

**Jackson County Hazard Mitigation Plan  
2022 Edition Plan Element**



Bright Walls Mural | Downtown Jackson

**Possible Mitigation Strategies Element**  
**February 19, 2021, Draft**

The next step in the hazard mitigation planning process is to identify possible mitigation actions pertinent to Jackson County for the top eleven hazard types identified in the hazard analysis. The strategies are organized by hazard type for ease of reference. Each strategy is displayed in a table that also identifies who should implement the strategy, its suggested priority, its timing, and potential funding sources. Codes are utilized to identify the proposed implementers. The following table provides a more detailed explanation for each code:

<i>Implementers</i>	<i>Key</i>
Business owners & managers (including site developers and builders and government administrators whose activities are similarly associated with the selection, design, and operation of specific sites performing economic or community functions)	B
Public Citizens and those who provide educational services or marketing campaigns to them	C
Emergency management coordinators and related persons (LEPCs, incident commanders, etc.)	E
First-responders (law enforcement, fire fighters, medical services, other response services at all levels)	F
Insurance agencies & industry, including the NFIP	I
Elected officials and Legislators	L
Non-profit organizations and government departments which support them or have similar concerns (welfare provision, environmental protection, etc.)	N
Building Officials and other inspection, regulation, and code enforcement Officials (health, fire, etc.)	O
Planning departments, consultants, officials, engineers, and others involved in similar activities guiding long-term development patterns and conditions in a community, a larger area, or at development sites	P
Researchers, engineers, architects, etc. involved in the study and design of human environments and support infrastructure; also includes public works, utility providers, and others dealing with infrastructure design, development and maintenance (Departments of Transportation Commissioners, Drain Commissioners, etc.)	R

### All Hazards

Various strategies apply to most if not all hazards. Rather than repeating them under each hazard type, they are displayed here for succinctness:

	<i>Mitigation Strategies – All Hazards</i>	<i>Implementers</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Funding</i>
1.	Producing and/or distributing family emergency preparedness information of various types. Encourage residents to develop a Family Disaster Plan that includes the preparation of a Disaster Supplies Kit.	C,E,N	High	Ongoing	Operating, Private, Grants
2.	Wireless Emergency Alerts warn anyone in the area with a WEA-capable phone in the case of an extreme or imminent danger.	E,L,N	High	Ongoing	Operating, Grants

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	<i>Mitigation Strategies – All Hazards</i>	<i>Implementers</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Funding</i>
3.	Tree trimming and maintenance to prevent limb breakage and safeguard nearby utility lines (e.g. maintaining a disaster-resistant landscape in public rights-of-way).	B, N, R	Medium	Ongoing	Operating, Private
4.	Increased coverage and use of NOAA Weather Radio (which can provide notification to the community during any period of emergency).	C, E, L	Medium	Ongoing	Operating, Grants
5.	Expand the use of Electronic Message Boards and other Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) equipment along the I-94 and US-127 corridors.	E,R,L	Medium	Ongoing	Operating, Grants
6.	Pre-planning for debris management staging and storage areas for various hazards. (The area may simultaneously need to be treated as a crime scene, site of urban search and rescue, area of hazardous materials, and/or a public health threat.)	E, P	Low	Ongoing	Operating
7.	Purchase and install generators for essential critical facilities.	B, N, R	Low	As needed	Grants
8.	Continued training for first responders	E,F	High	Ongoing	Operating

### Public Health Emergencies

Public Health Emergencies is the #1 hazard in Jackson County. Strategies pertinent to that hazard type are listed in the following table:

