

**Coweta County  
Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan**

**February 2013**

**Includes the Cities of**

**Newnan  
Grantville  
Haralson  
Moreland  
Sharpsburg  
Senoia  
Turin**

**Developed By:  
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# **Chapter One: Introduction**

## **I. Purpose**

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 created a new approach for local hazard mitigation planning, and it recognized the need to produce comprehensive multi-hazard mitigation plans. Under this new Act, local governments were required to create Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plans that focused on natural and man-made disasters that could affect the community. Under the provisions of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, local governments that create Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plans will remain eligible for federal emergency assistance funds in the event of a disaster. In September of 2004, Coweta County and the cities of Turin, Sharpsburg, Moreland, Senoia, Newnan, Grantville and Haralson agreed to enter into a comprehensive planning process to create a Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The purpose of this study is to estimate the potential damage that could be caused by future natural disasters and recommend mitigation measures that can be taken by Coweta County and its municipal governments, and indirectly businesses and industries, to minimize potential economic loss.

This plan is a revision of the Coweta County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan which was approved April 2007. The revised plan was developed with a goal of updating the mitigation plans to address natural and manmade threats not included in the previous PDM plan, updating the status of mitigation goals and objectives, as well as providing the user with a clearer plan which is easier to use and is organized in a manner which allows information to be located quickly.

### **Mission Statement**

To make the people of Coweta County and its communities, local governments, and businesses less vulnerable to the effects of natural or manmade disasters through the effective administration of hazard risk assessments, efficient hazard management, effective community education, and coordinated approaches to mitigation policy through local, regional, and state planning activities.

### **Vision Statement**

To institute a countywide hazard mitigation ethic through leadership, professionalism, education, and excellence, leading the way to a safe, resilient, sustainable county.

## **II. Local Methodology / Plan Organization**

### **Plan Organization**

The Coweta County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan is organized in a fashion to assist local government officials, county residents, public and private sector organizations, and any other interested parties in participating in, and planning for natural and technological hazards. The Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan contains a Hazard, Risk and Vulnerability (HRV) assessment, a section on natural hazards that typically occur within the county, one common local technological hazard, as well as a section identifying specific mitigation goals, objectives and related courses of action. Finally, a framework for plan implementation and maintenance is presented.

The plan describes those hazards that are considered to have the highest probability of occurrence in relation to their historical background, vulnerability, potential loss, and frequency of occurrence. The plan also identifies, prioritizes, and suggests funding sources for hazard mitigation opportunities in each vulnerable area based on input from Planning Committee members, various government agencies, local businesses, and Coweta County citizens.

### **Plan Methodology**

The Coweta County Emergency Management Agency created a mitigation planning committee to oversee the planning process. Due to the active participation rate, the committee opted not to form subcommittees. The structure and roles of the committee involved in the planning process are listed below.

#### **Mitigation Planning Committee**

- Membership consisted of local elected officials and local government staff members.
- Convened approximately every 4 weeks for planning coordination between committee members.
- Received information updates and completed work from committee members.
- Provided mitigation planning goals and objectives for the plan.
- Responsible for profiling all natural hazard events applicable to Coweta County and listing any past event occurrences.
- Responsible for identifying and inventorying critical infrastructure for Coweta County, the City of Haralson, the City of Moreland, the City of Sharpsburg, the City of Senoia, the City of Newnan, City of Grantville, and the City of Haralson.
- Responsible for producing a general inventory and cost estimate of non-critical structures within potential hazard areas.
- Assisted in developing mitigation plan goals and action steps.
  - Responsible for profiling all applicable human caused hazards within the county.

### **Planning Process Participants**

The Coweta County Mitigation Planning Committee was composed of a diverse group of people that represented the County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Turin, Senoia, and Sharpsburg. These same communities participated in the previous plan. Below is the list of the Mitigation Planning Committee participants.

- Jenny Raspberry- Coweta County Emergency Management Agency
- Jane Scoggins-Coweta County Elections
- S.B. Levie-Georgia Civil Air Patrol
- Donna Camp-City of Sharpsburg
- Jennifer Camp-City of Haralson
- James Haynes-City of Moreland
- Eddie Lovett-Coweta County Schools
- Arlene Whisenhunt-Coweta County 911
- Stephanie May-Salvation Army
- Henry Argo-Palmetto Fire Chief
- Eddie Hill-American Red Cross
- Mike Marchese-Coweta County Tax Assessor
- Wesley Sweatman-Newnan Police Department
- Alice Jackson-Coweta County Health Department
- Richard Ferry-City of Senoia
- Jason Edens-Senoia Police Department
- Johnny Teeters-Coweta County Fire Department
- Mike Kinsey-Coweta County Sheriff's Office
- Wayne Kennedy-Coweta County Engineering Department
- Bob Yeager-Coweta County Sheriff's Office
- Lenn Wood-Coweta County Sheriff's Office
- Tom Little-Coweta County Public Buildings
- Shamika Pearson-Coweta County Library
- Denise Freeman-Newnan Fire Department
- Matt Lovett-Coweta County Environmental Management
- Bill Cawthorne-Coweta County Roads Department
- Mike Yeager-Coweta County Sheriff's Office
- Eddie Whitlock-Coweta County Administrative Department
- Jay Jones-Coweta County Emergency Management Agency
- Mike Renshaw-City of Grantville

Interested parties were given the opportunity to be a part of the planning process. The Coweta County Emergency Management Agency solicited participation from businesses and other outside entities through a mass mailing to interested parties. The mailing list included the Chamber of Commerce, the Coweta County Development Authority, healthcare, education, and businesses. The EMA received a great response from these outside entities requesting participation in the planning process for the pre-disaster hazard mitigation plan (See supporting documentation in Appendix E).

### **III. Pre-Disaster Plan Review and Analysis**

The Coweta County PDM Plan was reviewed and analyzed in several ways. The old plan was compared to the newest mitigation planning guidance issued from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in its July 1, 2008 publication, the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) 2009 planning guidance, and the 2009 publication of the planning crosswalk evaluation criteria. In studying these documents, it was noted that the Coweta County Pre-Disaster Mitigation plan would require a major rewrite in order to comply with the newest requirements from FEMA and GEMA.

#### **Chapter One: Executive Summary**

The executive summary portion of the plan was revised to include new sections for review and analysis, and community data. The executive summary was also updated to include revisions to the planning process, participants, public participation, hazard risk and vulnerability, and multijurisdictional sections of the plan.

#### **Chapter Two: Natural Hazard Risk, Assessment, and Vulnerability**

Chapter two was updated to reflect new hazards that are applicable to Coweta County, identify any changes made from the previous plan, include a description on how Coweta County participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), update the hazard frequency table, update any land use or development trends, and update information related to inventory assets and loss estimates. There are no new hazards in this plan as they are the same hazards as in the previous Coweta County mitigation plan.

#### **Chapter Three: Local Technological Hazard Risk, Assessment, and Vulnerability**

Chapter Three was updated to reflect new technological hazards that are applicable to Coweta County, identify any changes made from the previous plan, update the hazard frequency table, update any land use or development trends, and update information related to inventory assets and loss estimates.

#### **Chapter Four: Local Natural Hazard Mitigation Goals and Objectives**

Chapter Four was updated to reflect new goals and objectives that are applicable to Coweta County, identify any changes made from the previous plan, update the STAPLEE information, enhance the information provided for goal implementation and coordination, update any land use, building codes, or development trends, and update information related to goals that were not completed.



## **Chapter Five: Local Technological Hazard Mitigation Goals and Objectives**

Chapter Five was updated to reflect new goals and objectives that are applicable to Coweta County, identify any changes made from the previous plan, update the STAPLEE information, enhance the information provided for goal implementation and coordination, update any land use, building codes, or development trends, and update information related to goals that were not completed.

## **Chapter Six: Executing the Plan**

Chapter Six was updated to reflect any changes made to the plan execution, monitoring, and implementation. Revisions were made to the methodology for prioritization, use of other calculations, incorporation of other plans, and public involvement components.

## **Appendices:**

The appendices of the PDM plan were revised to include information required by the 2009 planning process, improved data from new sources, updated comprehensive plans, meeting data, etc.

## **IV. Organization of the Planning Process**

The process of creating the Coweta County Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Plan began in late October 2011 and was completed in early November 2012. The Coweta County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) contracted with Three Rivers Regional Commission (TRRC) to assist in the plan development. The Coweta County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan included active representation from Coweta County and the City of Newnan. Due to their population and existing service delivery agreements, the Cities of Turin (pop. 165), Moreland (pop. 407) and Haralson (pop. 279) designated Coweta County to represent them in the planning process. The Cities of Newnan, Sharpsburg, Grantville, Senoia, Turin, Haralson, Moreland and Coweta County EMA appointed Jay Jones as the lead official for the planning process, and he worked with the TRRC during the creation of the PDM plan. The total length of the planning process, from the beginning to the submission of the final document, lasted a total of approximately twelve (12) months. During that twelve month planning period, the mitigation planning committee met several milestones. In January 2013, a committee meeting was held to discuss and select RiskMAP mitigation strategies and incorporate those into the plan.

### **Step One: Identifying Hazards & Inventorying Assets**

In January 2012, the committee began work on researching the hazards that were applicable to Coweta County. This step in the planning process took approximately 90 days from the initial date that committee work assignments were distributed. After the hazards were assessed and profiled, each committee generated a general asset cost estimate and a specific cost estimate for critical structures within the county.

- **Critical Facilities and Infrastructure Definition**

Facilities critical to government response, for normal government operation, and recovery activities (i.e., life, safety, property and environmental protection) include: 911 centers, emergency operations centers, police and fire stations, public works facilities, sewer and water facilities, hospitals, bridges and roads, public health facilities, and shelters.

Critical facilities are those that are vital to the delivery of key government services or that may significantly impact the public's ability to recover from the emergency. These types of facilities may include: buildings such as the jail, public services buildings, the courthouse, and other facilities such as a school building.

### Step Two: Estimating Losses

Once the general asset inventory and specific critical infrastructure list was generated, the committees began to generate loss estimates. The loss estimates were generated using a GEMA created website that provided an online tool for identifying, listing, reporting loss estimates, and profiling hazards. The GEMA online tool was developed using guidance set forth by the FEMA State and Local Mitigation Planning Guide 386-2: Section 4, Estimating Losses. Loss estimates were generated for structures, general and critical, that were at risk of damage from natural or manmade disasters that were applicable to Coweta County.

### Step Three: Plan Reviews & Goals and Action Steps

The planning process involved gathering and reviewing material related to zoning, floodplain ordinances, and future land use projections for the county that might affect future mitigation options. In order to gather that information, the comprehensive plans for the Cities of Newnan, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia, Grantville, Haralson and Coweta County were reviewed by committee members. The previous PDM plan completed in 2007 was also used as a reference when the committee reviewed hazard history and local environmental impacts.

The last FIRM map and flood planning update was conducted on October 24, 2011 for Coweta County, the Cities of Newnan, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia, Grantville and Haralson. Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia, Grantville, and Haralson's FIRM and flood plans are in compliance.

Coweta County capabilities assessment update was completed, and the final elements of the plan were incorporated into the master document. From there, the committee moved on to establish goals and objectives.

The committee began work on creating mitigation planning goals and action steps after completing planning steps 1 & 2. The goals were based on the need to prepare the community against potential hazards, and the action steps needed to complete each goal. Infrastructure

improvements were prioritized based on the committee's general consensus of what structures were in the most need for improvements or upgrades.

#### Step Four: Plan Review & Finalization

Once the first four steps were completed, the planning committee reviewed the draft plan, and it was revised based on any additional comments. After the planning committee completed their review, the plan was made available for final public input. The final draft plan was then submitted to GEMA for review.

#### Public Involvement Process

Public participation is a key part of the mitigation planning process. Citizen participation offers the general public the opportunity to voice their ideas, interests, and opinions. Coweta County's public involvement process allowed for citizen involvement through public hearings held during the development of the plan. Unfortunately, citizen involvement during the public hearings was low.

