, and search and rescue.		
Impact on Capabilities:	This action will create a new Town capability, while enhancing its current NFIP capabilities.		
Climate Change Considerations:	A warmer atmosphere means storms have the potential to be more intense and occur more often, including increased periods of intense rain events. Areas experiencing flooding conditions may increase. Removing structures from the floodplain will reduce the response and recovery costs as a result of these events and decrease the loss of human life as a result of these events. Elevating structures will reduce the recovery costs as a result of these events.		
Mitigation Category	☒Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)	
CRS Category	☒Preventative Measures (PR) ☐Property Protection (PP) ☐Public Information (PI)	☐Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐Emergency Services (ES)	
Priority	☒High	☐Medium	☐Low

Alternatives:

Action	Evaluation
No action	Current problem remains
Only share opportunities when notified of grant funding	May not be enough time to garner interest or write application
Wait for information from the State on flood-damaged properties	May be a delay in notice

Action 2025-NewtonT-03. NFIP Training

Lead Agency:	Floodplain Administrator	
Supporting Agencies:	Engineering, Construction Department, Town Administration	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	☐Dam Failure ☐Disease Outbreak ☐Drought ☐Earthquake ☒Flood ☐Geological Hazards ☐Hazardous Materials	☐Hurricane ☐Infestation ☐Nor'easter ☐Severe Weather ☐Severe Winter Weather ☐Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	The Town does not have any certified floodplain managers (CFM) on staff. Becoming a CFM increases the depth of understanding when dealing with FEMA floodplains. The certifications ensures those that bare it understand the regulatory requirements and procedures needed to make floodplain management work effectively and efficiently at the community level.	
Description of the Solution:	Provide training and/or certification for Town staff with NFIP regulations and floodplain management ordinances. Encourage staff to become Certified Floodplain Managers via the Association of State Floodplain Manager's CFM Certification Program.	
Estimated Cost:	Low	
Potential Funding Sources:	Town	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years	
Goals Met:	1, 2, 3, 5	
Benefits:	This action will increase the NFIP capabilities of the Town and assure the Town's NFIP program has enough staff to accomplish its goals and reach NFIP compliance.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Officials that are up to date on flood risk are more likely to encourage development outside areas of high flood risk, which is where socially vulnerable populations have historically resided. Safer dwellings may be developed in a less vulnerable location.	
Impact on Future Development:	Officials that understand best practices in floodplain management will have the opportunity to influence future development and prevent unsafe building in flood hazard areas.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	The opportunity will exist for leaders and operators of utilities and other essential services to attend training and provide direction on ways the prepare for, plan for, and prevent interruptions in service as a result of a flood.	
Impact on Capabilities:	This action will enhance the Town's current NFIP capabilities.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change is likely to increase the intensity and frequency of many climate related disaster events. This action will educate staff on NFIP regulations to assist with the flood hazard.	
Mitigation Category	☐Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☒Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
CRS Category	☐Preventative Measures (PR) ☐Property Protection (PP) ☒Public Information (PI)	☐Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐Emergency Services (ES)
Priority	☒High	☐Medium ☐Low

Alternatives:

Action	Evaluation
No Action	Current problem remains
Hire outside contractors for floodplain administration	Costly
Establish shared service agreements for floodplain administration from neighboring municipalities	Neighboring municipalities are unlikely to have the staff capacity to take on this role

Action 2025-NewtonT-04. Critical Facilities in the Floodplain

Lead Agency:	Facility Managers	
Supporting Agencies:	Emergency Management, Floodplain Administrator	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	☐Dam Failure ☐Disease Outbreak ☐Drought ☐Earthquake ☒Flood ☐Geological Hazards ☐Hazardous Materials	☐Hurricane ☐Infestation ☐Nor'easter ☐Severe Weather ☐Severe Winter Weather ☐Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	Critical facilities located in the floodplain are not only susceptible to flood damage but also create unnecessary complications for the municipality during an emergency event and post-disaster recovery. The Town has three critical facilities in the floodplain – the Don Bosco Dam, Houghton Dam, and a Public Solar Facility.	
Description of the Solution:	Coordinate with the facility managers at Don Bosco Dam, Houghton Dam, and NJSRRE1532193093 (a public solar facility) in the Town to support the mitigation of vulnerable structures via retrofit (e.g., elevation, flood-proofing) or relocation to protect structures from future damage. Phase 1: Identify most cost-effective mitigation option Phase 2: Work with facility manager to implement selected action based on available funding and local match ability.	
Estimated Cost:	Medium	
Potential Funding Sources:	FEMA BRIC, HMGP, Town Budget, Facilities	
Implementation Timeline:	5 years	
Goals Met:	2	
Benefits:	This action will remove or reduce critical facility and community lifeline vulnerability to the flood hazard and remove or reduce safety risks for first responders.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Retrofitting or relocating the identified structures will benefit socially vulnerable populations, as individuals within these populations rely on resources from various government facilities, transportation facilities, and medical and senior care facilities.	
Impact on Future Development:	Noting the number of facilities located within the flood hazard area may encourage the consideration of relocating critical facilities and lifelines from the flood hazard area and deter the development of any additional facilities in the flood hazard area.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Noting the number of facilities located within the flood hazard area may encourage the consideration of relocating critical facilities and lifelines from the flood hazard area and deter the development of any additional facilities in the flood hazard area.	
Impact on Capabilities:	This action will enhance the Town's current NFIP capabilities.	
Climate Change Considerations:	A warmer atmosphere means storms have the potential to be more intense and occur more often, including increased periods of intense rain events.	
Mitigation Category	☐Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☒Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
CRS Category	☐Preventative Measures (PR) ☒Property Protection (PP) ☐Public Information (PI)	☐Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☒Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐Emergency Services (ES)
Priority	☐High	☒Medium ☐Low

