

4.5 Delaware County’s Multi-Jurisdictional Risk Assessment

For communities in which multi-jurisdictional risk assessment efforts are performed, DMA 2000 requires that overall risk priorities and potential losses and impacts be evaluated for the study region as a whole. In addition, the specific risks posed for each individual jurisdiction also should be assessed in terms of vulnerability and potential loss.

For many of the hazards identified for the Delaware County area, each town is at risk; this is because all of the towns are exposed to some of the natural hazards (for example, severe winter storms and ice storm). The study region and all of the participating jurisdictions lie within a 1,446 square mile geographic area. Therefore, major weather or geologic differences are not present that would make one area more vulnerable to some hazards evaluated because these hazards impact the entire area (e.g., severe winter storms).

However, assets and conditions within the various towns differ significantly and therefore, some municipalities are particularly vulnerable and more concerned about specific hazards. For example, agricultural epidemics are a concern in the towns with significant reliance on agriculture. The exposure to human-caused hazards varies based on factors such as the source of water supply for the various towns, which impacts risk related to the water supply contamination hazard. Also, particular buildings, facilities, utilities, and geographic areas are at particular risk for specific human-caused and technological hazards.

As part of the planning process, the planning group identified hazards to which each town is particularly vulnerable. These specific exposures and concerns are discussed in the hazard profiles and the loss estimates, and are summarized in Table 4-5-1. Mitigation actions that are ongoing or planned for each town and for the study region as a whole are based on the evaluations conducted in this risk assessment portion of the plan.

Table 4-5-1. Summary of Multi- and Single-Jurisdiction Risk Assessment Outcomes – Risks of Particular Concern by Hazard Category and Order of Significance

Hazard	County-wide	Jurisdictions Particularly Vulnerable
Natural Hazards		
Flood	✓	Villages along East and West Branches of the Delaware River, including Villages of Delhi, Margaretville and Walton
Severe Storm (wind, including hurricane and tornado)	✓	All
Ice Jam	✓	TBD
Severe Winter Storm (snow)	✓	All
Extreme Temperature	✓	Those with a disproportionate elderly or low-income population, including Harpersfield, Colchester, Bovina, Deposit and the Village of Sidney and Sidney Center
Ice Storm	✓	All
Infestation (agricultural and disease-carrying insects)	✓	All
Wildfire	✓	All
Epidemic (agricultural)	✓	Walton (annual County fair)
Drought	✓	All
Technological Hazards		
Dam Failure	✓	Towns of Colchester and Deposit

Hazard	County-wide	Jurisdictions Particularly Vulnerable
Man-Made Hazards		
Water Supply Contamination	✓	Sidney Center

Section 5 builds on the outputs of this risk assessment portion of the plan and presents the mitigation strategy for the Delaware County Multi-Jurisdictional Study Area.