- Public Hearings

A public hearing was scheduled during the draft phase in order to obtain citizen input that would be used during the creation of the PDM plan. A meeting was scheduled at the Coweta County Administrative building at 10:00 A.M. on October 21, 2011. The administrative building is centrally located near downtown Newnan, and is a convenient location to meet for Coweta County residents. Notices of the meeting were placed in the local newspaper in advance of the meeting date.

A second public hearing will be held after GEMA approves the Draft plan at the administrative building, centrally located near downtown Newnan, and is a convenient location to meet for Coweta County residents. Notices of the meeting will be placed in the local newspaper in advance of the meeting date.

### **I. Local HRV Summary & Local Mitigation Goals and Objectives**

#### **Local Natural Hazards**

There are both natural and technological hazards that are applicable within Coweta County. These hazards are profiled and explained in detail in chapters two and three, but a summarized list of hazards is listed below.

#### Local Natural Hazards

- Floods
- Wind
- Winter Storms
- Seismic
- Wildfire

## **Previous Local Natural Hazards**

The following natural hazards were addressed in the previous 2005 Pre-Hazard Mitigation Plan:

- Floods
- Wind
- Winter Storms
- Seismic
- Wildfire

No hazards were deleted from the 2007 Pre-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

## Local Technological Hazards

- Hazardous Materials Release

## Local Mitigation Goals and Objectives

These mitigation plan goals help to establish a broad direction for future action items or planning activities that will be used to reduce the risk of losses from natural or manmade disasters in Coweta County. More specific goals for the current planning process related to hazards within the County are listed in Chapters Four and Five. These goals serve as checkpoints for the agencies, organizations, and other participants to begin to implement mitigation planning strategies or action items.

- Protect Life and Property
  - Begin activities or planning actions that would assist in reducing the losses to life, property, businesses, road infrastructure, critical facilities, and other properties.
  - Improve hazard assessment information in order to make recommendations to discourage development in hazard prone areas, and to encourage the use of preventative measures to reduce potential damage to existing developments within hazard prone areas.
  
- Public Awareness

- Develop and implement a public awareness program that will increase the public’s knowledge about the risks associated with natural disasters that are likely to affect Coweta County.
- Provide information on tools, partnerships, or funding opportunities that could be used to assist in the implementation of mitigation activities.
- Resource and Development Planning
  - Work to integrate water planning, land use, and natural resource planning into the local mitigation plan strategy to protect life, property, and the environment.
- Partnerships and Implementation
  - Enhance communication and participation among public agencies, citizens, business, and other interested parties to gain a vested interest in mitigation activity implementation.
  - Encourage leaders within public and private sector organizations to provide input in prioritizing local mitigation activities.
- Emergency Services
  - Establish policy or procedures to ensure that mitigation projects to upgrade or improve critical facilities, services, and infrastructure are accomplished.
  - Coordinate and integrate natural hazard mitigation activities with emergency operations plans where appropriate.

### **Multi-Jurisdictional Considerations**

The Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Moreland, Turin, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson were active participants in the planning process and have identified mitigation goals, objectives and action items specific to their individual municipalities. All hazards except flooding carry the same amount of jurisdictional risk to each of the local governments. The governing bodies for the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Moreland, Turin, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson will be responsible for formally adopting the Coweta County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan.

## **VI. Mitigation Plan Adoption, Implementation, and Evaluation**

### Plan Adoption

The Board of County Commissioners of Coweta County will be responsible for adopting the Coweta County Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan. This governing body is empowered to promote public policy regarding natural hazards, and hazard planning. Municipalities that have agreed to participate in the comprehensive planning process within Coweta County will vote to adopt the plan prior to the approval of the Coweta County Board of Commissioners. The governing bodies of Coweta County, and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Moreland, Turin, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson will vote to adopt the Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan before being officially approved by GEMA and FEMA.

#### Coordinating Body

The Coweta County Board of Commissioners and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Moreland, Turin, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson will designate the Coweta County Emergency Management Agency as the coordinating body for the mitigation plan implementation. The Coweta County Emergency Management Agency will establish an advisory committee that will assist in the coordination and implementation of the mitigation plan goals.

#### Mitigation Plan Review/Update Process

The Coweta County Emergency Management Agency will be responsible for creating an annual report on the status of mitigation goals and objectives. The annual report will include the current status of mitigation projects that have been completed, mitigation projects that are underway, and the estimated time frame for the completion of future projects. The annual report will be reviewed and approved by the Coweta County Board of Commissioners and elected officials of the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Moreland, Turin, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. A full update of the hazard mitigation plan will be performed every five years.

#### Continued Public Involvement

The Coweta County Emergency Management Agency will ensure that the mitigation plan is available to the public, and that the public is able to contribute to the planning process. At a minimum, the plan will be available on the Coweta County website, and contact information for the Coweta County Emergency Management Agency will be provided so that the public can contribute ideas for the plan.

**VII. Authorizing Resolution To Adopt The Hazard Mitigation Plan**

**WHEREAS**, Coweta County and its municipal governments are required to create a Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation plan by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

**WHEREAS**, under the provisions of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, local governments that create Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plans will remain eligible for Federal emergency assistance funds in the event of a disaster; and

**WHEREAS**, Coweta County and its municipal governments acknowledge that the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan must be updated annually and rewritten every five years; and

**WHEREAS**, Coweta County and its municipal governments hereby designate the Coweta County Emergency Management Agency as the entity responsible for mitigation planning, coordination, and implementation activities as required by the State of Georgia, The Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA), or The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

**NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT THE COWETA COUNTY COMMISSION AND THE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CITIES OF NEWNAN, GRANTVILLE, SENOIA, HARALSON, SHARPSBURG, TURIN AND HARALSON ELECT TO FORMALLY ADOPT THIS PRE-DISASTER HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.**

RESOLVED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 200\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Coweta County Commission Chairman      Date      (County Seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, City of Newnan      Date      (City Seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, City of Haralson      Date      (City Seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, City of Grantville                      Date                      (City Seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, City of Moreland                      Date                      (City Seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, City of Turin                      Date                      (City Seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, City of Senoia                      Date                      (City Seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, City of Sharpsburg                      Date                      (City Seal)



## **VIII. Current Mitigation Activities**

Coweta County and its municipalities coordinated their mitigation activities through the Coweta County Emergency Management Agency (EMA). Recent activities by the EMA on behalf of the local governments include:

- Obtained a grant for \$918,245.00 for a 700 MHz radio system in 2011.
- Obtained a CERT grant for \$9600.00 for our Community Emergency Response Team in 2012.

## **IX. Community Data / Snapshot**

Specific demographic and economic tables can be found in Appendix B.

### Demographic Information

1. According to the 2010 Census, 75.9% of Coweta County residents were white and 17.3% were black. Hispanics, who can be identified as either white or black in the Census data, made up 6.7% of the county's population. Statewide, 55.9.1% of residents were white, 30.0% were black and 8.8% were Hispanic.
  2. In Coweta County, 27.4% of the county's residents were age 18 or younger, while 10.4% were age 65 or older. Statewide, 28.7% were age 18 or younger and 15.8% were age 65 or older.
  3. The 2010 Census reports there were 44, 137 households in Coweta County. This is a 28.8% increase since 2000 when there were 31, 442 households. Statewide there were 3,468,704 total households in 2010. This is a 15.4 % increase since 2000 when there were 3,006,069 total households.
  4. Between 2001 and 2005, Coweta County school system reported an average high school dropout rate of 10.0% for students in grades 9 to 12. Statewide, this rate is 5.6% for the same period of time.
- Coweta County spent an average of \$6,269 per student for public education each year between 2001 and 2005, while the statewide average was \$6,603.
  - Based on the 2004 graduating class for that county school system, 65.5% of the students were eligible for the HOPE Scholarship Program. The scholarship is available to eligible students to attend a post-secondary school in Georgia. Statewide, 62.0% of the graduating students were eligible for the HOPE scholarship.

- Between 2000 and 2004, the infant mortality rate (infant deaths per 1,000 live births) was 6.6 for the county. The statewide rate was 8.6 during the same period.
- In 2002, the number of physicians in the county per 100,000 population was 111.5, compared to the 192.6 statewide average. Coweta County had 1.4 hospital beds per 1,000 population in 2004, which was less than the statewide average of 2.7 hospital beds per 1,000 population.
- The 2004 index crime rate (crimes per 1,000) for Coweta County was 25.2. Statewide, in 2004, the rate was 40.8. Of the total index crimes reported for that county, 6.0% were violent crimes, while 94.0% were property crimes.
- In 2004, 83.0% of the adult population in the county was registered to vote. 67.2% of the voting-age adult population for Coweta County voted in the 2004 general election. Statewide, 70.6% of eligible Georgians were registered to vote, while 55.1% of those eligible voted in the general election that year.

Table 1 identifies the population for Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Moreland, Senoia, Sharpsburg, Turin and Haralson from 1980 to 2000 and the population growth over a ten-year period.

Community	Population			Growth (%)	
	1980	1990	2000	1980-1990	1990-2000
<b>Grantville</b>	1,110	1,180	1,309	6.3 %	10.9 %
<b>Haralson</b>	123	139	144	13.0 %	3.6 %
<b>Moreland</b>	358	366	393	2.2 %	7.4 %
<b>Newnan</b>	11,449	12,497	16,242	9.2 %	30.0 %
<b>Senoia</b>	900	956	1,738	6.2 %	81.8 %
<b>Sharpsburg</b>	194	224	316	15.5 %	41.1 %
<b>Turin</b>	260	189	165	-27.3 %	-12.7 %
<b>Coweta</b>	39,268	53,853	89,215	37.1 %	65.7 %

Table 1

## Economic Data

- In the year 2004, the average weekly wage for employment sectors in the county was \$573, compared to the statewide average of \$728.
- In 2004, the total number of employees located in Coweta County was 29,155. Of the total employees, 23.3% were employed in the goods producing sector, followed by 60.4% in the service producing sector and 16.2% employed in government. Statewide, the service producing industry is the largest employment sector, contributing 65.4% of the state's jobs.
- Between 2000 and 2004, Coweta County's annual unemployment rate averaged 4.0%, compared with the state's average of 4.4%. Nationally, the unemployment rate for the same period averaged 5.5%.
- The county per capita personal income in 2004 was \$27,894, compared to \$29,782 for Georgia and \$33,050 for the United States.
- Coweta County's median household income in 1999 was \$52,706, compared to the state's median household income of \$42,433. Nationally, the median household income in 1999 was \$41,994.
- During 1999, 7.8% of the county's population lived below the poverty level, compared with Georgia's rate of 13.0% and the national rate of 12.4%. In addition, 9.6% of the children under the age of 18 lived below the poverty level in Coweta County. Nationally, 16.6% of the population under the age of 18 years lived below the level of poverty.
- Residents of Coweta County received total government transfer payments amounting to \$3,260 per capita in 2003, compared to \$3,762 per capita statewide. Transfer payments include retirement and disability insurance benefit payments, medical benefits, unemployment insurance benefits, and veteran's benefits payments.
- According to the Georgia Department of Revenue's Net Property and Utility Digest, Coweta County's assessed property value amounted to \$3.1 billion in 2004, resulting in a per capita assessed property value of \$30,515. At the state level, per capita assessed property value in 2004 equaled \$31,373.

## Chapter Two: Natural Hazard, Risk, and Vulnerability Summary

The Coweta County Pre-Disaster Mitigation County Planning Committee identified all natural hazards that could potentially affect Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, and Haralson. This list was then narrowed to only the hazards that are most likely to impact the county and its municipalities. As a result of the pre-disaster mitigation planning process, the planning committee determined that five natural hazards pose a direct, measurable threat to Coweta County (Floods, Wind, Wildfires, Winter Storms, and Seismic). There are no new hazards in this plan as they are the same hazards as in the previous Coweta County mitigation plan.