Alternatives:

Action	Evaluation
No Action	Current problem remains
Floodproof existing structures	May not necessarily reduce risk
Construct floodwalls to stop flood issues	Will most likely interrupt natural floodplain function

Action 2025-NewtonT-05. Dam Owner Partnership

Lead Agency:	Town OEM	
Supporting Agencies:	NJDEP, Dam Owners	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	☒Dam Failure ☐Disease Outbreak ☐Drought ☐Earthquake ☐Flood ☐Geological Hazards ☐Hazardous Materials	☐Hurricane ☐Infestation ☐Nor'easter ☐Severe Weather ☐Severe Winter Weather ☐Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	The Don Bosco Dam and Houghton Dam, all critical infrastructures, are located in the 1- and 0.2-percent flood hazard areas. The Town also has a high-hazard potential dam, the Paulins Kill Site 4 Dam, within its jurisdiction. These structures have the potential to impact those living nearby.	
Description of the Solution:	The Town will work with the owners of the dams to ensure inspections and safety procedures are up to date. EAPs will be collected by Town OEM and shared with the County OEM.	
Estimated Cost:	Low	
Potential Funding Sources:	Municipal budget	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years	
Goals Met:	1, 2, 3, 5, 7	
Benefits:	This action will improve the safety and security of those who live within the dam inundation areas of the dams and increase the resilience of responding agencies.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	The action will result in better preparedness within the Special Flood Hazard Area and inundation areas where significant risk to socially vulnerable populations exists.	
Impact on Future Development:	Future development near inundation areas will be more secure as safety procedures and inspections are regularly performed on the dams.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Dams are considered a critical facility. This action will create an understanding of the safety procedures in place for each identified dam.	
Impact on Capabilities:	This action will improve planning and response capabilities through the understanding of responsibilities and procedures.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change may result in an increase in the frequency and severity of weather-related disaster events, which may contribute to the likelihood of a dam failure event. This action will increase the capabilities to respond to these events.	
Mitigation Category	☒Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
CRS Category	☐Preventative Measures (PR) ☒Property Protection (PP) ☐Public Information (PI)	☐Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☒Emergency Services (ES)
Priority	☒High	☐Medium ☐Low

Alternatives:

Action	Evaluation
No Action	Town will be unaware of any safety concerns for the dam or its condition
Utilize information from NJDEP	Owners may not be required to submit a safety plan to the State
Utilize information from the National Inventory of Dams	Not all dams are listed on the inventory

Action 2025-NewtonT-06. Merriam Avenue School Pump Facility

Lead Agency:	Engineering	
Supporting Agencies:	Public Works	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	☐Dam Failure ☐Disease Outbreak ☐Drought ☐Earthquake ☒Flood ☐Geological Hazards ☐Hazardous Materials	☒Hurricane ☐Infestation ☒Nor'easter ☒Severe Weather ☐Severe Winter Weather ☐Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	The Merriam Avenue School stormwater pump facility is undersized. This results in increased risk of flooding in the surrounding area that is serviced by the pump facility. Should the pump facility not be able to keep up with rainfall rates, flooding conditions could ensue.	
Description of the Solution:	The Town will upgrade the capacity of Merriam Avenue School stormwater pump facility. The Engineer will design the improvements and Public Works will carry out the upgrades.	
Estimated Cost:	Medium	
Potential Funding Sources:	HMPG, BRIC, Municipal Budget	
Implementation Timeline:	5 years	
Goals Met:	2, 5, 6	
Benefits:	This action reduces the risk of flooding and damages to facilities. Furthermore, the action lowers the risk of interruption to potable water sources.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Vulnerable areas that may otherwise experience a loss of water during heavy rain or flooding will be more likely to retain services.	
Impact on Future Development:	Communities with sound and resilient infrastructure encourage commercial and residential development.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Hydration lifeline is more likely to remain intact.	
Impact on Capabilities:	Maintaining operational water services reduces recovery time and costs.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Consideration should be taken regarding the increase in heavy rain and flood events as a result of climate change.	
Mitigation Category	☐Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☒Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
CRS Category	☐Preventative Measures (PR) ☐Property Protection (PP) ☐Public Information (PI)	☐Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☒Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐Emergency Services (ES)
Priority	☐High	☒Medium ☐Low

Alternatives:

Action	Evaluation
No action	Current problem continues
Replace with new pump station	Too expensive
Build secondary pump station	Expensive, space limited

