

City of Arkadelphia: National Flood Insurance Program Community Number 050029

COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM ACTIVITY 510 FMP: Floodplain Management Plan (Clark County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2017)

Annual evaluation report on progress in implementing the city’s action items for 2021 CRS recertification. DeAnna Graves, Floodplain Administrator was a participant at the annual report meeting on July 19, 2021.

As required, for Community Rating System (CRS) credit for activity 510, the annual report will be submitted to the governing body (City of Arkadelphia Board of Directors), released to the media, and made available to the public.

CITY OF ARKADELPHIA MITIGATION ACTION ITEMS AS LISTED IN 4.4 MITIGATION ACTIONS/PROJECTS

ACTION ITEM	ASSOCIATED HAZARD	COMPLETED	TIME LINE: ON GOING UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED	COMMENTS REGARDING PROGRESS/STATUS
1. Prepare and adopt an Outdoor Warning Sirens Plan, including consideration of the unique geographic locations, technical requirements, system types and operational procedures of each local jurisdiction. These plans will include a review of existing outdoor warning siren coverage and recommend new locations if and where there are coverage gaps. Install new warning sirens in accordance with plan recommendations.	Tornado and dam failure	X		System will continue to be tested every Wednesday at noon. Continue to Monitor and evaluate the need for new locations as community grows. We are implementing the Rave Alert System county wide. Note: Siren located at Fire Station 2 was replaced after wind damaged the siren. Gum Springs plans to acquire funding to repair or replace their siren.
2. Implement Rave Alert System notification for the immediate threats of severe weather events within moments of being issued by the National Weather Service (NWS) throughout Clark County.	Flood, Thunderstorm, Tornado, Winter storms, Earthquake, Dam Failure, Wildfire		X	The County and City are in the beta testing phase of the RAVE Alert System before releasing to the citizens. 10/30/2021 initiate sign up for citizens. We plan to hold sign up events at CADC & churches to encourage sign up especially the Smart 911, Rave Prepare.
3. Install NOAA weather radios in all public buildings where large numbers of people congregate.	Dam failure, drought, earthquake, extreme heat, flood/flash flood, thunderstorms, tornado, wildfire, winter storms/ice storms		X 2022	Office of Emergency Management will purchase the crank NOAA radios and distribute to City and County offices, Arkadelphia Public Schools, Parks & Rec Center.

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4. Install heavy duty generators to back up and maintain electrical power for critical facilities, schools and shelters to maintain power and water supply during disasters	Dam Failure, Extreme Heat, Flood, Lightning, Thunderstorms Tornado, Wildfires, Winter Storms, Ice Storms		X 2022	City of Arkadelphia to budget (1) generator for City Hall. Clark County has generators available when needed. OEM will map the facilities with generators available and distribute a copy to the municipalities.
5. Use newspapers and websites to promote the use of Weather Apps for iPhone and smart phones. *We currently do not have a local radio station.	Dam failure, drought, earthquake, extreme heat, flood/flash flood, thunderstorms, tornado, wildfire, winter storms/ice storms		X	The City of Arkadelphia and the County are utilizing Facebook to inform citizens of weather emergencies and will promote RAVE Alert system via Facebook, City and County Websites.
6. Create a data base to track individuals at high risk of death such as the elderly, homeless and special needs etc.	Dam failure, earthquake, extreme heat, winter/ice storms, tornadoes, flooding, wildfires, drought		X	Is ongoing with data constantly changing. The RAVE Alert will be launched after beta testing complete which will include Rave Prepare/Smart 911 – data base for high risk individuals.
7. Construct safe rooms within new and existing public buildings, such as schools, libraries and community centers	Thunderstorm winds and tornadoes		X 2022	New constructed schools will be encouraged to include safe rooms. Research cost and acquire funding to install safe room at Parks & Rec Center
8. Purchase and install emergency back-up generators in all public buildings where safe rooms are installed and at public utilities to maintain emergency functionality during power outages	Dam failure, extreme heat, flood, lightning, thunderstorms tornado, wildfires, winter storms, ice storms		X 2022	County to acquire funds for a generator for Arkadelphia Community Safe Room and a NOAA radio.
9. Purchase and install emergency back-up lightning in all public shelters and safe room that do not already have them.	Flood, Lightning, Thunderstorms, Tornado, Winter Storms, Ice Storms	X		The safe rooms we have identified in Arkadelphia all have emergency back-up lighting.

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10. Apply window film to windows at public schools and public buildings as able to prevent shattering	Earthquakes, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes		X	Some of the older public school buildings are scheduled to be replaced. Need to evaluate the need and if not necessary remove from the plan in 2022.
11. Conduct or gather inundation data in regards to dam failures in the county and participating jurisdictions.	Dam failure	X		We have inundation information for DeGray Dam and Gurdon Pond Dam.
12. Implement an outreach program directed at agriculture community to include programs that educate farmers on benefits of buying crop insurance mitigation actions and the economic effects of prolonged drought.	Drought		X	County Extension Office thru UofA Division of Agriculture Research & Extension has information on their websites covering crop insurance and drought. County Extension Office sends out newsletters but not on Drought.
13. Encourage installation of green roofs, which provide shade and remove heat from roof surface and surrounding air.	Extreme heat		X	We will continue to encourage. Most of Arkadelphia is shaded by trees and this may not be relevant to our city.
14. Establish and promote accessible cooling centers/shelters for vulnerable, special-needs, and at risk populations.	Extreme heat		X	The Arkadelphia Parks and Rec. Center and CADC have a space available during extreme heat.
15. For critical facilities and public buildings-keep water out by strengthening walls, sealing openings, and/or using waterproof compounds or plastic sheeting on walls. This is intended for non-residential structures-either in new construction, while making a substantial improvement, or while repairing a substantially damaged structure.	Flood/flash flood		X	Building Department staff shall enforce adopted codes on new construction and substantially damaged structures and encourage implementation during improvements of less than substantially damaged structures