### 1. Flooding

- A. Susceptibility of a stream to flooding is dependent upon several different variables. Among these are topography, ground saturation, previous rainfall amounts, soil types, drainage, basin size, drainage patterns of streams, and vegetative cover. Most floods occur because the ground is already saturated with moisture and cannot absorb any further runoff. Georgia's infamous red clay soil contributes to the problem in the piedmont area of the state because the particles of the clay are flat and lie in a dense, compact matrix which leaves little inter-particle space for water. As a result, the clay soil has poor "percolation" capability, and quickly becomes saturated. Additional rainfall results in more runoff. Urbanization and development also contributes to flash flooding in that the vegetative ground cover is removed and replaced with extensive amounts of asphalt, concrete, and buildings. Water is no longer absorbed and quickly runs off into adjacent streams. Flooding may occur relatively slowly or become a flash flood.

Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Haralson, Turin, Moreland, Grantville, Sharpsburg, and Senoia were subjected to major flood damage or disruption during the flood of 2009.

Coweta County (FIRM#13255C, and 130298), the City of Newnan (FIRM#130062), the City of Sharpsburg (FIRM#130581), the City of Grantville (FIRM# 120443), the City of Turin (FIRM# 130475), the City of Haralson (FIRM#130299), the City of Moreland (FIRM#130300), and the City of Senoia (FIRM#130301) all individually participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). All Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) within Coweta County were updated in 2010. The Cities of Newnan, Sharpsburg, Grantville, Turin, Haralson, Moreland, and Senoia each have their own individual FIRM map and flood ordinance. Coweta County and its municipalities have adopted flood ordinances which regulate development within the floodplain, and require all new

construction to be reviewed to ensure that it is not located within a floodplain area.

- B. During the planning process the Mitigation Planning Committee used the NCDC Query report and local hazard records. The best information available on flooding is within the last sixty years. The flooding events reported by NCDC were recorded for the county as a whole. In the records that were evaluated, it was determined that there were twenty four (24) occurrences of flooding that affected either the county or one of its municipalities. Data is incomplete for the individual jurisdictions. Due to the tendency of the NCDC report to lump multiple counties into hazard events, the specific hazard information by jurisdiction was unavailable. Due to the limited data, the frequency of occurrence for this event is listed as 14.75% per year. NCDC data and other hazard records can be found in Appendix C. A hazard event frequency table for flooding is listed in Appendix A.
- C. The Mitigation Planning Committee examined the historical records and land use data, and found 217 government structure, 216 educational structure and two (2) utility structures are located within a flood hazard area. Worksheet 3A showed a total of 9 assets worth \$8,113,902 for Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan Haralson, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Grantville that are located within flood hazard areas. The total value of the assets in the entire hazard area is \$6,331,686,051. The number of community structures within the Community includes Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Moreland, Turin, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Sources were not available to allow the number of structures to be broken down by jurisdiction. Critical facility asset inventories for this hazard have been listed in Appendix A, pg A-1, and Worksheet 3A inventories are located in Appendix D. The GEMA online tool did not list any repetitive loss properties for Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, and Haralson. Data deficiencies from the original PDM plan were due to a lack of hazard mapping and GPS information for critical facilities, but those issues were rectified in the 2010 plan update.
- D. The loss estimates were generated using GEMA created online tool that complied reporting information with guidance set forth by the FEMA State and Local Mitigation Planning Guide 386-2: Section 4, Estimating Losses. Loss estimates were generated for structures, general and critical, that were at risk of damage from natural or manmade disasters that were applicable to Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Moreland, Senoia, Sharpsburg, Turin and Haralson. Based on the GPS data and the online tool's mapping

ability, it was determined that 9 structures are at risk for flood damage. The GEMA database tool identified 0 government structures, 1 educational structure and 8 utility structures as critical facility assets that have a flood hazard score greater than zero. Worksheet 3A showed a total of 9 assets worth \$8,113,902 for Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Haralson, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Grantville. Based upon flood maps and tax digests, sources were not available to allow the number of structures to be broken down by jurisdiction. Critical facility asset inventories for this hazard have been listed in Appendix A, pg A-1, and Worksheet 3A inventories are located in Appendix D. The GEMA online tool did not list any repetitive losses for Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Data deficiencies from the original PDM plan resulted from a lack of property values for all critical facilities, but in the plan update all critical facilities listed had current valuation estimates.

- E. Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Haralson, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Grantville have established minimum standards for all new construction and substantial improvements of residential and nonresidential structures. In addition, construction must adhere to the Georgia State Minimum Standard Codes (Uniform Codes Act) and the International Building Code (2006 edition). The minimum standards established by these codes provide reasonable protection from most natural hazards to persons and property within structures that comply with the regulations. Other than the construction codes, there are no land use trends (current or future) that specifically address this hazard.
  
- F. This hazard is applicable to Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson have Mitigation actions taken to address wildfires and to limit damage should involve the county and all its municipalities. Due to the nature of this hazard and its ability to strike anywhere in the county, there is no significant difference in jurisdictional risk to the local governments. Data was not available in order to provide Worksheet 3A asset lists, located in Appendix D, by jurisdiction beyond the county level. Maps of this hazard, if available, are located in Appendix A
  
- G. There are areas of Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson that lie within a floodplain and have the potential to flood. Typically, the

potential of property damage to structures is greatly increased during occurrences of floods. In addition, flood occurrences have the capability of disrupting governmental services. Coweta County saw its share of flooding in 2009 when the Chattahoochee River swelled out of its banks. Dam failures are potentially the worst flood events. When a dam fails, an enormous quantity of water suddenly rushes downstream, destroying anything in its path. Floods can be slow or fast rising, but generally develop over a period of days. Flash floods usually result from intense storms dropping large amounts of rain within a brief period. They occur with little or no warning and can reach full peak in only a few minutes. The City of Newnan has a stormwater ordinance and regulations in place to control and manage the stormwater management system. The City of Newnan has performed flood studies to assess the nature of and determine solution for out-of-back flow events that adversely impact public and private lands. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) regulations require that new buildings and substantial improvements to existing buildings be protected from the base flood. Therefore, the City of Newnan has implemented a Community Rating System (CRS) to provide insurance premiums rate reductions to the City. Due to their size, low susceptibility to all known hazards, and existing service delivery agreements the Cities of Grantville and Haralson have designated Coweta County to act on their behalf for hazard mitigation activities.

## **2. Wind**

A. This mitigation plan combines the discussion of Wind events related to the following natural hazards: Thunderstorms and High Winds, Tornadoes and Tropical Storms/Hurricanes. Given the fact that high speed wind is a major source of damage from these events, and that the mitigation measures selected within this plan to prevent damage from these occurrences are very similar, the community felt it makes sense to address these events together. Where other forms of damage occur from these events (as in the case of flooding, for example, from excess rains caused by tropical depressions surrounding hurricane events) the discussion of that damage and the mitigation measures to be taken will occur in another section of this overall plan.

Thunderstorm winds are straight-line winds (as opposed to a tornado's rotating column of air), generally of short duration and gusts in excess of 50 mph. This hazard poses the greatest threat in areas of softwood trees, a significant feature in the community, areas with exposed improvements and infrastructure, and above ground (electrical) utilities.

These winds can cause power outages, transportation and economic disruptions, significant property damage and pose a high risk of injuries and loss of life.

A tornado is a violently rotating column of air extending from a thunderstorm to the ground, usually spawned when the weather is warm, humid and unsettled; conditions common to the local area. Severe weather conditions, such as a thunderstorm or hurricane, can produce a tornado. Tremendous destruction can occur with the combined action of strong winds (some at speeds in excess of 250 mph) and the impact of wind-borne debris. Tornadoes are rated on a scale of F0 through F5, as shown on the next page:

<b>Fujita Tornado Damage Scale</b>		
<b>Category</b>	<b>Wind Speed*</b>	<b>Damage Description</b>
F0	<73 mph	<u>Light</u> ; some damage to chimneys, tree branches broken, shallow-rooted trees pushed over, sign boards damaged
F1	73-112 mph	<u>Moderate</u> ; peels surface off roofs, mobile homes pushed off foundations/overturned, moving autos blown off road
F2	113-157 mph	<u>Considerable</u> ; roofs torn off frame houses, mobile homes demolished, boxcars overturned, large trees uprooted, light-object missiles generated, cars lifted off ground
F3	158-206 mph	<u>Severe</u> ; roofs and some walls torn off well-constructed houses, trains overturned, most forest trees uprooted, trees lifted and thrown
F4	207-260 mph	<u>Devastating</u> ; well-constructed houses leveled, structure blown some distance from weak foundations, cars thrown as missiles
F5	261-318 mph	<u>Incredible</u> ; strong frame houses lifted off foundations/swept away, auto sized missiles fly through the air in excess of 100 yards, trees debarked, incredible phenomena occur

Damage paths can be in excess of one mile wide and fifty miles long. Although the path may be erratic, storm movement is usually from southwest to northeast. Tornadoes most



often occur between 3p.m. and 8 p.m., but may occur at any time of day or night. The official tornado season lasts from March-August with a peak in March-May; but they can occur anywhere, any time of year. Advance planning and quick response are keys to surviving a tornado.

A tropical cyclone is a storm that circles around a large low-pressure system usually originating in the tropical or sub-tropical waters of the Atlantic Ocean. In a tropical storm, the maximum sustained surface wind speed ranges from 39 mph to 73 mph. Hurricanes are intense tropical storms with sustained winds of 74 mph or higher. The energy of these storms is usually concentrated closer to the center with outer rainfall organizing into distinct bands.

A major concern with hurricanes/tropical storms is the propensity of these storms to spawn tornadoes within their outer bands. While most hurricanes rarely make it this far north from either the Atlantic Ocean or the Gulf of Mexico, the winds associated with the inland travel of these storms are of consequence to Coweta County and its cities. For example, most recently Hurricane Katrina made landfall on the Gulf coast on August 29, 2005. That landfall occurred over 500 miles away, yet the outer bands were responsible for the development of an F2 class tornado that injured three people and caused \$750,000 in destruction in the Glenloch community in nearby Heard County.

The maps in Appendix A demonstrate that 100% of Coweta County is located in the wind hazard zone.

- B. During the planning process the Mitigation Planning Committee used the NCDC Query report and local hazard records. The best information available on tornadoes is only from within the last fifty years. In the records that were evaluated, it was determined that there were eighteen (18) occurrences of tornadoes that affected either the county or one of its municipalities. Data is incomplete for the individual jurisdictions. Of the eighteen tornado occurrences five (5) were classified as F0, seven were classified as F1, four were categorized as F2, and two were classified as F3 and according to the Fujita scale (F-Scale). Based on available data, the extreme magnitude of most tornado events in Coweta County tend to be F0 events which can have winds up to 73 mph. F1, F2, and F3 tornado events appear to occur less often. Due to the tendency of the NCDC report to lump multiple counties into hazard events, the specific hazard information by jurisdiction was unavailable. Due to the limited data the frequency of occurrence for this event (tornado) is listed as a 29.51% chance per year, but the percentage should continue to decrease as better records are kept in the future. In the records that were evaluated, it was determined that there were one-hundred forty-four (144) occurrences of thunderstorm wind that affected either the county or one of its municipalities. Data is incomplete for the

individual jurisdictions. Due to the limited data the frequency of occurrence for this event (thunderstorm wind) is listed as a 236.07% chance per year, but the percentage should continue to decrease as better records are kept in the future. In the records that were evaluated, it was determined that there were thirteen (13) occurrences of hurricane wind that affected either the county or one of its municipalities. Data is incomplete for the individual jurisdictions. Due to the limited data the frequency of occurrence for this event (tropical storm/hurricane) is listed as a 21.31% chance per year, but the percentage should continue to decrease as better records are kept in the future.

NCDC data and other hazard records can be found in Appendix C. A hazard event frequency table for tornadoes, thunderstorm wind, and tropical storm/hurricanes is listed in Appendix A, pg A- 94. NCDC data and other hazard records can be found in Appendix C.