Action 2025-NewtonT-07. Public Works Garage Stormwater and Access Upgrades

Lead Agency:	Engineering	
Supporting Agencies:	Public Works	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	☐Dam Failure ☐Disease Outbreak ☐Drought ☐Earthquake ☒Flood ☐Geological Hazards ☐Hazardous Materials	☒Hurricane ☐Infestation ☒Nor'easter ☒Severe Weather ☐Severe Winter Weather ☐Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	The stormwater management system requires upgrade at the Public Works Garage located on Moran Street. An inefficient stormwater management system can lead to an increased risk of flooding. The Garage also requires improved access, which would permit the operations at the facility to continue during an emergency event.	
Description of the Solution:	The Engineer will design upgrades to the stormwater management system and access way improvements. Public Works will carry out the work.	
Estimated Cost:	High	
Potential Funding Sources:	HMGP, BRIC, Town budget	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 4 years	
Goals Met:	2, 5, 6	
Benefits:	This action reduces the risk of flooding and damages to facilities. Furthermore, the action lowers the risk of interruption to potable water sources.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Vulnerable areas that may otherwise experience a loss of water during heavy rain or flooding will be more likely to retain services.	
Impact on Future Development:	Communities with sound and resilient infrastructure encourage commercial and residential development.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	This action permits the Public Works Garage to maintain its operations before, during, and after a hazardous event without risk to flooding conditions.	
Impact on Capabilities:	Maintaining operational water services reduces recovery time and costs.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Consideration should be taken regarding the increase in heavy rain and flood events as a result of climate change.	
Mitigation Category	☐Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☒Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
CRS Category	☐Preventative Measures (PR) ☐Property Protection (PP) ☐Public Information (PI)	☐Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☒Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐Emergency Services (ES)
Priority	☐High	☒Medium ☐Low

Alternatives:

Action	Evaluation
No Action	Problem continues.
Relocate DPW	Costly
Close DPW and relocated staff and equipment when flooding is anticipated	Relocation/staging of staff and equipment takes too much time

Action 2025-NewtonT-08. Dam Failure Emergency Planning

Lead Agency:	Emergency Management		
Supporting Agencies:	-		
Hazard(s) of Concern:	☒Dam Failure ☐Disease Outbreak ☐Drought ☐Earthquake ☐Flood ☐Geological Hazards ☐Hazardous Materials	☐Hurricane ☐Infestation ☐Nor'easter ☐Severe Weather ☐Severe Winter Weather ☐Wildfire	
Description of the Problem:	The Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) lacks a dam failure component and does not incorporate hazard mitigation principles. There are dams located in the Town which can cause impacts to their surrounding areas. Understanding and acknowledging those vulnerable to the hazard, identifying primary and secondary contacts for each dam, and properly planning and storing any emergency action plans or procedures is pertinent to the safety and resilience of the Town.		
Description of the Solution:	The Town will complete dam failure inundation mapping, include in updates for Town dams, and integrate hazard mitigation principles during the EOP updating process.		
Estimated Cost:	Staff time, Low		
Potential Funding Sources:	Municipal Budget		
Implementation Timeline:	1 year		
Goals Met:	5, 6		
Benefits:	The Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) details what the Town will do during a disaster (incident command implementation, command center location and activities, specific plans by department, etc.). Updating the EOP will permit the Town to integrate new plans, policies, capabilities, and hazard assessments.		
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	The section overview portion of the Emergency Operation Plan covers a discussion of a variety of topics, including population distribution and locations, including any concentrated populations of individuals with disabilities, others with access and functional needs, or individuals with limited English proficiency.		
Impact on Future Development:	Not applicable		
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	The section overview portion of the Emergency Operation Plan covers a discussion of a variety of topics, including vulnerable critical facilities (e.g. nursing homes, schools, hospitals, infrastructure).		
Impact on Capabilities:	This action will update an already existing planning capability of the Town.		
Climate Change Considerations:	As impacts from climate change are increasingly felt, the contents in an Emergency Operations Plan, including in the basic plan and any annexes, may need to be updated.		
Mitigation Category	☒Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)	
CRS Category	☒Preventative Measures (PR) ☐Property Protection (PP) ☐Public Information (PI)	☐Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☒Emergency Services (ES)	
Priority	☒High	☐Medium	☐Low

Alternatives:	**Action**	**Evaluation**
	No action	Current problem remains
	Integrate hazard mitigation principles in only hazard appendices	The plan will miss integration opportunities in the basic plan and annexes
	Ask County to integrate hazard mitigation into the County EOP	Town EOP still remains unintegrated