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16. Set the design flood elevation at or about the historic high water mark if it is about the mapped base flood elevation.	Flood/flash flood	X		Arkadelphia adopted a Flood Damage and Prevention Ordinance and Code on 2/12/12. This is an Arkansas model ordinance approved by FEMA and NFIP.
17. Implement and retrofit construction plans to modify low water bridges in the area that are susceptible to flooding.	Flood/flash flood		X	Bridges have been identified and the County Judge has the list to retrofit. Bridge work is being done yearly as funds are available.
18. Regulate development in upland areas in order to reduce storm water run-off; using erosion control techniques that may be employed within a watershed area such as proper bank stabilization with sloping or grading techniques, planting vegetation on slopes, terracing hillsides, or installing riprap boulders or geotextile fabric.	Flood		X	Building Department staff continues to enforce the floodplain requirements as adopted through our stormwater design and erosion control ordinances. City has established a utility crew to address these matters. Periodic inspections are done and addressed if necessary.
19. Increase capacity for storm drainage by increasing the sizing of all culverts when upgrading roads, bridges and similar county infrastructure.			X	City staff continues as needed and funds available to increase capacity for storm drainage in accordance with engineered calculations per our ordinances. County is replacing culverts based on priority as funds are available.
20. Conduct NFIP community workshops to provide information for property owners to acquire flood insurance.			X	City staff mails out flood insurance information yearly. The City of Arkadelphia has a floodplain page on the City's website and updates information as needed. Brochures are available in Town Hall, Water Department, Southern Bancorp, Clark County Courthouse and the Library.

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21. Acquire properties that are deemed repetitive loss properties or severe repetitive loss properties through mitigation	Flood		X	Staff continues to mail out information to the repetitive loss area.
22. Gather new flood data or conduct studies to meet any data deficiencies that were determined in this plan.	Flood		X	No new data. When the development begins to the West of I-30 a new study may be necessary.
23. Trim trees to reduce damage to utilities such as powerlines	Winter and ice storms		X	Entergy has been performing a major tree trimming along their service lines within the city this summer. Street Dept. continues to trim trees as needed.
24. Install tornado-warning sirens across planning area as funds become available.	Tornado		X	City and County are in the beta testing of the Rave Alert System. Three of the smaller communities need to seek funding to repair or replace their tornado sirens.
25. Installing and maintaining surge protection to protect against lightning strikes on all critical electronic equipment.	Thunderstorm winds, hail and lightning	X		Surge protection has been installed on all critical electronic equipment in the City.
26. Install lightning protection devices and methods such as lightning rods and grounding on communication infrastructure and other critical facilities.	Thunderstorm, lightning	X		Perform maintenance checks on all communication infrastructures and critical facilities that have lightning rods and are grounded to ensure functioning properly.
27. Provide free technical assistance brochures and pamphlets from FEMA, FireWise, and ADEM on potential wildfire mitigation activities for homeowners.	Wildfire		X	Fire Dept. hands out fire prevention information at local events. Information is on the City's website. Fire Dept. has initiated a Fire alarm program and performs free safety inspections.
28. Adopting Ordinances that limit development in areas that could be affected by flooding caused by dam failure.	Dam failure	X		The areas that could be affected by a dam failure based on the information provided are outside of the City of Arkadelphia.

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29. City officials and community leaders can encourage utility companies to offer special arrangements for paying utility bills.		X		Water Utilities offers a level payment program. Entergy and CenterPoint offer level/averaging payment and financial assistance programs
30. Sponsor a “Helping Your Neighbor” program through local schools and fire department to assist the needs of persons who require special assistance such as elderly people, infants or people with disabilities during extreme heat conditions.	Extreme heat		X	Rave Alert system will help in identifying those individuals at risk. The Community Enrichment Center & Area Agency on Aging distribute box fans to those in need.
31. All communities should join the National Flood Insurance Program	Flood		X	Amity, Arkadelphia, Caddo Valley, Gurdon and Clark County have joined the NFIP. Campaign to encourage Okolona, Whelen Springs and Gum Springs to join the NFIP.
32. Improve public awareness of tornado and high wind risks, safe rooms, wind construction methods, safe zones around the home, and NOAA weather radio warning system.	Tornadoes, high winds		X	Continue to find ways to educate the public. Tornado Awareness was conducted March 1 st – March 5 th in conjunction with the Universities and Public Schools. Information on having a plan, knowing your safe zones, what to do and not do during severe weather was shared on the City of Arkadelphia Facebook page and website. OEM posts relevant information on their website as well.