- C. The Mitigation Planning Committee examined the historical records, and determined that all assets listed on the Critical Facility Inventory were potentially at risk in the event of a wind event. Using the information generated by the GEMA online tool, there are one hundred ninety-nine (199) critical assets worth \$447,353,824 that could be exposed to this hazard. More detailed asset inventories for this hazard have been listed in Appendix A, pg A-15, and worksheet 3A inventories are located in Appendix D. The number of community structures within the County includes Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Moreland, Turin, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Sources were not available to allow the number of structures to be broken down by jurisdiction. Data deficiencies from the original PDM plan were due to a lack of hazard mapping and GPS information for critical facilities, but those issues were rectified in the 2012 plan update.
  
- D. The loss estimates were generated using GEMA created online tool that complied reporting information with guidance set forth by the FEMA State and Local Mitigation Planning Guide 386-2: Section 4, Estimating Losses. Loss estimates were generated for structures, general and critical, that were at risk of damage from natural or manmade disasters that were applicable to Coweta County or the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Moreland, Turin, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Using the information generated by the GEMA online tool, there are one hundred ninety-nine (199) critical assets worth \$447,353,824 in total damage liability. Potential losses for this hazard have been listed in Appendix A, pg A-15. Worksheet 3A showed a total of fifty-six thousand two hundred and fifty-four (56,254) assets worth \$6,331,686,051 for Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Losses

for this hazard have been listed in Appendix A, page A-16, and Worksheet 3A inventories are located in Appendix D. Due to the tendency of the NCDC report to lump multiple counties into hazard events, the specific hazard information by jurisdiction was unavailable. Data deficiencies from the original PDM plan resulted from a lack of property values for all critical facilities, but in the plan update all critical facilities listed had current valuation estimates.

- E. Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson have established minimum standards for all new construction and substantial improvements of residential and nonresidential structures. In addition, construction must adhere to the Georgia State Minimum Standard Codes (Uniform Codes Act) and the International Building Code (2006 edition). The minimum standards established by these codes provide reasonable protection from most natural hazards to persons and property within structures that comply with the regulations. Other than the construction codes, there are no land use trends (current or future) that specifically address this hazard. A full list of future land use trends and goals can be found in Appendix C.
  
- F. This hazard is applicable to Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Mitigation actions taken to address wind and to limit damage should involve the county and all its municipalities. Due to the nature of this hazard and its ability to strike anywhere in the county, it is considered a county wide hazard, and there is no significant difference in jurisdictional risk to the local governments. Data was unavailable in order to provide Worksheet 3A asset lists, located in Appendix D, by jurisdiction beyond the county level. Maps of this hazard, if available, are located in Appendix A.
  
- G. Tornadoes, thunderstorm winds, and tropical storm/hurricane winds can topple buildings, roll mobile homes, uproot trees, hurl people and animals through the air for hundreds of yards, and fill the air with lethal wind-borne debris. Tornadoes do their destructive work through the combined action of their strong rotary winds and the impact of wind-borne debris. Tornadoes, thunderstorm winds, and tropical storm/hurricane within Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson have the capability of disrupting government services, and damaging structures from governmental, industrial, and private sectors. During the planning

process the Mitigation Planning Committee did not find any detailed information regarding losses or damage to critical infrastructure related to this hazard.

### 3. Winter Storm

A. An ice storm is a severe weather condition characterized by falling freezing precipitation that accumulates on surfaces. Such a storm forms a glaze of ice on objects that creates slippery, hazardous road surfaces and causes trees and branches to break, obstructing travel and damaging electrical utility lines. This accumulation of ice can also be the cause of broken power and communication utilities. Diameters of ice-coated cables may reach five centimeters, adding a weight of 10-20 pounds per foot to the wire. The dangers of these severed electrical lines are an electrical hazard in the immediate vicinity of the severed line, a fire hazard created from the damaged line and associated components such as transformers shorting out and the fact that many residents being served by the utility are depending on the electricity provided to run their heat and lights.

Here are some examples from an ice storm in Coweta County in 2005:



B. During the planning process the Mitigation Planning Committee used the NCDC Query report and local hazard records. The best information available on winter storms is only from within the last fifty years. In the past nine years there have been four significant ice storm events with heavy snow and ice accumulation totaling 11.8 Million dollars in damage. The worst snow storm to occur was in 2002 when Coweta County received 8 inches of snow. In the records that were evaluated, it was determined that there were twenty (20) occurrences of winter storms that affected either the county or one of its municipalities.. This averages to roughly an ice hazard event every other year. Due to the limited data the frequency of occurrence for this event is listed as a 221.31% chance per year, but the percentage should continue to decrease as better records are kept in the future. NCDC data and other hazard records can be found in Appendix C. A hazard event frequency table for winter storms is listed in Appendix A. NCDC data and other hazard records can be found in Appendix C.

C. The Planning Committee examined the historical records, and determined that all assets listed on the Critical Facility Inventory were potentially at risk in the event of a winter storm. Using the information generated by the GEMA online tool, there were one hundred ninety-nine (199) critical assets worth \$73,314,965 that could be exposed to this hazard. More detailed asset inventories for this hazard have been listed in Appendix A, pg. A-94, and Worksheet 3A inventories are located in Appendix D. The number of community structures within the County includes Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Sources were not available to allow the number of structures to be broken down by jurisdiction. Data deficiencies from the original PDM plan were due to a lack of hazard mapping and GPS information for critical facilities, but those issues were rectified in the 2010 plan update.

D. The loss estimates were generated using GEMA created online tool that complied reporting information with guidance set forth by the FEMA State and Local Mitigation Planning Guide 386-2: Section 4, Estimating Losses. Loss estimates were generated for structures, general and critical, that were at risk of damage from natural or manmade disasters that were applicable to Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Using the information generated by the GEMA online tool, there are one hundred ninety-nine (199) critical assets worth

\$73,314,965 in total damage liability. Worksheet 3A showed a total of fifty-six thousand two hundred and fifty-four (56,254) assets worth \$6,331,686,051 for Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Moreland, Turin, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Losses for this hazard have been listed in Appendix A, A-37, and Worksheet 3A inventories are located in Appendix D. The number of community structures within the County includes Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Moreland, Turin, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Sources were not available to allow the number of structures to be broken down by jurisdiction. Data deficiencies from the original PDM plan resulted from a lack of property values for all critical facilities, but in the plan update all critical facilities listed had current valuation estimates.

- E. Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson have established minimum standards for all new construction and substantial improvements of residential and nonresidential structures. In addition, construction must adhere to the Georgia State Minimum Standard Codes (Uniform Codes Act) and the International Building Code (2006 edition). The minimum standards established by these codes provide reasonable protection from most natural hazards to persons and property within structures that comply with the regulations. Other than the construction codes, there are no land use trends (current or future) that specifically address this hazard. A full list of future land use trends and goals can be found in Appendix C.
- F. This hazard is applicable to Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Moreland, Turin, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Mitigation actions taken to address winter storms and to limit damage should involve the county and all its municipalities. Due to the nature of this hazard and its ability to strike anywhere in the county, it is considered a county wide hazard, and there is no significant difference in jurisdictional risk to the local governments. Data was unavailable in order to provide Worksheet 3A asset lists, located in Appendix D, by jurisdiction beyond the county level. Maps of this hazard, if available, are located in Appendix A.
- G. A heavy accumulation of ice, especially when accompanied by high winds, devastates trees and transmission lines. Sidewalks, streets, and highways become extremely hazardous to pedestrians and motorists. Destructiveness of ice storms in the southern States, especially rural areas such as Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, and Haralson, is increased because buildings are not designed with severe winter conditions in mind. In addition, agricultural crop losses have occurred from time to time from unanticipated deep freezing

temperatures and ice. The largest impact on the community for this hazard has been that snow and ice has temporarily disrupted critical government services due to limited road access, and due to power line disruptions. During the planning process the mitigation planning committee did not find any information regarding any significant losses or damage to critical infrastructure related to this hazard, but the records did indicate that the total property damage over the fifty year span for Coweta County was \$12.745 million. There were no major changes to report from the original plan.

#### **4. Seismic**

- A. Of all the various types of seismic events, the most likely to affect Coweta County is an earthquake. An earthquake is defined as a sudden motion or trembling that is caused by a release of strain accumulated within or along the edge of Earth's tectonic plates. The severity of these effects is dependent on the amount of energy released from the fault or epicenter. The effects of an earthquake can be felt far beyond the site of its occurrence. They usually occur without warning and after just a few seconds can cause massive damage and extensive casualties. Common effects of earthquakes are ground motion and shaking, surface fault ruptures, and ground failure.
  
- B. During the planning process, the Planning Committee used the NCDC Query report and local hazard records to examine occurrences of seismic activity. According to the OHS-GEMA software and data Coweta County is entirely within a seismic hazard zone at a rating of 2. The National Climactic Data Center reports that there have been no seismic events in the hazard area over the last twenty years, and near future significant seismic activity is highly unlikely to happen. The Brevard fault line does traverse Coweta County, however. (See mapping below). Running southwest-northeast across Alabama, Georgia, and North Carolina, the Brevard Fault Zone is a prominent geologic feature of the Southeast United States. The fault last moved about 185 million years ago, so it is not classified as an active fault zone. Rocks in the Brevard zone are profoundly sheared and fractured; they include mylonites and button schists. These broken rocks control much of the Chattahoochee River's course. In the records that were evaluated, it was determined that there were zero (0) occurrences of earthquakes that affected either the county or one of its municipalities. To determine the extent of the seismic activity on this

hazard, refer to the Seismic profile in Appendix A. NCDC data and other hazard records can be found in Appendix C.

<b>Magnitude</b>	<b>Earthquake Effects</b>	<b>Estimated Number Each Year</b>
2.5 or less	Usually not felt, but can be recorded by seismograph.	900,000
2.5 to 5.4	Often felt, but only causes minor damage.	30,000
5.5 to 6.0	Slight damage to buildings and other structures.	500
6.1 to 6.9	May cause a lot of damage in very populated areas.	100
7.0 to 7.9	Major earthquake. Serious damage.	20
8.0 or greater	Great earthquake. Can totally destroy communities near the epicenter.	One every 5 to 10 years

### **Earthquake Magnitude Classes**

<b>Class</b>	<b>Magnitude</b>
Great	8 or more
Major	7 - 7.9
Strong	6 - 6.9
Moderate	5 - 5.9
Light	4 - 4.9
Minor	3 - 3.9

C. The Planning Committee examined the historical records, and determined that all assets listed on the Critical Facility Inventory were potentially at risk in the event of a thunderstorm event. Using the information generated by the GEMA online tool, there are 199 critical assets worth \$73,314,965 for this hazard, which is listed in Appendix A. Worksheet 3A showed a total of fifty-six thousand two hundred and fifty-four (56,254) assets worth \$6,331,686,051 for Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Losses for this hazard have been listed in Appendix A. The number of community structures within the County includes Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville and Haralson. Sources were not available to allow the number of structures to be broken down by jurisdiction. Further, data was unavailable in order to provide Worksheet 3A asset lists, located in Appendix D, by jurisdiction beyond the county level. Data deficiencies from the original PDM plan were due to a lack of hazard



mapping and GPS information for critical facilities, but those issues were rectified in the 2012 plan update.