Action 2025-NewtonT-09. Municipal Building Wind Designs

Lead Agency:	Engineering	
Supporting Agencies:	Town Administration	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	☐Dam Failure ☐Disease Outbreak ☐Drought ☐Earthquake ☐Flood ☐Geological Hazards ☐Hazardous Materials	☒Hurricane ☐Infestation ☒Nor'easter ☒Severe Weather ☒Severe Winter Weather ☐Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	The roof of the Newton Municipal Building located on Trinity Street is not designed to withstand high wind. High wind associated with severe winter weather, severe weather, hurricanes, and nor'easters have the potential to damage the roof, which may cause injury to the individuals inside of the building.	
Description of the Solution:	The Engineer will design a new roof to meet current standards for high winds on Newton Municipal Building located on Trinity Street. The Town will then replace the roof.	
Estimated Cost:	High	
Potential Funding Sources:	HMGP, BRIC, USDA Community Facilities Grant Program, Town Budget	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years	
Goals Met:	2, 6	
Benefits:	This action will protect the Municipal Hall, a critical facility and community lifelines, from wind damage associated with severe weather, severe winter weather, hurricanes, nor'easters, and any debris which the winds may elevate.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	The Municipal Hall may be utilized by the public. This action will protect the individuals and groups within this structure from outside impacts.	
Impact on Future Development:	Not applicable	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	This action will protect the Municipal Hall from potential wind damages caused by debris.	
Impact on Capabilities:	Not applicable	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change is likely to increase severe weather events such as hurricanes, nor'easters, winter storms, and winds. This action accounts for a likely increase in flying debris which may damage the building.	
Mitigation Category	☐Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☒Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
CRS Category	☐Preventative Measures (PR) ☒Property Protection (PP) ☐Public Information (PI)	☐Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐Emergency Services (ES)
Priority	☐High	☒Medium ☐Low

Alternatives:

Action	Evaluation
No action	Current problem continues
Build new municipal hall	Costly, unnecessary
Replace all roof without referencing changes in building standards	May result in same issue

Action 2025-NewtonT-10. Wind Resistance Improvements at Community College

Lead Agency:	Engineering	
Supporting Agencies:	School Administration	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	☐Dam Failure ☐Disease Outbreak ☐Drought ☐Earthquake ☐Flood ☐Geological Hazards ☐Hazardous Materials	☒Hurricane ☐Infestation ☒Nor'easter ☒Severe Weather ☒Severe Winter Weather ☐Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	Two buildings at the Sussex County Community College are not designed with windows to withstand wind damages. High winds associated with these hazards can blow debris into windows, potentially endangering those inside the structure, as well as damaging the structure itself, if the windows are not impact resistant.	
Description of the Solution:	The Town Engineer will provide guidance on the retrofit two buildings with impact resistant windows and shutters at the Sussex County Community College.	
Estimated Cost:	High	
Potential Funding Sources:	HMGP, BRIC, USDA Community Facilities Grant Program, School Budget	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years	
Goals Met:	2, 6	
Benefits:	This action will protect two buildings at the Sussex County Community College from wind damage associated with severe weather, severe winter weather, hurricanes, nor'easters, and any debris which the winds may elevate.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	The two buildings at the Sussex County Community College may be utilized by the public. This action will protect the individuals and groups within this structure from outside impacts.	
Impact on Future Development:	Not applicable	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	This action will protect the two buildings at the Sussex County Community College from potential wind damages caused by debris.	
Impact on Capabilities:	Not applicable	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change is likely to increase severe weather events such as hurricanes, nor'easters, winter storms, and winds. This action accounts for a likely increase in flying debris which may damage windows.	
Mitigation Category	☐Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☒Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
CRS Category	☐Preventative Measures (PR) ☒Property Protection (PP) ☐Public Information (PI)	☐Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐Emergency Services (ES)
Priority	☐High	☒Medium ☐Low

Alternatives:

Action	Evaluation
No action	Current problem continues
Build new structures	Costly, unnecessary
Replace all windows without conducting the study	May be unnecessary, costly

Action 2025-NewtonT-11. Snow Load Improvements at Community College

Lead Agency:	Engineering	
Supporting Agencies:	School Administration	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	☐Dam Failure ☐Disease Outbreak ☐Drought ☐Earthquake ☐Flood ☐Geological Hazards ☐Hazardous Materials	☐Hurricane ☐Infestation ☒Nor'easter ☐Severe Weather ☒Severe Winter Weather ☐Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	Two buildings at the Sussex County Community College are not designed with modern snow load standards. This becomes an issue during severe winter weather and high winds associated with severe weather, hurricane, and nor'easter events, as individuals inside the buildings may become impacted should damage to the roof be significant.	
Description of the Solution:	The Town Engineer will provide guidance on the retrofit of two buildings to meet current snow load standards at the Sussex County Community College.	
Estimated Cost:	High	
Potential Funding Sources:	HMGP, BRIC, USDA Community Facilities Grant Program, School Budget	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years	
Goals Met:	2, 6	
Benefits:	This action will protect two buildings at the Sussex County Community College from collapse from snow loads associated with severe winter weather and nor'easters.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	The two buildings at the Sussex County Community College may be utilized by the public. This action will protect the individuals and groups within this structure from outside impacts.	
Impact on Future Development:	Not applicable	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	This action will protect the two buildings at the Sussex County Community College from suffering a potential roof collapse.	
Impact on Capabilities:	Not applicable	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change is likely to increase the severity, but decrease the frequency, of severe weather events such as nor'easters and severe winter weather. This action takes in account the chance of heavier snowfalls.	
Mitigation Category	☐Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☒Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
CRS Category	☐Preventative Measures (PR) ☒Property Protection (PP) ☐Public Information (PI)	☐Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐Emergency Services (ES)
Priority	☒High	☐Medium ☐Low