	<i>Mitigation Strategies – Public Health Emergencies</i>	<i>Implementers</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Funding</i>
1.	Encouraging residents to receive immunizations against communicable diseases.	C, N	High	As needed	Operating, Private
2.	Maintaining community water and sewer infrastructure at acceptable operating standards.	B, N, R	High	Ongoing	Operating, Grants
3.	Increasing public awareness of the causes, symptoms, and protective actions for disease outbreaks and other potential public health emergencies.	C, N	High	As needed	Operating, Grants
4.	Pollution control, enforcement, and cleanup; proper disposal of chemicals and scrap materials.	B, N, O	High	Ongoing	Operating, Grants
5.	Improving ventilation techniques in areas/facilities prone to crowding, or that may involve exposure to contagion or noxious atmospheres.	B, N, R	High	Ongoing	Operating, Grants
6.	Separation of storm and sanitary sewer systems.	P, R	High	As needed	Grants
7.	Community support of free or reduced-expense clinics and school health services.	B, N	High	Ongoing	Private, Grants

	<i>Mitigation Strategies – Public Health Emergencies</i>	<i>Implementers</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Funding</i>
8.	Preventing public contact with contaminated sites or waters.	C, E, F	High	As needed	Operating
9.	Consider a countywide point of sale ordinance for wells and septic systems to be inspected and repaired/replaced if needed when property transfers.	L,O,P	High	Long Term	Operating
10.	Maintaining a community public health system with sufficient disease monitoring and surveillance capabilities to adequately protect the population from large-scale outbreaks.	N, O, R	Medium	Ongoing	Operating
11.	Demolition and clearance of vacant condemned structures to prevent rodent infestations.	B, O, P	Medium	As needed	Operating, Grants
12.	Implement the comprehensive watershed management plans and policies covering Jackson County, considering the connections between land-use, urban growth, and surface water, and ground water issues.	B, N, O	Medium	Ongoing	Operating, Grants
13.	Encourage brownfield and urban blight clean-up activities and redevelopment.	B, O, P	Low	As needed	Private, Grants

### **Snowstorms and Ice and Sleet Storms**

Snowstorms is the #2 hazard in Jackson County and Ice and Sleet Storms is the #3 hazard. Given their similarities, strategies pertinent to both hazard types are listed in the following table:

	<i>Mitigation Strategies – Snowstorms and Ice and Sleet Storms</i>	<i>Implementer</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Funding</i>
1.	Bury/protect power and utility lines.	B, R	Medium	Long Term	Private, Grants
2.	Enforcement of proper building/site design and code enforcement relating to snow loads, roof slope, snow removal and storage, etc.	B, O, R	Low	Ongoing	Operating
3.	Encourage farmer preparedness to address livestock needs.	B	Low	Ongoing	Operating
4.	Continue to support and increase participation in the SkyWarn Program.	C,E,N	Low	Ongoing	Operating
5.	Including safety strategies for severe weather events in driver education classes and materials.	C	Low	Ongoing	Operating, Grants
6.	Using snow fences or "living snow fences" (rows of trees or vegetation) to limit blowing and drifting of snow over critical roadway segments.	B, P, R	Low	As needed	Operating, Grants

	<i>Mitigation Strategies – Snowstorms and Ice and Sleet Storms</i>	<i>Implementer</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Funding</i>
7.	Encourage home and public building maintenance to prevent roof and wall damage from "ice dams."	B, C, N	Low	Ongoing	Private, Grants

### **Energy Emergencies and Infrastructure Failures**

Energy Emergencies is the #4 hazard in Jackson County and Infrastructure Failures is the #5 hazard. Given their similarities, strategies pertinent to both hazard types are listed in the following table:

	<i>Mitigation Strategies – Energy Emergencies and Infrastructure Failures</i>	<i>Implementer</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Funding</i>
1.	Proper maintenance of water and sewer systems.	P, R	High	Ongoing	Operating
2.	Regular maintenance, equipment and deficiency checks.	B, R	High	Ongoing	Operating
3.	Mutual aid assistance for failures in utility and communications systems (including 9-1-1).	E, F, N	High	Ongoing	Operating
4.	Replacement or renovation of aging structures and equipment (to be made as hazard-resistant as economically possible).	B, R	Medium	As needed	Grants
5.	Bury/protect power and utility lines.	B, R	Medium	Long Term	Private, Grants
6.	Increasing public awareness and widespread use of the "MISS DIG" utility damage prevention service (1-800-482-7171).	B, C	Low	Ongoing	Operating, Grants
7.	Redundancies in utility and communications systems, especially those associated with critical community, safety, health, and employment services.	B, R	Low	Long Term	Grants
8.	Institute "rolling blackouts" in overloaded electrical systems that would otherwise fail completely due to overloading.	B, R	Low	As needed	Private