- D. The loss estimates were generated using GEMA created online tool that complied reporting information with guidance set forth by the FEMA State and Local Mitigation Planning Guide 386-2: Section 4, Estimating Losses. Loss estimates were generated for structures, general and critical, that were at risk of damage from natural or manmade disasters that were applicable to Coweta County or the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, and Haralson. Using the information generated by the GEMA online tool, there are 199 critical assets worth \$73,314,965 in total damage liability. Losses for this hazard have been listed in Appendix A. Worksheet 3A showed a total of fifty-six thousand two hundred and fifty-four (56,254) assets worth \$6,331,686,051 for Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Losses for this hazard have been listed in Appendix A, page A-59. The number of community structures within the County includes Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Sources were not available to allow the number of structures to be broken down by jurisdiction. Further, data was unavailable in order to provide Worksheet 3A asset lists, located in Appendix D, by jurisdiction beyond the county level. Data deficiencies from the original PDM plan resulted from a lack of property values for all critical facilities, but in the plan update all critical facilities listed have current valuation estimates.
- E. Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Sharpsburg, Moreland, Senoia, Turin and Haralson have established minimum standards for all new construction and substantial improvements of residential and nonresidential structures. In addition, construction must adhere to the Georgia State Minimum Standard Codes (Uniform Codes Act) and the International Building Code (2000 edition). The minimum standards established by these codes provide reasonable protection to persons and property within structures that comply with the regulations for most natural hazards. Other than the construction codes, there are no land use trends (current or future) that specifically address this hazard. A full list of future land use trends and goals can be found in Appendix B.
- F. This hazard is applicable to Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Sharpsburg, Moreland, Senoia, Turin and Haralson. Mitigation actions taken to address seismic activity and to limit damage should involve the county and all its municipalities. Due to the nature of this hazard and its ability to strike anywhere in the county, there is no significant difference in jurisdictional risk to the

local governments. Data was unavailable in order to provide Worksheet 3A asset lists, located in Appendix D, by jurisdiction beyond the county level. Maps of this hazard, if available, are located in Appendix A.

- G. All of the identified critical facilities within Coweta County are rated as having some risk for seismic activity by the OHS-GEMA software used in the development of this plan. And the Brevard Fault, a major southeastern fault line, does skirt the north part of Coweta County in a northeast-southwest direction. Given that the fault has not had any appreciable activity over the past 185 million years, the rating assigned to the entire county is low on the seismic risk scale as determined by the plan committee, the OHS-GEMA risk management software and the recent state amendments to the Standard Building Code. The frequency and severity of seismic activity in the area is deemed to be small. Accordingly, minor measures are expected to be implemented when addressing mitigation for the risks posed by this natural hazard.

## **5. Wildfire**

- A. A wildfire is described as an open fire which spreads unconstrained through the environment. If not quickly controlled, the result can be a fire storm, often termed conflagrations, which destroy large amounts of property and threaten lives. Wildfire behavior and spread are affected by three major factors: fuels, weather and topography. Traditionally, the fuel component consists of grasses, brush, trees and accumulations of dead vegetation. Most fire-prone wild land fuels are generally found on lower or middle elevations and drier sites, which unfortunately are the same sites preferred by humans for development. Therefore “intermix” fuels now contain homes, outbuildings, businesses and other valuable improvements which serve as combustible fuels. Accumulations of firewood, poor outdoor housekeeping and fire-prone construction add to the problem. There is an enlarged threat of public injury and property loss from wildfires in areas where inhabited developments are closely mixed with natural fuels. Weather is also a factor in wildfire development and spread. Drought conditions make the natural fuels more fire-prone. Late March and April along with October are peak months when the danger of wildfires is increased. Topography, the third major factor, shapes a fire’s spread. Hollows, canyons and gullies channel winds and thereby channel fire spread. Because heat rises, fire naturally burns upslope. Homes built on a steep slope overlooking a view have less chance of escaping destruction by wildfire. Slope and terrain also hinder fire suppression efforts. One wild and forest event was reported in 2005. No death or injuries were reported as a result of the fire. However, the total property damage was estimated at approximately \$1.0 million.

- B. During the planning process, the Planning Committee used the NCDC Query report and Georgia Forestry Commission records. The best information available on wildfires is from within the last fifty years. The worst wildfire in Coweta County happened in 1986 when 211 acres burned. In the records that were evaluated, it was determined that there were five thousand three hundred and fifty-four (5,354) occurrences of wildfires that affected either the county or one of its municipalities. Based on available data, this creates a situation where there is a 9914.81% chance for a wildfire event on any given year. The information provided by the Georgia Forest Commission did not identify the extent of damage done by wildfires, and the only useful information provided was the number of fires per year. Due to the limited data there is no other way to determine any other extent of the wildfire effects of this hazard. For other information related to wildfires, refer to the Wildfire profile in Appendix A. Due to the tendency of the Georgia Forestry Commission's report to only cite hazard events, the specific hazard information by jurisdiction was unavailable. A hazard event frequency table for wildfires is listed in Appendix A, pg. A- 15. NCDC data and other hazard records can be found in Appendix C.
- C. The Mitigation Planning Committee examined the historical records, and determined that all assets listed on the Critical Facility Inventory were potentially at risk in the event of a wildfire event. Using the information generated by the GEMA online tool, there are 199 critical assets worth \$73,314,965 for this hazard, which is listed in Appendix A. Worksheet 3A showed a total of fifty-six thousand two hundred and fifty-four (56,254) assets worth \$6,331,686,051 for Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Losses for this hazard have been listed in Appendix A. The number of community structures within the County includes Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville and Haralson. Sources were not available to allow the number of structures to be broken down by jurisdiction. Further, data was unavailable in order to provide Worksheet 3A asset lists, located in Appendix D, by jurisdiction beyond the county level. Data deficiencies from the original PDM plan were due to a lack of hazard mapping and GPS information for critical facilities, but those issues were rectified in the 2012 plan update.
- D. The loss estimates were generated using GEMA created online tool that complied reporting information with guidance set forth by the FEMA State and Local Mitigation Planning Guide 386-2: Section 4, Estimating Losses. Loss estimates were generated for structures, general and critical, that were at risk of damage from natural or manmade disasters that were applicable to Coweta County or the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, and Haralson. Using the information generated by the GEMA online tool, there are 199 critical assets worth \$73,314,965 in total damage liability. Losses for this hazard have been listed in Appendix A. Worksheet 3A showed a total of fifty-six thousand two hundred and fifty-four (56,254) assets worth \$6,331,686,051 for Coweta County and the Cities of

Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Losses for this hazard have been listed in Appendix A, page A-59. The number of community structures within the County includes Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Sources were not available to allow the number of structures to be broken down by jurisdiction. Further, data was unavailable in order to provide Worksheet 3A asset lists, located in Appendix D, by jurisdiction beyond the county level. Data deficiencies from the original PDM plan resulted from a lack of property values for all critical facilities, but in the plan update all critical facilities listed have current valuation estimates.

- E. Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson have established minimum standards for all new construction and substantial improvements of residential and nonresidential structures. In addition, construction must adhere to the Georgia State Minimum Standard Codes (Uniform Codes Act) and the International Building Code (2000 edition). The minimum standards established by these codes provide reasonable protection to persons and property within structures that comply with the regulations for most natural hazards. Other than the construction codes, there are no land use trends (current or future) that specifically address this hazard. A full list of future land use trends and goals can be found in Appendix C.
- F. This hazard is applicable to Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Mitigation actions taken to address wildfires and to limit damage should involve the county and all its municipalities. Due to the nature of this hazard and its ability to strike anywhere in the county, there is no significant difference in jurisdictional risk to the local governments. Losses for this hazard have been listed in Appendix A. Data was unavailable in order to provide Worksheet 3A asset lists, located in Appendix D, by jurisdiction beyond the county level. Maps of this hazard, if available, are located in Appendix A.
- G. The probability that wildfires will occur in the future is without doubt. All woodland areas in the un-incorporated section of the county are at some degree of risk. Subdivisions and mobile home parks within the county or any of its municipalities that are located in or adjacent to areas of vegetation are also at risk to the wildfire hazard. While wildfires are a large threat to the critical infrastructure inventory listed in Appendix A, there are a large number of old residential mill houses located within Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, and Coweta County that could be damaged by wildfire events. During the planning process the PDM planning committee did not find any information regarding any significant losses or damage to critical infrastructure related to this hazard, nor did the record indicate any values for property or other types of collateral damage. There were no major changes to report from the original plan.

## Chapter Three: Local Technological Hazard Summary

In an effort to expand the scope of this plan, the Coweta County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning Committee set out to integrate technological or “human-caused” hazards into the first PDM planning process. The term, “technological hazard” refers to incidents resulting from human activities such as the manufacture, transportation, storage, and use of hazardous materials. This plan assumes that hazards resulting from technological sources are accidental, and that their consequences are unintended. In the 2012 planning process, research has continued to determine that no technological hazard (hazardous material release) poses a direct, measurable threat to Coweta County or the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, and Haralson. This finding was confirmed by using new analysis methods where the Mitigation Planning Committee was able to obtain emergency hazardous material inventory sheets. The emergency hazardous material sheets helped the committee to determine which critical inventory assets stored high amounts of hazardous materials that could post a risk to Coweta County or the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, and Haralson.

### 1. Hazardous Material Release

- A. Hazardous materials can come in the form of a solid, liquid or gas and can be released from mobile or fixed containers. These chemicals could have corrosive, explosive, or noxious effects within the radius of release. Some materials could cause further damage to the community by being transported via wind or water.
- B. The Mitigation Planning Committee studied documents from the previous disaster mitigation plan, talked to local emergency response personnel, and studied several historical sources. However, the committee found no record of a significant hazardous materials release that caused loss of life, significant property damage, disrupted governmental services, or caused damage to any of the existing critical facilities. Due to the lack of data about hazardous materials release, the true extent or impact of this hazard was not able to be assessed in this plan. A hazard event frequency table for hazardous materials release is listed in Appendix A, pg. A- 42. Due to inability to obtain information on hazardous material events, the specific hazard information by jurisdiction was unavailable.
- C. The Mitigation Planning Committee determined that all assets listed on the Critical Facility Inventory were potentially at risk in the event of a severe hazardous materials release. Using the information generated by the GEMA online tool, there are one hundred ninety-nine (199) critical assets worth \$447,353,824 that could be exposed to this hazard. More detailed asset inventories for this hazard have been listed in Appendix A, and Worksheet 3A inventories are located in Appendix D. Data deficiencies from the original PDM plan were due to a lack of hazard mapping, hazard event data, and GPS information for critical facilities. The 2010 plan update provides a

base hazard map, GPS information and a risk assessment score, but data on significant hazardous material releases was not addressed due to an inability to find or obtain information related to those events.

- D. The loss estimates were generated using GEMA created online tool that complied reporting information with guidance set forth by the FEMA State and Local Mitigation Planning Guide 386-2: Section 4, Estimating Losses. Loss estimates were generated for structures, general and critical, that were at risk of damage from natural or manmade disasters that were applicable to Coweta County or the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Using the information generated by the GEMA online tool, there are one hundred ninety-nine (199) critical assets worth \$447,353,824 in total damage liability. Worksheet 3A showed a total of twenty-six thousand two hundred thirty (26,230) assets worth \$959,054,849 for Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, and Haralson. Losses for this hazard have been listed in Appendix A, page A-85. Worksheet 3A inventories are located in Appendix D. Losses for this hazard have been listed in Appendix A. Data deficiencies from the original PDM plan resulted from a lack of property values for all critical facilities, but in the plan update all critical facilities listed had current valuation estimates.
- E. Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson have established minimum standards for all new construction and substantial improvements of residential and nonresidential structures. In addition, construction must adhere to the Georgia State Minimum Standard Codes (Uniform Codes Act) and the International Building Code (2006 edition). The minimum standards established by these codes provide reasonable protection from most natural hazards to persons and property within structures that comply with the regulations. Other than the construction codes, there are no land use trends (current or future) that specifically address this hazard. A full list of future land use trends and goals can be found in Appendix B

**.Note: These codes only offer limited protections against a hazardous materials release.**

- F. This hazard is applicable to Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. Mitigation actions taken to address severe hazardous materials releases and to limit damage should involve the county and all its municipalities. Due to the nature of this hazard and its ability to strike anywhere in the county, it is considered a county wide hazard, and there is no significant difference in jurisdictional risk to the local governments. Data was unavailable in order to provide Worksheet 3A asset lists, located in Appendix D, by jurisdiction beyond the county level. Maps of this hazard, if available, are located in Appendix A.

The release of hazardous materials would pose a serious threat to the community, and could cause severe damage to infrastructure as well as a loss of life. Currently there have been no instances of severe hazardous materials release within the county boundary, but the potential for future risk does exist. There were no major changes to report from the original plan.