Alternatives:	**Action**	**Evaluation**
	No Action	Current problem continues
	Build new structures	Costly, unnecessary
	Replace all roof without referencing changes in building standards	May result in same issue

Action 2025-NewtonT-12. Town Message Boards

Lead Agency:	Town Administration	
Supporting Agencies:	Emergency Management, Public Works	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	☒Dam Failure ☒Disease Outbreak ☒Drought ☒Earthquake ☒Flood ☒Geological Hazards ☒Hazardous Materials	☒Hurricane ☒Infestation ☒Nor'easter ☒Severe Weather ☒Severe Winter Weather ☒Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	The Town struggles to communicate the availability of warming and cooling centers, shelters, and impending hazardous weather. Warming and cooling centers are integral facilities, as they provide relief to vulnerable populations in the Town, who would otherwise be exposed to the hazardous associated with extreme temperatures.	
Description of the Solution:	Identify locations for and install permanent virtual boards across the Town. These message boards will be utilized to display critical Town information, including the locations and availability of warming and cooling centers, sheltering locations, and impending hazardous weather. Consider the purchase of portable virtual boards to place outside of the cooling and warming centers and sheltering locations.	
Estimated Cost:	Medium	
Potential Funding Sources:	HSGP, HTSG, Town Budget	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 3 years	
Goals Met:	1, 3, 7	
Benefits:	This action will direct constituents to available warming and cooling centers and shelters and indicate when hazardous events are anticipated. The action will increase the safety of the Town's residents and provide the Town with another method of communication.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	This action will provide all populations with an additional method to gather information about available warming and cooling centers and shelters. The action increase the safety of all populations.	
Impact on Future Development:	Not applicable	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	This action will direct constituents to available warming and centers and shelters, which are all critical facilities and community lifelines.	
Impact on Capabilities:	This action will strengthen the Town's communication capabilities, as well as provide another means of outreach.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change projections show an anticipated warmer atmosphere, leading to higher temperatures. Despite the projected decrease in frequency of severe winter weather, the intensity of the events, including cold temperatures, are anticipated to increase.	
Mitigation Category	☐Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☒Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
CRS Category	☐Preventative Measures (PR) ☐Property Protection (PP) ☒Public Information (PI)	☐Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐Emergency Services (ES)
Priority	☐High	☒Medium ☐Low

Alternatives:

Action	Evaluation
No action	Current problem remains
Purchase only portable message boards	Not all residents may pass the VBMs
Post on social media about locations and hazard events	Not all residents have social media

Action 2025-NewtonT-13. Automatic Standby Generators at Critical Facilities

Lead Agency:	Engineering		
Supporting Agencies:	Emergency Management, Facility Managers		
Hazard(s) of Concern:	☒Dam Failure ☒Disease Outbreak ☒Drought ☒Earthquake ☒Flood ☒Geological Hazards ☒Hazardous Materials	☒Hurricane ☐Infestation ☒Nor'easter ☒Severe Weather ☒Severe Winter Weather ☒Wildfire	
Description of the Problem:	The Newton First Aid Squad EMS Station, three pumping stations, and a communications tower, all critical facilities, require automatic standby generators. These facilities provide the community with access to emergency response, ensure rainfall is removed in a timely fashion to prevent flooding, and lines of communication – both amongst themselves and to emergency service providers should it be needed.		
Description of the Solution:	The Engineer will research what size generators are needed to power each facility. The Town will then purchase and install the selected generators and necessary electrical components to supply backup power to the facilities.		
Estimated Cost:	Medium		
Potential Funding Sources:	HMGP, BRIC, USDA Community Facilities Grant Program, Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG) Program, Annual Budget		
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years		
Goals Met:	1, 2, 5, 6, 7		
Benefits:	This action protects public health and safety and ensures continued operation of a critical facility and its essential functions during a power outage.		
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Protection of critical facilities provides an opportunity for first responders, utility workers, and emergency managers to stage and deploy resources to vulnerable and hazard prone areas.		
Impact on Future Development:	This action results in protection of a critical facility that could support future development.		
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	This action protects public health and safety and ensures continued operation of a critical facility and its essential functions during a power outage.		
Impact on Capabilities:	This action ensures continuity of operations to maintain capabilities.		
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change is likely to increase severe weather events such as flooding, wind, and extreme temperatures that result in power failures. This action accounts for a likely increase in power failure events.		
Mitigation Category	☐Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☒Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)	
CRS Category	☐Preventative Measures (PR) ☒Property Protection (PP) ☐Public Information (PI)	☐Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☒Emergency Services (ES)	
Priority	☐High	☒Medium	☐Low

Alternatives:

Action	Evaluation
No Action	Current problem remains
Microgrid	Costly and difficult to implement.
Solar panels and battery backup	Solar power is unlikely to be able to provide battery power for extended power failure events.