### **Transportation Accidents**

Transportation Accidents is the #6 hazard in Jackson County. Strategies pertinent to that hazard type are listed in the following table:

	<i>Mitigation Strategies – Transportation Accidents</i>	<i>Implementer</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Funding</i>
1.	Enforce safety regulations	O	High	Ongoing	Operating
2.	Improved design, routing, and traffic control at problem transportation areas.	P,R	Medium	As needed	Operating, Grants

	<i>Mitigation Strategies – Transportation Accidents</i>	<i>Implementer</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Funding</i>
3.	Develop a nonmotorized network that follows federal and state guidelines that will enhance the development of a resilient and redundant multi-modal transportation system.	L,P,R	Medium	Ongoing	Operating, Grants
4.	Training, planning, and preparedness for mass-casualty incidents involving all modes of the transportation system within the Jackson community.	B, O, R	Medium	Ongoing	Operating
5.	Improvements in driver education, traffic law enforcement, and transportation planning that balance needs of transportation providers with the safety of the general public.	C, P, R	Low	Ongoing	Operating, Grants
6.	Continue railroad inspections and improved designs at problem railway/roadway intersections (at grade crossings, rural signs/signals for RR crossing).	O, P, R	Low	Ongoing, As needed	Operating, Grants
7.	Use of designated truck routes and enforcement of weight and travel restrictions.	B, C, F	Low	Ongoing	Operating
8.	Ensure that there is a realistic, practiced transportation program in place to support the safe movement of vulnerable populations in case of a hazardous event.	E,F,N	Low	Ongoing	Operating
9.	Support the development of a robust, reliable, and resilient transit system and programs that will allow for transportation choice in the event of a hazardous event.	L,P,R	Low	Ongoing	Grants
10.	Support the ongoing need for Jackson County Airport-Reynolds Field maintenance, security, and safety projects and programs.	B, F, R	Low	Ongoing	Operating, Grants
11.	Safety training for transit, airplane, train operators, including simulated response exercises	E, N, R	Low	Ongoing	Operating, Grants
12.	Using snow fences or "living snow fences" (rows of trees or vegetation) to limit blowing and drifting of snow over critical roadway segments.	B, P, R	Low	As needed	Grants

## **Terrorism**

Terrorism is the #7 hazard in Jackson County. Strategies pertinent to that hazard type are listed in the following table:

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	<i>Mitigation Strategies – Terrorism</i>	<i>Implementer</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Funding</i>
1.	Consistent use of computer data back-up systems and anti-virus software to mitigate against cyber-attacks.	B, N, R	High	Ongoing	Operating
2.	Training, planning, and preparedness by local law enforcement and other first responders for terrorist/ sabotage/WMD attacks.	E, F	High	Ongoing	Operating, Grants
3.	Prepare vulnerability assessment for critical infrastructure	E,R	High	Short Term	Operating, Grants
4.	Greater awareness of, and provision for, mental health services in schools, workplaces, and institutional settings.	B, N, R	High	Ongoing	Grants
5.	Implementing school safety and violence prevention programs.	C, F, N	High	Ongoing	Operating
6.	Heightening security at public gatherings, special events, and critical community facilities and industries.	B, F, R	Medium	As needed	Operating, Grants
7.	Using laminated glass and other hazard-resistant, durable construction techniques in new public buildings and critical facilities.	B, N, R	Low	Ongoing	Private, Grants
8.	Alertness, awareness, and monitoring of organizations and activities that may threaten the community.	E, F, R	Low	Ongoing	Operating, Grants
9.	The development and testing of internal emergency plans and procedures by businesses and organizations.	B, E, R	Low	Ongoing	Operating
10.	Development of a thorough community risk and threat assessment that identifies potential vulnerabilities and targets for a sabotage/ terrorism/WMD attack.	E, F, P	Low	Short Term	Operating, Grants
11.	Developing site emergency plans for schools, factories, office buildings, shopping malls, hospitals, correctional facilities, stadiums, recreation areas, and other appropriate sites.	B, E	Low	Long Term	Private, Grants