## Chapter Four: Local Natural Hazard Goals & Objectives

The Coweta County Mitigation Planning Committee developed goals, objectives, and performed a STAPLEE evaluation on those goals and objectives for each hazard. Goals and objectives were considered for floods, wind, wildfire, seismic, and winter storms. Goals were prioritized based on cost benefit or cost effectiveness, availability of potential funding sources, overall feasibility, measurable milestones, multiple objectives, and both public and political support for the proposed actions.

The 2012 plan update for this chapter included the completion or unchanged actions for all previous goals and objectives from the previous PDM plan. Goals and objectives were developed based on the ability of Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Sharpsburg, Moreland, Senoia and Haralson to implement them given limited local resources such as manpower, time, or local match limitations.

Each hazard has an information summary table that designates the persons responsible for implementing all the goals, objectives, and action steps, the expected date of implementation, the cost, and the funding source. The prioritized primary and alternative goals and action steps for each hazard can be found in Appendix D, Worksheet 4 (STAPLEE Evaluation).

### General Mitigation Strategies addressing all natural hazards

#### *General Tasks and Actions*

Mitigation Goal #1: Reduce damage and loss of life due to natural hazard events in the community.

Objective #1: Improve coordination among various affected agencies and stakeholders.

Task A: Develop and improve coordination between and among responders and stakeholders.

1. Action Step: Improve and enhance Mutual Aid/interagency agreements.
  - A. Responsible organization: Coweta EMA
  - B. Coordinating organization: Coweta EMA
  - C. Timeline (by year): On-going
  - D. Approximate cost : \$0
  - E. Possible funding sources: N/A
2. Action Step: Conduct joint emergency response personnel training and exercises.
  - A. Responsible organization: Coweta EMA
  - B. Coordinating organization: Coweta EMA
  - C. Timeline (by year): On-going





Objective #3: Update and improve emergency response systems in Coweta County.

Task A: Replace aging equipment and facilities and enlarge response capacity where necessary.

1. Action Step: Expand and update E-911 Center facility and add staffing
  - A. Responsible organization: Coweta EMA
  - B. Coordinating organization: Coweta County
  - C. Timeline (by year): On-going
  - D. Approximate cost: \$2.5 Million
  - E. Possible funding sources: FEMA/OHS, SPLOST, E-911 revenues, General Fund
  
2. Action Step: Maintain current technology of the Emergency Response System within Coweta County and the cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin
  - A. Responsible organization: Coweta EMA
  - B. Coordinating organization: Coweta County
  - C. Timeline (by year): 2008-2009
  - D. Approximate cost: \$1.5 Million
  - E. Possible funding sources: FEMA/OHS, SPLOST, E-911 revenues, General Fund

Objective #4: Improve ability to provide emergency communications, instructions, and warnings within the county.

Task A: Increase the number outdoor weather warning systems.

1. Action Step: Acquire outdoor weather warning systems.

Responsible Org:	Coweta County Board Of Commissioners And Municipal governing bodies
Coordinating Org:	Coweta County EMA
Timeline:	2013-2014
Approximate Cost:	\$ 500,000
Funding Source:	Tax Digest, SPLOST and Grants

Benefit: Provide added safety to citizens during severe weather

I. Natural Hazard A – **Flood**

A. Community Mitigation Goals – brief narrative

The community is prone to flooding in certain areas due to their proximity to the Chattahoochee River that makes up the northern boundary of the county, and the tributaries that feed the river.

The community strategy for Coweta County and the Cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin as it relates to floods is to make existing and future construction less vulnerable to the effects of flooding through the enforcement of effective building and zoning codes.

Currently, 9 of the 199 identified critical facilities lie within an established flood hazard area as indicated by the GEMA flood mapping data.

B. Identification & Analysis of Range of Mitigation Options

1. Structural and non-structural mitigation:

- Drainage system maintenance
- Drainage easements
- Structural Flood Control Measures (Dams, levees or Floodwalls)
- Debris control

2. Existing policies, regulations, ordinances and land use

Restrictions on development in flood prone areas:

- Floodplain Management
- Building code amendments
- Stormwater Management Ordinances
- Wetland Protection
- Government acquisition of land within flood prone areas

3. Community values, historic & special consideration:

- There are no specific considerations for this section.

4. Community values, historic & special considerations:

- There are no specific considerations for this section.

5. Existing Buildings and Infrastructure:

- Structure relocation
- Structure elevation
- Dry-Flood proofing
- Wet-Flood proofing
- Manufactured home reinforcement or elevation

C. Natural Hazard A Flood - Mitigation Strategy and Recommendation

Mitigation Goal #1: Reduce damage due to flood-related events in the community.

Objective #1: Discourage and prohibit construction of structures within the floodplain.

Task A: Maintain ordinances that control development within the floodplain.

1. Action Step: Continue enforcement of existing ordinances that prohibit development within the floodplains and river corridors of Coweta County and the cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin.

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| A. Responsible organization:  | Building Inspection Departments<br>(Coweta County, Cities of<br>Grantville, Moreland, Newnan,<br>Senoia. |
| B. Coordinating organization: | Planning and Zoning<br>Departments, County Development<br>Services Department                            |
| C. Timeline:                  | On-going   |
| D. Approximate cost:          | \$0  |
| E. Possible funding sources:  | General Fund   |

Task B: Evaluate Stormwater impacts upon critical facilities within the community.

1. Action Step: Identify Stormwater impacts upon critical facilities within Coweta County and the cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin.

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| A. Responsible organization:  | County Development Services<br>Department |
| B. Coordinating organization: | County Development Services<br>Department |
| C. Timeline:                  | On-Going                                  |

- D. Approximate cost: \$250,000 annually
- E. Possible funding sources: General Fund, Impact Fees,  
Increased permit fees

D. Special Multi-Jurisdictional Strategy and considerations

Purchasing and relocation of at-risk properties would be a good strategy for all jurisdictions to protect their vulnerable critical facilities.

E. Local public information and awareness strategy

Distribute information to alert the public about the dangers associated with construction within the floodplain.

## II. Natural Hazard B – **Wind**

A. Community Mitigation Goals – brief narrative

Out of all of the naturally occurring hazards identified within this plan, wind hazards occur with the highest frequency. In the past five years of reporting alone, there have been 37 instances of wind-related damage to personal property within Coweta County and the Cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin.

The county and its municipalities worked together to come up with a multi-jurisdictional strategy as it relates to wind events, which is to require hurricane straps on new structures, trim trees along power line routes, and construct safe rooms within public facilities that may be used as shelters during disaster events.

All of the 199 identified critical facilities lie within an established wind hazard area.

B. Identification & Analysis of Range of Mitigation Options

1. Structural and non-structural mitigation
2. Tree management (pruning trees to prevent damage)
3. Existing policies, regulations, ordinances and land use

4. Building code construction standards
5. Community values, historic & special consideration
6. There are no specific considerations for this section.
7. New buildings and infrastructure
8. Buried power lines
9. Construction of safe rooms in houses
10. Anchoring Manufactured homes (with tie downs)
11. Existing buildings and infrastructure
12. Buried power lines.
13. Anchoring Manufactured homes (with tie downs)
14. Construction of safe rooms in houses

C. Natural Hazard B Wind- Mitigation Strategy and Recommendation

Mitigation Goal #1: Reduce damage due to wind-related events in the community.

Objective #1: Retrofit pre-existing mobile homes with hurricane anchors.

Task A: Require mobile homes within Coweta County and the Cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin to be anchored in accordance with the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act, or the Georgia Industrialized Building Act.

1. Action Step: Adopt these standards as applicable to pre-existing mobile homes not heretofore covered by the County or City Manufactured Home ordinances.

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|-------------------------------|---|
| A. Responsible organization:  | Building Inspection Departments (Coweta County, Grantville, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia) |
| B. Coordinating organization: | Planning Commissions, Local Governments   |
| C. Timeline (by year):        | On-going  |
| D. Approximate cost:          | \$0   |
| E. Possible funding sources:  | N/A   |

Objective #2: Reduce risk of wind damage to the power supply for the community.

Task A: Coweta County and the Cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin to work with the electric utilities to improve their program of maintaining tree clearance along their power lines.

1. Action Step: Bury overhead electric transmission lines that are in close proximity to and that service cell towers, repeater stations and other communication towers.

- A. Responsible organization: Georgia Power, Newnan Utilities, Coweta-Fayette EMC
- B. Coordinating organization: Coweta EMA
- C. Timeline (by year): On-going
- D. Approximate cost : \$250,000 annually
- E. Possible funding sources: Rate-payers

2. Action Step: Encourage more frequent inspections of the overhead power lines within Coweta County and its municipalities.

- A. Responsible organization: Georgia Power, Newnan Utilities, Coweta-Fayette EMC
- B. Coordinating organization: Coweta EMA
- C. Timeline (by year): On-going
- D. Approximate cost : \$250,000 annually
- E. Possible funding sources: Rate-payers

3. Action Step: Inform and educate all Coweta County residents about the need to keep power line rights-of-way clear of obstructions.

- A. Responsible organization: Coweta EMA, Georgia Power, Newnan Utilities, Coweta-Fayette EMC
- B. Coordinating organization: Coweta EMA
- C. Timeline (by year): On-going
- D. Approximate cost \$5,000
- E. Possible funding sources: ODP grants, rate-payers

D. Special Multi-Jurisdictional Strategy and considerations.

Retrofit existing mobile homes and to encourage more active tree management along the routes of power lines

E. Local public information and awareness strategy

Educate the public about the history of wind-related damage within the community and possible steps that can be taken to minimize their risk of suffering harm during such events. This can be accomplished through the development and distribution of flyers, public presentations before civic groups and elected bodies, and occasional articles within the local newspapers.

III. Natural Hazard C – **Wildfire**

I. Community Mitigation Goals – brief narrative

A significant portion of the land acreage in Coweta County is devoted to forestry or is vacant and covered in trees and other growth. This means that there is a significant amount of woody vegetation located in close proximity to urban uses. Yet, owing to the relatively large amounts of rainfall received by this area of the United States, Coweta County does not have what is considered to be a high risk of wildfire. The Steering Committee, however, feels that the wildfire risk is sufficient enough that it warrants some pre-disaster mitigation efforts to reduce the potential for harm from this type of disaster. The community strategy for Coweta County and the Cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin as it relates to wildfire is to educate the public as to the correct burn procedures and to enforce burn permits. All of the 523 identified critical facilities lie within an established wildfire hazard area.

B. Identification & Analysis of Range of Mitigation Options

1. Structural and non-structural mitigation:

- Property maintenance
- Fireplace and chimney maintenance
- Waste disposal in lieu of burning
- Road and driveway clearance
- Arson prevention (clean up abandoned buildings and debris)
- Smoke detectors and sprinkler installation in homes and buildings
- Water supplies identified and maintained.
- GIS Mapping

2. Existing policies, regulations, ordinances and land use

Building codes:

- Zoning

3. Community values, historic & special considerations:

- There are no specific considerations for this section.

4. New Buildings and Infrastructure:

- Proper installation and maintenance of heating systems in buildings



5. Existing Buildings and Infrastructure:

- Proper installation and maintenance of heating systems in buildings

C. Natural Hazard C Wildfire - Mitigation Strategy and Recommendation

Mitigation Goal #1: Reduce damage due to wildfire within the community.

Objective #1: Coweta County and the Cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin will support the Georgia Forestry Commission 'Fire Wise' program to educate the public about the risk of wildfire and the measures that can be taken to lessen that risk

Task A: Educate area organizations and elected officials about the Georgia Forestry Commission 'Fire Wise' program and the measures it puts into place to reduce wildfire risk to the community.