Action 2025-NewtonT-14. Hazard Event Archival Process

Lead Agency:	Emergency Management	
Supporting Agencies:	Public Works, Town Administration	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	☒Dam Failure ☒Disease Outbreak ☒Drought ☒Earthquake ☒Flood ☒Geological Hazards ☒Hazardous Materials	☒Hurricane ☒Infestation ☒Nor'easter ☒Severe Weather ☒Severe Winter Weather ☒Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	The Town lacks procedures to capture loss and damage data from hazard events. This limits the knowledge of hazard events and lessens the ability to apply for grant funding support. Understanding how a historical hazardous event impacted the community will provide a better understanding of how similar hazard events may impact the Town today.	
Description of the Solution:	The Town will develop programs/ procedures to capture and archive loss data from events including the location and length of roadway closures; high water marks, amount of municipal and residential damage.	
Estimated Cost:	Low, Staff Time	
Potential Funding Sources:	Municipal Budget	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 3 years	
Goals Met:	4	
Benefits:	This action will permit the Town to identify and document hazard events which have cause loss or damages in the Town to public and private structures, as well as human loss. Documenting these criteria can assist in future grant applications to fund various mitigation projects.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	This action may lead to the identification of additional vulnerable populations within the Town, including those who may be located in areas which are repetitively impacted by certain hazard events.	
Impact on Future Development:	This action may lead to an evaluation of how and where structures are being built, potentially leading to restriction in future development.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	This action may lead to the identification of critical facilities and community lifelines which are repetitively impacted by hazardous events. The identification of these facilities and documenting how they are impacted can lead to future mitigation actions.	
Impact on Capabilities:	This action will create a new loss and damage tracking capability for the Town.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change may result in an increase in the frequency and severity of hazardous events. This action will create a system for the Town to document how these events impacted its constituents and property.	
Mitigation Category	☒Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
CRS Category	☒Preventative Measures (PR) ☐Property Protection (PP) ☐Public Information (PI)	☐Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐Emergency Services (ES)
Priority	☐High	☒Medium ☐Low

Alternatives:	**Action**	**Evaluation**
	No action	Current problem remains
	Do not ask for input from constituents	Full spectrum of damages may not be captures
	Only record data when the Town submits from Public Assistance	Will limit the hazard occurrences being recorded

Action 2025-NewtonT-15. Damage Assessment Training

Lead Agency:	Emergency Management	
Supporting Agencies:	Public Works, Sussex County, NJOEM	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	☒Dam Failure ☐Disease Outbreak ☐Drought ☒Earthquake ☒Flood ☒Geological Hazards ☒Hazardous Materials	☒Hurricane ☐Infestation ☒Nor'easter ☒Severe Weather ☒Severe Winter Weather ☒Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	The Town lacks procedures to complete post disaster damage assessments. Damage assessment tools have been created and provided by NJOEM; however, the Town is not trained on these capabilities produced by NJOEM. Being able to perform damage assessments can increase the likelihood the Town will receive financial assistance following a hazard event, should a declaration be declared, and the damage threshold be met.	
Description of the Solution:	Work with regional agencies (i.e. County and NJOEM) to help develop damage assessment capabilities at the local level to include training and certification programs (e.g. code officials, floodplain managers, engineers).	
Estimated Cost:	Low	
Potential Funding Sources:	Staff time	
Implementation Timeline:	2 years	
Goals Met:	1, 2, 5	
Benefits:	This action will improve safety and security to those impacted by an event which produced structural damage to their property.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Socially vulnerable populations are often the most at-risk to potentially poor structural integrity of living spaces. This action will produce individuals trained in damage assessments, of which individual assistance may be the result.	
Impact on Future Development:	The outcome of damage assessments can assist in the strengthening of future building codes and zoning restrictions.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Individuals trained in conducting damage assessments will be able to provide these assessments at critical facilities.	
Impact on Capabilities:	This action will add a capability to the Town of having personnel on staff able to complete damage assessments of structures.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change may result in an increase in the frequency and severity of weather-related disaster events, leading to an increased demand for individuals trained in conducting damage assessments.	
Mitigation Category	☐Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☒Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
CRS Category	☐Preventative Measures (PR) ☐Property Protection (PP) ☒Public Information (PI)	☐Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐Emergency Services (ES)
Priority	☒High	☐Medium ☐Low

Alternatives:	**Action**	**Evaluation**
	No Action	Current problem remains
	Train personnel not using NJOEM's damage assessment tool	Not utilizing NJOEM's damage assessment tool could cause discrepancies and inconsistencies when reporting damages, leading to a potential loss of public or individual assistance

