

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Town of Hardwick Welcomes Community Input on Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Hardwick, Massachusetts – February 13, 2024

Do you wonder if Hardwick can flood, experience a tornado, or have an earthquake? What is the worst that can happen in Hardwick? What can prevent those natural hazards and others from wreaking havoc?

The Town is extending an invitation to the community to participate in a public meeting as it develops an update to their Hazard Mitigation Plan. This plan details all the natural hazard risks that may impact the Town and includes potential actions to mitigate those risks.

Meeting Information:

- Monday, February 26, 2024
- 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm
- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83309573954?pwd=cXBrdFI2SUZNSm10ZIR4cUMwcVhHdz09>
- Meeting ID: 833 0957 395
- Passcode: 074299

The Town encourages all residents and business owners to attend this public meeting to share ideas and offer feedback on which hazards present the greatest risks, which areas of Town are most susceptible to damage, and what you would like to see done to mitigate these risks.

The Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee, in partnership with Jamie Caplan Consulting LLC, a Northampton, MA-based firm, is developing the plan with a grant from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). FEMA approval, coupled with Town adoption, will enable Hardwick to access pre- and post-disaster hazard mitigation grant funds.

For Further Inquiries:

- *Eric Vollheim, Emergency Management Director*
- *Phone: 413-477-6032*
- *Email: stonedance@comcast.net*

Public participation is essential to a Hazard Mitigation Plan. This Plan needs to represent the interests of all community members while working to mitigate risk to natural hazards and the impacts of climate change.

The Town looks forward to a collaborative effort in building a resilient and secure future!
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