1. Action Step: Develop a PowerPoint presentation and handouts.

- A. Responsible organization: Georgia Forestry Commission
- B. Coordinating organization: Coweta EMA
- C. Timeline (by year): On-going
- D. Approximate cost: \$5,000
- E. Possible funding sources: Georgia Forestry Commission

2. Action Step: Deliver the presentation to area organizations and elected officials.

- A. Responsible organization: Georgia Forestry Commission, Coweta EMA, Fire Departments
- B. Coordinating organization: Coweta EMA
- C. Timeline (by year): On-going
- D. Approximate cost: \$0
- E. Possible funding sources: N/A

3. Action Step: Write and distribute articles and flyers about the risk of wildfire.

- A. Responsible organization: Georgia Forestry Commission
- B. Coordinating organization: Georgia Forestry Commission

- C. Timeline (by year): On-going
- D. Approximate cost \$0
- E. Possible funding sources: N/A

Objective #2: Obtain the latest technology and resources to monitor the risk of wildfire within Coweta County and the Cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin.

Task A: Obtain the latest computer mapping available showing land cover and structures.

1. Action Step: Determine the available mapping for Coweta County and its municipalities and purchase it.
  - A. Responsible organization: Coweta unit, Georgia Forestry Commission
  - B. Coordinating organization: Coweta EMA
  - C. Timeline (by year): On-going
  - D. Approximate cost \$10,000 (annual mapping maintenance fee)
  - E. Possible funding sources: FEMA/OHS

Task B: Integrate this data into the County’s decision-making process by using a Geographic Information System

1. Action Step: Examine the various hardware and software platforms available to Coweta County and the Cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin for using computer mapping and images.
  - A. Responsible organization: County & Municipality Information Technology Departments
  - B. Coordinating organization: Coweta EMA
  - C. Timeline (by year): On-going
  - D. Approximate cost: \$1.5 Million
  - E. Possible funding sources: FEMA/OHS

2. Action Step: Determine the appropriate hardware and software needed to assist Coweta County and the Cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin with managing the wildfire risks.

- A. Responsible organization: County & Municipality Information Technology Departments
- B. Coordinating organization: Coweta Information Technology Department
- C. Timeline (by year): On-going
- D. Approximate cost: \$0
- E. Possible funding sources: N/A

3. Action Step: Acquire the necessary hardware, software and training to effectively use the computer mapping purchased under Task A, above.

- A. Responsible organization: County & Municipality Information Technology Departments
- B. Coordinating organization: County & Information Technology Departments
- C. Timeline (by year): On-going
- D. Approximate cost: \$45,000 annually
- E. Possible funding sources: General Fund

Objective #3: Enhance and enforce existing policies and programs

Task A: Educate the general public in Coweta County and the Cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin about the need for and procedures used in getting a burn permit.

1. Action Step: Develop an informational brochure describing the burn permit program and its value to the community.

- A. Responsible organization: Georgia Forestry Commission
- B. Coordinating organization: Georgia Forestry Commission
- C. Timeline (by year): On-going
- D. Approximate cost: \$10,000
- E. Possible funding sources: General operating budget

Task B: Enforce the permit programs

2. Action Step: Step up enforcement of the Coweta County codes and the Cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin municipal codes relating to wildfire prevention.

- A. Responsible organization: Coweta & Newnan Fire Departments
- B. Coordinating organization: Coweta & Newnan Fire Departments
- C. Timeline (by year): On-going
- D. Approximate cost: \$0
- E. Possible funding sources: N/A

Task C: Improve the management of burns conducted within Coweta County and the cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin.

1. Action Step: Develop strategies for smoke management during a fire event.

- A. Responsible organization: Georgia Forestry Commission, Coweta & Newnan Fire Departments

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| B. Coordinating organization: | Georgia Forestry Commission, Coweta & Newnan Fire Departments |
| C. Timeline (by year):        | On-going  |
| D. Approximate cost:          | \$0   |
| E. Possible funding sources:  | N/A   |
2. Action Step: Encourage the use of Air Curtain Destructors throughout Coweta County and the Cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin and not just when the burns are adjacent to urban areas.
- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| A. Responsible organization:  | Coweta County & Newnan Fire Department and Public Works |
| B. Coordinating organization: | Coweta County & Newnan Fire Department and Public Works |
| C. Timeline (by year):        | On-going  |
| D. Approximate cost:          | \$0   |
| E. Possible funding sources:  | N/A   |

Task D: Reduce the impact of wildfires within Coweta County and the Cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin.

1. Action Step: Encourage utilities to bury overhead electric transmission lines that are in close proximity to service cell towers, repeater stations and other communication towers.
- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| A. Responsible organization:  | Planning Commissions throughout the County |
| B. Coordinating organization: | Coweta EMA                                 |
| C. Timeline (by year):        | On-going                                   |
| D. Approximate cost:          | \$0  |
| E. Possible funding sources:  | N/A  |

2. Action Step: Improve fire protection capability by improving the water systems in Coweta County and the Cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin.

- A. Responsible organization: Newnan Utilities and Coweta Water/Sewer Department
- B. Coordinating organization: Newnan Utilities and Coweta Water/Sewer Department
- C. Timeline (by year): On-going
- D. Approximate cost: \$0
- E. Possible funding sources: N/A

#### IV. Natural Hazard D – **Seismic**

##### A. Community Mitigation Goals – brief narrative

The entire county lies within a seismic zone that is rated next to the lowest in terms of risk for potential harm. Given the lack of substantive history for this risk factor, it was the consensus of the Steering Committee to rank all critical facilities as having a low to no risk of vulnerability to this type of natural occurrence. Coweta County and the Cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin worked together to come up with options that could be applied to all of the jurisdictions.

##### B. Identification & Analysis of Range of Mitigation Options Structural and non-structural mitigation

1. Structural and non-structural mitigation:
  - There are no specific considerations for this section.
2. Existing policies, regulations, ordinances and land use:
  - Building codes
3. Community values, historic & special considerations:
  - There are no specific considerations for this section.
4. New Buildings and Infrastructure:
  - Infrastructure hardening

- 5. Existing Buildings and Infrastructure:
  - Infrastructure hardening
  - Bracing and strengthening existing structures

C. Natural Hazard D **Seismic** - Mitigation Strategy and Recommendation

Mitigation Goal #1: Reduce damage due to seismic activity within the community.

Objective #1: Require construction of structures within Coweta County and the Cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin to comply with the International Building Code provisions governing seismic design and construction.

Task A: Maintain local ordinances that control building development.

1. Action Step: Periodically update local ordinances governing building construction within Coweta County and the Cities of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg and Turin.

A. Responsible organization: Planning Commissions throughout County

B. Coordinating organization: Planning Commissions throughout County

C. Timeline (by year): On-going

D. Approximate cost: \$0

E. Possible funding sources: N/A

2. Action Step: Continue enforcement of building code.

A. Responsible organization: Building Inspection Departments throughout County

B. Coordinating organization: Building Inspection Departments throughout County

C. Timeline (by year): On-going

D. Approximate cost: \$0

E. Possible funding sources: N/A

Task B: Maintain all flood control structures.

1. Action Step: Periodically inspect all flood control structures within Coweta County and its municipalities.

- A. Responsible organization: Coweta County and Municipalities throughout the County
- B. Coordinating organization: Coweta County and Municipalities throughout the County
- C. Timeline (by year): On-going
- D. Approximate cost: \$0
- E. Possible funding sources: N/A

2. Action Step: Take actions necessary to maintain flood control structures in sound condition.

- A. Responsible organization: Coweta County and Municipalities throughout the County
- B. Coordinating organization: Coweta County and Municipalities throughout the County
- C. Timeline (by year): On-going
- D. Approximate cost: \$0
- E. Possible funding sources: N/A

D. Special Multi-Jurisdictional Strategy and considerations:

None required or were considered in the development of this plan.

E. Local public information and awareness strategy

The Steering Committee feels that their best use of resources is to divert public information activities to other potential natural hazards.

V. Natural Hazard V – **Winter Storms**



A. Community Mitigation Goals - Although winter storms are not a frequent occurrence in Coweta County, they do have the potential to cause extensive problems when and or if they do occur. Coweta County and the cities of Newnan, Senoia, Grantville, Turin, Haralson, Sharpsburg and Moreland do not have the proper equipment to efficiently deal with snow and ice removal.

B. Identification & Analysis of Range of Mitigation Options

1. Structural and non-structural mitigation:
  - There are no specific considerations for this section.
2. Existing policies, regulations, ordinances and land use:
  - There are no specific considerations for this section.
3. Community values, historic & special considerations:
  - The major mitigation need is to educate and prepare residents of our communities for winter storms.
4. New Buildings and Infrastructure:
  - There are no specific considerations for this section.
5. Existing Buildings and Infrastructure:
  - There are no specific considerations for this section.

C. Natural Hazard E **Winter Storms** - Mitigation Strategy and Recommendation

Mitigation Goal #1 - To minimize the losses of lives and property due to winter storms within the community.

Objective #1 - To educate and prepare the residents of Coweta County and the cities of Newnan, Senoia, Grantville, Turin, Haralson, Sharpsburg and Moreland for the effects of winter storms.

Action Steps:

*1. Develop and implement an education and preparedness strategy such as a Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT) in an effort to reduce the effects of winter storms on our citizenry.*

A. Responsible Organization	Coweta County EMA
B. Coordinating Organization	Coweta County EMA
C. Timeline	On-going
D. Approximate Cost	Unknown
E. Funding Sources	Grants

F. Priority High

G. Status Ongoing

Mitigation Goal #2 - To reduce the loss of life and property from severe winter storms

Objective #1- To provide for the safety for citizens of Coweta County

Action Step Narrative

1. The Coweta EMA will conduct a safety review of designated shelters, and recommend upgrades or improvements.

A. Responsible Organization Coweta County EMA

B. Coordinating Organization Coweta County EMA

C. Timeline On-going

D. Approximate Cost Unknown

E. Funding Sources General Fund

F. Priority High

G. Status Ongoing

- V. Multi-Jurisdictional Considerations – Winter storms have affected all areas of Coweta County including the cities of Newnan, Senoia, Grantville, Turin, Haralson, Sharpsburg and Moreland. Coweta County and the municipalities within the county have participated in winter storm mitigation and preparedness activities.
- VI. Local public information and awareness strategies - The Coweta County Emergency Management Agency will conduct public awareness programs to ensure that the citizens of Coweta County and the cities of Newnan, Senoia, Grantville, Turin, Haralson, Sharpsburg and Moreland are kept abreast of the hazards affecting them and the mitigation efforts to reduce the effects of winter storm situations.

## Chapter Five: Local Technological Mitigation Goals & Objectives

The Coweta County Mitigation Planning Committee developed goals, objectives, and performed a STAPLEE evaluation on those goals and objectives for each hazard. Goals and objectives were considered for a hazardous materials release. Goals were prioritized based on cost benefit or cost effectiveness, availability of potential funding sources, overall feasibility, measurable milestones, multiple objectives, and both public and political support for the proposed actions.

The 2012 plan update for this chapter did not include new technological hazards. Goals and objectives were developed based on the ability of Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Senoia, Sharpsburg, Moreland, Turin and Haralson to implement them given limited local resources such as manpower, time, or local match limitations.

Each hazard has an information summary table that designates the persons responsible for implementing all the goals, objectives, and action steps, the expected date of implementation, the cost, and the funding source. The prioritized primary and alternative goals and action steps for each hazard can be found in Appendix D, Worksheet 4 (STAPLEE Evaluation).

### I. Hazardous Materials Release

#### A. Community Mitigation Goals

1. The community mitigation goal is to preserve the health and well-being of the citizens of Coweta County as well as the Cities of Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg, Turin, Grantville, Moreland, and Haralson by identifying areas of hazardous material storage. While hazardous material release events are a potential large-scale threat to the community, a hazardous material release would only disrupt essential government services for a short period of time.

#### B. Identification & Analysis of Range of Mitigation Options

##### 1. Structural and non-structural mitigation

- a) To improve awareness of technological hazards
- b) To identify possible prevention measures

##### 2. Existing Policies

- a) Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Senoia, Sharpsburg, Turin, Moreland, Grantville, and Haralson ensure that construction must adhere to the Georgia State Minimum Standard Codes (Uniform Codes Act) and the International Building Code (2006 edition). The

minimum standards established by these codes provide reasonable protection from most natural or technological hazards to persons and property within structures that comply with the regulations.