	Rely on state or federal resources	These services may or may not be available

Action 2025-NewtonT-16. Tree Maintenance

Lead Agency:	Public Works	
Supporting Agencies:	Utility Companies, Property Owners, Shade Tree Commission	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	☐Dam Failure ☐Disease Outbreak ☐Drought ☐Earthquake ☐Flood ☐Geological Hazards ☐Hazardous Materials	☒Hurricane ☐Infestation ☒Nor'easter ☒Severe Weather ☒Severe Winter Weather ☐Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	Falling trees cause damage property, reduce continuity of operations, and can cause injuries or death. Utility companies are responsible for the maintenance of those on or near utility lines. Private homeowners must ensure trees on private property are not threatening power availability/interruption.	
Description of the Solution:	Implement, review, and enforce municipal policies and programs to prevent trees from threatening lives and impacting power availability/interruption in conjunction with property owners and utility companies. Enhance the Town's Tree Watch program by working with the Shade Tree Commission to remove hazardous trees.	
Estimated Cost:	Low	
Potential Funding Sources:	Municipal Budget	
Implementation Timeline:	4 years	
Goals Met:	1, 2, 5, 7	
Benefits:	This action will result in the reduction of risk surrounding power outages by minimizing potential impacts from trees on utility lines.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Some socially vulnerable population rely on power utilities for everyday care. If power outages are caused by a lack of tree maintenance, lives could potentially be at risk.	
Impact on Future Development:	This action assists in the protection of future development from impacts caused by tree collapses or branch falls as a result of severe weather, severe winter weather, hurricanes, and nor'easters.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Utility lines provide power to residencies, private businesses, government entities, and various providers. Not maintaining trees, tree limbs, or tree branches may impact the availability of power during severe weather and severe winter weather events.	
Impact on Capabilities:	The creation of a tree maintenance program would be a new capability for the Town.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change may result in an increase in the frequency and severity of weather-related disaster events, which may contribute to trees or tree limbs/branches falling or impacting utility lines and property.	
Mitigation Category	☒Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☒Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
CRS Category	☒Preventative Measures (PR) ☒Property Protection (PP) ☐Public Information (PI)	☒Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐Emergency Services (ES)
Priority	☐High	☒Medium ☐Low

Alternatives:

Action	Evaluation
No Action	Municipal-owned trees will be maintained
Do not contact utility companies	Trees along utility lines may impact power during severe weather and severe winter weather events
Do not contact property owners	Trees on private residencies may impact power during severe weather and severe winter weather events

Action 2025-NewtonT-17. Code Coordinated Ordinance

Lead Agency:	Floodplain Administrator	
Supporting Agencies:	Building Department, Town Administration, NFIP State Coordinator, FEMA Regional Office	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	☐Dam Failure ☐Disease Outbreak ☐Drought ☐Earthquake ☒Flood ☐Geological Hazards ☐Hazardous Materials	☐Hurricane ☐Infestation ☐Nor'easter ☐Severe Weather ☐Severe Winter Weather ☐Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	The Town's flood damage prevention ordinance lacks discussion of the state's freeboard requirement. A recent audit of New Jersey's model ordinances by FEMA for conformance with NFIP, resulted in a review of existing local flood damage prevention ordinances. Based upon FEMA's review, specific language related to NFIP regulations was not consistent. Additionally, it was determined that better coordination was needed between the three sets of regulations that regulate development and construction in the floodplain. These regulations are the NFIP implemented by local floodplain administrators, the New Jersey Flood Hazard Area Control Act (FHACA) implemented at the State level by the NJDEP, and the Uniform Construction Code (UCC) implemented by the local Construction Official. NJDEP used this feedback to develop a model Code Coordinated Ordinance and continues to work with municipalities to update flood damage prevention ordinances to the Code Coordinated Ordinance.	
Description of the Solution:	After obtaining the appropriate review and concurrence by the NFIP State Coordinator and the FEMA Regional Office, the municipality will update and adopt the Code Coordinated Ordinance.	
Estimated Cost:	Staff time	
Potential Funding Sources:	Municipal budget	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years	
Goals Met:	2, 5	
Benefits:	The updated ordinance will improve floodplain management, meet NFIP requirements, and increase resilience of new and substantially improved structures in the floodplain.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	The action will result in better regulation of construction standards within the Special Flood Hazard Area where significant risk to socially vulnerable populations exists.	
Impact on Future Development:	The action will result in stronger regulation of construction standards for future development in the Special Flood Hazard Area.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Critical facilities and lifelines located in the Special Flood Hazard Area will be required to meet the same requirements as general building construction that are set forth in the ordinance.	
Impact on Capabilities:	This action will improve floodplain management capabilities through better outlining of responsibilities and administrative procedures.	
Climate Change Considerations:	The updated ordinance includes the State's higher standards that are in place to address heightened flood risk due to climate change such as those for floodway rise and mandatory freeboard have been incorporated in these new model ordinances.	
Mitigation Category	☒Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
CRS Category	☒Preventative Measures (PR) ☐Property Protection (PP) ☐Public Information (PI)	☐Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐Emergency Services (ES)
Priority	☒High	☐Medium ☐Low

Alternatives:	**Action**	**Evaluation**
	No Action	Current problem exists
	Modify existing flood damage prevention ordinance	Time intensive

