

FEMA has APPROVED the County's, Hazard Mitigation Action Plan, which includes the District, that addresses natural and manmade hazards that affect the area. The District is now qualified to receive directly from FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grants just as the State and County do. A FEMA-approved Plan is required for eligibility for grant funds through FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) programs. Funds from federal grant programs may now be awarded directly to the Bastrop County MUD No 1 to implement mitigation projects identified in the Plan.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) defines *Mitigation as sustained actions taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from hazards and their effects*. Therefore, the goal of the Plan is to minimize or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from known hazards through effective mitigation.

In addition to allowing Bastrop County MUD No 1 to apply for HMA grants, mitigation plays a vital role in our community helping to protect areas before a disaster strikes. Mitigation plans serve as the basis for projects which include a wide array of activities. Planning ahead of time allows our community to consider the potential threat and vulnerability and develop mitigation actions that are feasible to implement to help protect property and most importantly, save lives.

Some of the proposed mitigation actions include adding a back-up generator at the water plant, acquiring and installing generators, (SCADA)-Wireless Monitoring, Alarm & Control, adding fire hydrants to meet state standards, new Water Plant to provide "less pressurized" water service to the Lower Section and also provide more water volume for Fire Protection, as well as installing electronic water meters to all customers.

The Disaster Mitigation Act requires that hazard mitigation plans be reviewed and revised every five years to maintain eligibility for Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant funding. The Plan and mitigation actions will be considered when conducting our annual budget review.