3. Community Values, historic & special considerations

- a) There are no current historical or special considerations. Potential mitigation actions to reduce this hazard would have to be evaluated in order to preserve any historical locations.
- b) The Mitigation Planning Committee performed a STAPLEE evaluation of this hazard to assess things such as social, technical, administrative, political, legal, economic, and environmental, support for the proposed actions. The STAPLEE evaluation for this hazard, along with its primary and alternate goals, can be found in Appendix D.

4. New Buildings and Infrastructure

- a) The mitigation measures in place that address new buildings or infrastructure are the Georgia State Minimum Standard Codes (Uniform Codes Act), the International Building Code (2006 edition), and local construction ordinances. The minimum standards established by these codes and ordinances provide reasonable protection to persons and property within structures.

5. Existing Buildings and Infrastructure

- a) Construction must adhere to the Georgia State Minimum Standard Codes (Uniform Codes Act) and the International Building Code (2006 edition). The minimum standards established by these codes provide reasonable protection from most natural hazards to persons and property within structures that comply with the regulations. Existing buildings and infrastructure that are in need of repair must comply with the new standards.

C. Natural Hazard – Mitigation Strategy & Recommendation

a. Objective: To develop a county wide hazmat map indicating high risk areas

i. Action Step Narrative

The Coweta County EMA will work with the appropriate city and county departments to develop a countywide hazmat map in order to determine the location of high risk areas.

Responsible Department	Coweta County EMA, Coweta County, Cities of Newnan, Grantville Moreland, Turin, Senoia , Sharpsburg and Haralson
Anticipated Cost	\$5,000 - \$20,000
Existing and Potential Funding Source	A combination of local and federal funds
Timeframe	2012 – 2015
Priority	Medium
Status (Deferred or New)	New

D. Special Multi-Jurisdictional Strategy and Considerations

1. This hazard is applicable to Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Moreland, Senoia, Turin, Sharpsburg Grantville, and Haralson.

E. Local Public Information and Awareness Strategy

1. To solicit comments from the public through public hearings or informational brochures and to obtain feedback that will be used in creating policies or procedures to reduce the impact of this hazard within the County.

Responsible Department	Coweta County EMA, Coweta County, City of Newnan, Grantville, Moreland, Senoia, Sharpsburg, Turin Haralson
Anticipated Cost	\$5,000 - \$20,000
Existing and Potential Funding Source	A combination of local and federal funds
Timeframe	2012 – 2015
Priority	Medium
Status (Deferred or New)	New

F. Deleted or Completed Action Steps – Previous PDM Plan

1. Adopt a post disaster recovery ordinance - Complete

G. Unchanged Action Steps – Previous PDM Plan

1. Create a technological hazard advisory committee.

Responsible Department	Coweta County EMA, Coweta County, City of Newnan, Grantville Senoia, Turin, Sharpsburg, Moreland & Haralson
Anticipated Cost	\$5,000 - \$20,000
Existing and Potential Funding Source	A combination of local and federal funds
Timeframe	2012 – 2015
Priority	Medium
Status (Deferred or New)	Deferred - This action step was moved to a lower priority due to lack of available resources.

2. Identify people within the community with the expertise to identify and evaluate technological hazards

Responsible Department	Coweta County EMA, Information Technology Departments
Anticipated Cost	\$5,000 - \$20,000
Existing and Potential Funding Source	A combination of local and federal funds
Timeframe	2012 – 2015
Priority	Medium
Status (Deferred or New)	Deferred - Ongoing

3. Create a meeting schedule and facilitate meetings in order to produce a technological hazard update to the mitigation plan each year

Responsible Department	Coweta County EMA
Anticipated Cost	\$5,000 - \$20,000
Existing and Potential Funding Source	A combination of local and federal funds
Timeframe	2012 – 2015
Priority	Medium
Status (Deferred or New)	Deferred - Ongoing





## Chapter Six: Executing The Plan

### 1) Implementation Action Plan

#### A. Administrative Actions

- a. The Coweta County Commissioners and its municipalities will adopt the hazard mitigation plan.
- b. Coweta County and its municipalities will authorize the Coweta County Emergency Management Agency to create hazard mitigation committees, initiate established goals and action steps within the plan, and will be charged with producing mitigation plan updates.

#### B. Authority and Responsibility

- a. The Coweta County Commissioners have the authority to approve hazard mitigation plans, any item within the plan, and plan updates.
- b. The Coweta County Emergency Management Agency is charged with the responsibility of drafting mitigation plans, initiating established goals and action steps within the plan, and plan updates.

#### C. Prioritization

- a. Methodology for prioritization
  - i. Information on goals and objectives was developed by the Mitigation Planning Committee during a regularly scheduled meeting. The committee prioritized the goals and objectives based on what they perceived to be most beneficial to the County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson. The committee also established and prioritized their goals based on actions that could be initiated in the near term, whether or not something was low, medium, or high priority, and that required little financial commitment in order to begin.
- b. Use of cost benefit
  - i. Evaluation of cost benefit included perceived cost benefit or cost effectiveness, availability of potential funding sources, overall feasibility, measurable milestones, multiple objectives, and both public and political support for the proposed actions. STAPLEE evaluations related to this are located in Appendix D.

- ii. In order to assist the committee with prioritization, each set of goals and objectives was ranked and given a score that determined whether or not something was considered a low, medium, or high priority. A score of 1 was considered to be a low priority, a score of 1.1 to 2.5 was considered to be a medium priority, and a score of 2.6 to 3 was considered to be a high priority. A list of how each goal and objective scored is located in Appendix D.
- c. Use of other review structure
  - i. No other review structure was used.

D. Incorporation of mitigation plan requirements into other plans/measures

- a. The Georgia Department of Community Affairs requires all local governments (City and County) to produce a comprehensive plan for community development and land use.
  - i. No other plans other than local comprehensive plans were reviewed by the committees.
- b. Planning actions and land use considerations that can also reduce the potential impact of a hazard are identified within the comprehensive plan. These actions and considerations will be reviewed, and incorporated into the mitigation plan as part of annual or five year plan updates.
- c. Each County and municipality must participate in a Short Term Work Program (SWP) where it identifies projects within the County or the Cities that can be used for community enhancement. Due to a lack of local matching funds for mitigation projects, no priorities or principles from the old PDM plan were included in the SWP or other community level plans. The PDM update outlines many priorities that do not rely on local match so some mitigation plan goals and objectives from the updated plan will be worked into the yearly SWP, funded, and implemented.

2) **Evaluation**

A. Method

- a. The Coweta County Board of Commissioners and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson will designate the Coweta County Emergency Management Agency as the coordinating body for the mitigation plan implementation. The Coweta County Emergency

Management Agency will establish an advisory committee that will assist in the coordination and implementation of the mitigation plan goals.

- b. The Coweta County Emergency Management Agency will be responsible for creating an annual report on the status of mitigation goals and objectives. The annual report will include the current status of mitigation projects that have been completed, mitigation projects that are underway, and the estimated time frame for the completion of future projects. The annual report will be reviewed and approved by the Coweta County Board of Commissioners and elected officials of the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson.

### **3) Monitoring and Evaluation**

- a. The mitigation plan will be monitored, evaluated for progress, and updated annually.
- b.
- c. The Coweta County Emergency Management Agency will monitor and evaluate the plan progress by using criteria based on the following items:
  - i. Authority to implement;
  - ii. Available funding; and
  - iii. Availability of project resources (i.e. manpower).

### **4) Reporting and Responsibility**

- a. The Coweta County Emergency Management Agency will report annual update results to the city and county officials within Coweta County.
- b. The Coweta County Emergency Management Agency will coordinate with GEMA as needed or directed over the five year planning cycle.

### **5) Timeline**

- a. The mitigation plan will be updated annually, fully updated every five years, and use information from annual updates, as well as current information, that is available at the time.

## **6) Multi-Jurisdictional Strategy and considerations**

- a. Coweta County and the Cities of Newnan, Grantville, Turin, Moreland, Sharpsburg, Senoia and Haralson will authorize the Coweta County Emergency Management Agency to act on their behalf on matters that involve mitigation.

## **7) Plan update and maintenance**

### **a. Public Involvement**

#### Public Involvement: 2005 – 2010

1. During the previous plan update the Coweta EMA discussed hazard mitigation at local community events, and attempted to establish a mitigation plan advisory committee. The mitigation plan advisory committee met, but was unable to progress with projects due to funding issues. Without projects to discuss, the public meeting component of plan maintenance was halted.

#### Public Involvement: 2010 – 2015

- i. The mitigation plan advisory committee will be created, and will have representatives from the community as well as business and industry in order to obtain public input during the planning process.
- ii. The advisory committee will hold public forums throughout each year in order to solicit comments from the public at large.
- iii. Hazard mitigation information will be placed on the Coweta County website, and contact information for questions or comments will be provided.
- iv. Informational pieces (brochures) will be generated and distributed around the county, and provide information directing citizens to send comments.

## 8) Timeframe

- a. Advisory committee members will be selected within six months of receiving final comments from GEMA/FEMA on the current mitigation plan.
- b. The public involvement process will be initiated in time to ensure that information or comments from the public can be inserted into the annual updates.
- c. Informational pieces (brochures) will be created and distributed each year.
  - i. Reporting
    1. Information gathered from the public involvement process will be presented to the advisory committee, and incorporated into the mitigation plan or the annual plan update as appropriate.

# Chapter Seven: Conclusion

## 1. Conclusion Summary

The Coweta County Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan helps to create an outline of the various hazards that could affect the jurisdiction, and identifies goals, actions, and processes that will be enacted in order to reduce future damage caused by these hazards. It is expected that this plan will be updated each year with new information regarding the progress that Coweta County has made towards implementing mitigation actions, and that the plan will be entirely rewritten every five years.

During the creation of this plan the PDM committee recognized that there was a lack of detailed local information about many hazards. While information was available to satisfy the basic federal requirements, the committee was not satisfied with being unable to provide more detailed information. Therefore the committee decided that future plan updates would occur on an annual basis so that detailed information could be compiled, and then incorporated into the plan.

Information collected during the creation of this plan was taken from existing plans (local comprehensive plans, land use) and records from within the county. The information from the Short Term Work Program and Land Use plans were especially useful for the purposes of mitigation planning. These records will need to be reviewed, updated, and expanded during each annual update or plan rewrite. The Coweta County Emergency Management Agency will coordinate mitigation planning activities within the county, and ensure that mitigation activities continue.

## 2. References

### A. Publications

1. FEMA How To Guide 386-2
2. FEMA How To Guide 386-3
3. FEMA How To Guide 386-7

### B. Web Sites

1. <http://www.fema.gov/fima/planresource.shtm>
2. <http://www.hazardmaps.gov/atlas.php>
3. <http://geohazards.cr.usgs.gov/eq/>
4. <http://www.fema.gov/hazards/tornadoes/>
5. <http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/hrd/tcfaq/tcfaqG.html#G12>
6. [http://landslides.usgs.gov/html\\_files/landslides/nationalmap/national.html](http://landslides.usgs.gov/html_files/landslides/nationalmap/national.html)
7. [http://www.fs.fed.us/land/wfas/fd\\_class.gif](http://www.fs.fed.us/land/wfas/fd_class.gif)
8. <http://www.census.gov/>
9. <http://planning.rdis.org/planbuilder/>
10. [http://www.bergey.com/wind\\_maps.htm](http://www.bergey.com/wind_maps.htm)
11. <http://www.dol.state.ga.us/>

C. Other

1. Coweta County hazard profile summary FY 2012
2. Coweta County capabilities assessment FY 2012
3. Coweta County Tax Assessor's Office Records
4. Coweta County Comprehensive Plan

**3. Additional Information Sources**

A. None