	Leave NFIP	Residents lose flood insurance coverage

Action 2025-NewtonT-18. Substantial Damage Management Plan

Lead Agency:	Floodplain Administrator		
Supporting Agencies:	Emergency Management, Building Department		
Hazard(s) of Concern:	☒Dam Failure ☐Disease Outbreak ☐Drought ☒Earthquake ☒Flood ☒Geological Hazards ☒Hazardous Materials	☒Hurricane ☒Infestation ☒Nor'easter ☒Severe Weather ☒Severe Winter Weather ☒Wildfire	
Description of the Problem:	Officials in NFIP-participating communities are responsible for regulating all development in SFHAs by issuing permits and enforcing local floodplain requirements, including Substantial Damage, for the repairs of damaged buildings. After any disaster event, they must: • Determine where the damage occurred within the community and if the damaged structures are in an SFHA. • Determine what to use for "market value" and cost to repair; uniformly applying regulations will protect against liability and promote equitable administration. • Determine if repairing plus improving the damaged structure equals or exceeds 50% of the structure's pre-damage value. • Require permits for floodplain development. The municipality does not have a Substantial Damage Management Plan in place, nor do they have a formal process in place when conducting substantial damage determinations. The municipality is in need of a formal process and plan to provide a framework for conducting such inspections and determinations.		
Description of the Solution:	The municipality will develop a Substantial Damage Management Plan, following the six step planning process in 2021 Developing a Substantial Damage Management Plan (https://crsresources.org/files/500/developing_subst_damge_mgmt_plan.pdf). This plan will outline responsibilities for Substantial Damage determinations, determining market value, and permit approval processes following a disaster event.		
Estimated Cost:	Low		
Potential Funding Sources:	Municipal budget		
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years to develop the plan; ongoing to maintain and update the plan		
Goals Met:	2, 5		
Benefits:	This plan will provide a process in making Substantial Damage Determinations and allow the municipality to make these determinations and meet NFIP requirements more quickly.		
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Substantially damaged structures are required to be rebuilt to be compliance with current codes. Socially vulnerable populations may not have the financial means to make these improvements. This action may allow for the identification of potential resources to address substantial damages to structures owned by socially vulnerable populations.		
Impact on Future Development:	A Substantial Damage Management Plan would include all existing, current, and future development in the municipality.		
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	A Substantial Damage Management Plan would include all critical facilities and lifelines in the municipality.		
Impact on Capabilities:	This action improves disaster recovery capabilities.		
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change is likely to increase the intensity and frequency of many climate related disaster events. This action provides additional planning for disaster recovery.		
Mitigation Category	☒Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)	
CRS Category	☒Preventative Measures (PR) ☐Property Protection (PP) ☐Public Information (PI)	☐Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☒Emergency Services (ES)	
Priority	☒High	☐Medium	☐Low
Alternatives:	**Action**	**Evaluation**	

	No Action	Current problem remains
	Rely on state or federal resources following disaster events	Resources may not be available during major widespread events
	Establish MOUs with outside agencies to conduct Substantial Damage Determinations	A plan outlining responsibilities is still necessary to prevent missing important requirements

Action 2025-NewtonT-19. Paulins Kill Site 4 Dam Rehab

Lead Agency:	Municipal Engineer	
Supporting Agencies:	County Engineer, County OEM, NJDEP	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	☒Dam Failure ☐Disease Outbreak ☐Drought ☐Earthquake ☐Flood ☐Geological Hazards ☐Hazardous Materials	☐Hurricane ☐Infestation ☐Nor'easter ☐Severe Weather ☐Severe Winter Weather ☐Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	Paulins Kill Site 4 Dam is a Class I High Hazard Dam that is located along Little Hortons Pond. The dam is owned by the Town. Failure of the dam could result in inundation of densely populated areas, forested areas, critical facilities and community lifelines, and local roadways including Slate Hill Road and Swartswood Road. Although the dam was last inspected in 2022 and found to be in satisfactory condition, the risk of dam failure warrants an engineering evaluation to determine if retrofits of the dam would result in safer conditions.	
Description of the Solution:	The Municipal Engineer will work to complete an engineering study of Paulins Kill Site 4 Dam. The Town will also request information and input from its Public Works/Highway department and the County regarding impacted roadways. If cost-effective mitigation measures or retrofit options are identified that can increase the level of safety and length of useful life, the Town will pursue funding support, permit approval from NJDEP, and implement the cost-effective measures.	
Estimated Cost:	High	
Potential Funding Sources:	FEMA BRIC, HHPD	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years	
Goals Met:	1, 2, 8	
Benefits:	This action will improve the safety and security of those who live within the dam inundation areas of the dams and increase the resilience of responding agencies.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	The action will result in better preparedness within the Special Flood Hazard Area and inundation areas where significant risk to socially vulnerable populations exists.	
Impact on Future Development:	Future development located in or near the dam inundation area will be further protected from a dam failure event.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Dams are considered a critical facility. This action will create an understanding of the safety procedures in place for each identified dam and strengthen the structural integrity of dam, as needed.	
Impact on Capabilities:	This action will improve planning and response capabilities through the understanding of responsibilities and procedures.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change may result in an increase in the frequency and severity of weather-related disaster events, which may contribute to the likelihood of a dam failure event due to projected increases in precipitation. This action will increase the capabilities to respond to these events.	
Mitigation Category	☒Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
CRS Category	☒Preventative Measures (PR) ☐Property Protection (PP) ☐Public Information (PI)	☐Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☒Emergency Services (ES)
Priority	☒High	☐Medium ☐Low

Alternatives:	**Action**	**Evaluation**
	No Action	Current problem continues
	Decommission Dam	High cost, flood risk for nearby infrastructure increased, loss of Little Hortons Pond as a flood risk reduction resource.

	Elevate nearby structures	Very high cost and likely not feasible for commercial properties. Will not reduce potential for dam failure due to poor dam conditions