

**District of Columbia
Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency**

Flood Hazard Mitigation

DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency
2720 Martin Luther King Jr., Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20032
www.hsema.dc.gov

Brian Baker, Chief of Staff



HSEMA Mission

Support and coordinate homeland security and emergency management efforts, ensuring that emergency operations in the District of Columbia are prepared to protect against, plan for, respond to, and recover from natural and man-made hazards.



HSEMA Services

HSEMA serves as an all-hazards management coordination hub, working closely with other emergency response agencies, including the Metropolitan Police Department, the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, the Department of Health, other District and federal agencies, as well as the major utility companies and non-profit and volunteer organizations

- Provide 24-hour Emergency Operations Center (EOC) capabilities;
- Serves as the central communications point during regional emergencies;
- Develop plans and procedures to ensure emergency response and recovery capabilities for all emergencies and disasters;
- Conduct an assessment of resources and capabilities for emergencies;
- Coordinate emergency resources for emergencies and disaster incidents;
- Provide training and conduct exercises for all emergency first responders, city employees, and the public;
- Coordinate all major special events and street closings
- Provide public awareness and outreach programs.



District Hazards

The Hazard Mitigation Program recognizes 15 hazards germane to the District and has developed profiles and mitigation strategies for each, as part of the *2013 All-Hazard Mitigation Plan*.

Although each hazard is unique and necessitates preparedness planning, there are two distinct hazards that pose the greatest threat to the residents and businesses of the District alike (based on probability and impact):

1. Terrorism
2. Floods



District Hazards (continued)

Natural	Technological	Human/Adversarial
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Floods ■ Extreme Weather (Winter Storms, Thunderstorms, and Tornadoes, and Extreme Temperatures) ■ Hurricanes ■ Earthquakes ■ Pandemics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Radiological and Hazardous Material Release ■ Urban Fires ■ Manhole Cover Explosions ■ Utility Failures ■ Critical Resource Shortages ■ Transportation Incidents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Terrorism ■ Special Events, Demonstrations, and Civil Disobediences ■ Urban Crime ■ Prison Problems



Steady-State Mitigation Efforts

HSEMA employs the District’s State Hazard Mitigation Officer, Recovery Manager, and Long-Term Community Recovery Planner, who each play integral roles in flood mitigation:

State Hazard Mitigation Officer (Mr. Donte Lucas)	Recovery Manager (Mr. Russell Gardner)	Long Term Community Recovery Planner (Ms. Hope Winship)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ State Standard Hazard Mitigation Plan development and maintenance ▪ Pre- and post-disaster FEMA mitigation grants management ▪ Structural and non-structural mitigation project implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Immediate recovery planning ▪ Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) ▪ Post-disaster FEMA Public Assistance (PA) grant management ▪ Post-disaster FEMA Individual Assistance (IA) grant management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mid to long-term recovery planning ▪ Establishing pre-disaster and post-disaster Recovery Support Function structure ▪ Defining areas of responsibility and tools to facilitate a successful recovery for the District



Current Mitigation Efforts

There are four (4) open major disaster declarations for the District of Columbia, three of which presented associated flood conditions:

Declaration Date	Disaster Type/Number	Incident Title
09/28/2011	DR-4036	Hurricane Irene*
11/08/2011	DR-4044	Earthquake
07/31/2012	DR-4073	Severe Storms*
12/5/2012	DR-4096	Hurricane Sandy*

* Incidents which presented interior and/or riverine flooding.



Future Mitigation Efforts

- The Hazard Mitigation Working Group (HMWG) was established in October by the District's State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO) to facilitate a coordinated approach to updating the *2013 All-Hazard Mitigation Plan*, developing mitigation strategies, and the prioritization of mitigation project implementation. The group currently has members representing the following agencies:

District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (DC Water)	District Department of Transportation (DDOT)	Department of Public Works (DPW)
District Department of the Environment (DDOE)	Department of General Services (DGS)	Office on Planning (OP)

- The SHMO is working to establish an official mitigation subcommittee as part of the newly adopted D.C. Emergency Response System (DCERS).