**Nuclear Attack**

Nuclear Attack is the #8 hazard in Jackson County. Strategies pertinent to that hazard type are listed in the following table:

	<i>Mitigation Strategies – Nuclear Attack</i>	<i>Implementer</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Funding</i>
1.	Community awareness of designated fallout shelters and attack warning systems.	C, E	Low	Ongoing	Operating, Grants

	<i>Mitigation Strategies – Nuclear Attack</i>	<i>Implementer</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Funding</i>
2.	Developing and promoting workable population protection plans (evacuation and in-place sheltering plans, as appropriate).	E, L, P	Low	Ongoing	Operating, Grants
3.	Construction of concrete safe rooms (or shelters) in houses, trailer parks, community facilities, and business districts.	B, L, P	Low	Long Term	Private, Grants
4.	Using laminated glass, metal shutters, structural bracing, and other hazard-resistant, durable construction techniques in public buildings (especially schools) and critical facilities.	B, R	Low	As needed	Operating, Grants
5.	Developing site emergency plans for schools, factories, office buildings, shopping malls, hospitals, correctional facilities, stadiums, recreation areas, and other appropriate sites.	B, E, R	Low	Ongoing	Operating

### Lightning

Lightning is the #9 hazard in Jackson County. Strategies pertinent to that hazard type are listed in the following table:

	<i>Mitigation Strategies – Lightning</i>	<i>Implementer</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Funding</i>
1.	Using surge protectors on critical electronic equipment.	B, C, N	Medium	Ongoing	Private, Grants
2.	Installing lightning protection devices on the community's communications infrastructure.	B, N, R	Low	Ongoing	Operating, Grants
3.	Enhance public awareness on correct safety procedures during lightning events.	C,E,N	Low	Ongoing	Operating, Grants
4.	Training for citizens to become Weather Spotters	C,E,N	Low	Ongoing	Operating, Grants

### Extreme Temperatures

Extreme Temperatures is the #10 hazard in Jackson County. Strategies pertinent to that hazard type are listed in the following table:

	<i>Strategy</i>	<i>Implementer</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Funding</i>
1.	Public education on safety during extreme temperatures	B,C,R	High	Ongoing	Operating, Grants
2.	Organizing outreach to vulnerable populations during periods of extreme temperatures, including establishing and building awareness of accessible heating and/or	C, L, N	High	As needed	Operating, Grants

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	cooling centers in the community, and other public information campaigns about this hazard.				
3.	Continue special arrangements for heating/cooling bill assistance for low income and elderly.	B,N,R	Medium	Ongoing	Private, Grants
4.	Housing/landlord codes enforcing heating requirements.	L, O	Low	Ongoing	Operating, Grants

## Severe Winds

Severe Winds is the #11 hazard in Jackson County. Strategies pertinent to that hazard type are listed in the following table:

	<i>Strategy</i>	<i>Implementer</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Funding</i>
1	Proper anchoring of manufactured homes and exterior structures such as carports and porches.	B,C,O	High	Ongoing	Private, Grants
2	Securing loose materials, yard, and patio items indoors or where winds cannot blow them about.	B,C,O	High	Ongoing	Operating
3	Using appropriate wind engineering measures and construction techniques (e.g. structural bracing, straps and clips, anchor bolts, laminated or impact-resistant glass, reinforced entry and garage doors, window shutters, waterproof adhesive sealing strips, and interlocking roof shingles) to strengthen public and private structures against severe wind damage.	B,O,R	Medium	As needed	Private, Grants
4	Construction of concrete safe rooms in homes and shelter areas in mobile home parks, fairgrounds, shopping malls, or other vulnerable public areas.	B,N,R	Low	Long Term	Private, Grants