



**Lake County Central Permit Facility**  
500 West Winchester Road, Unit 101  
Libertyville, Illinois 60048-1331  
Phone: 847.377.2600  
E-mail: [lcpermits@lakecountyil.gov](mailto:lcpermits@lakecountyil.gov)

**ANNUAL EVALUATION REPORT FOR  
ALL NATURAL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN  
2022 CALENDAR YEAR  
FOR UNINCORPORATED LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

Prepared By: Lake County Planning, Building and Development Department

Prepared For: Lake County Planning, Building, Zoning and Environment Committee and  
Lake County Board

October 4, 2023

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Annual Evaluation Report assesses the implementation of goals described in the All Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan for Lake County, Illinois, within unincorporated Lake County, Illinois. All goal assessments are for the 2022 calendar year.

The Annual Evaluation Report for the All Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan within unincorporated Lake County, Illinois was prepared by the Lake County Planning, Building and Development Department. The Annual Evaluation Report was submitted to the Lake County Public Works, Planning and Transportation Committee (subsequently renamed to Planning, Building, Zoning and Environment Committee), with a request to send the report to the Lake County Board for their information, and a Lake County Press Release was issued. The original [County-Wide All Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan](https://www.lakecountylil.gov/DocumentCenter/View/19601/Final-2017-Lake-County-All-Natural-Hazards-Mitigation-Plan-PDF?bidId=) (<https://www.lakecountylil.gov/DocumentCenter/View/19601/Final-2017-Lake-County-All-Natural-Hazards-Mitigation-Plan-PDF?bidId=>) and the [Annual Evaluation Report for the All Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan](https://www.lakecountylil.gov/2076/Reports-Studies) (<https://www.lakecountylil.gov/2076/Reports-Studies>) are available online.

The Lake County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC) meets at least once annually to review mitigation activities and progress towards implementing the All Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan and Lake County municipalities are invited to attend the meetings of the committee. Following the end of each calendar year, except for the years during the plan update, the HMPC prepares an annual evaluation with specified reporting on the All-Natural hazard Mitigation Plan for the County Board and the County municipalities, which includes but is not limited to, review of any natural disasters that have occurred the previous year, a review of accomplishments of the previous year, recommendations for new projects, and any necessary revisions to implementation schedules or actions.

## **GOAL ASSESSMENT**

### **Public Outreach**

The Lake County Planning, Building and Development Department prepares an annual Repetitive Loss Area Mailing, which targets Repetitive Loss Properties and their surrounding repetitive loss area, and offers information on preparing for flooding, permanent flood protection measures, financial assistance, and flood insurance. The LCSMC also provides public outreach on flood related topics described above to the public through email messages, newsletters, and on social media. LCSMC also holds a workshop (every other year) for Homeowners Associations (HOA's) and homeowners on maintaining stormwater management features, flood prevention, and available resources, including grant funding opportunities. This workshop occurred on September 20, 2022.

### **Remove High Risk Structures from Floodplain or Protect High Risk Structures**

The Lake County Planning, Building and Development Department approved two (2) permitted projects for elevating the finished floor of an existing structure to be above the regulatory floodplain elevation and one (1) permitted project for elevating utilities and/or

adding foundation openings to bring the structures into compliance with the Lake County Unified Development Ordinance in 2022.

### **Mitigate All Repetitive Loss Structures Identified by FEMA**

The Lake County Department of Planning, Building and Development continually monitors repetitive loss properties identified by FEMA and work with homeowners to mitigate these structures when they are identified as substantially improved or substantially damaged. The Lake County Stormwater Management Commission coordinates with the Lake County Planning, Building and Development Department to seek grant funding for homeowners interested in participating in the voluntary flood-prone property buyout program.

### **Improve Capacity of Drainage Systems**

The Lake County Planning, Building and Development Department works tirelessly with citizens and coordinates with other agencies such as the Township Highway Commissioners and Lake County Stormwater Management Commission to respond to drainage complaints affecting private properties.

SMC's Annual Watershed Management Board (WMB) and Stormwater Infrastructure Repair Fund (SIRF) cost-share grant programs help fund local stormwater projects. The highest funding priority is flood damage prevention/mitigation, but other project benefits are also included in funding decisions. In 2022, LCSMC approved funding for the following projects in unincorporated Lake County:

#### The Fox River River Watershed

The Manitou Creek Drainage District was awarded funding for their Beaver Conflict Management project. The project mitigates beaver-related flooding by installing two non-lethal beaver flow management devices in unincorporated Lake County locations.

#### The North Branch Chicago River Watershed

The Lake County SMC was awarded funding for their Talbot Avenue Drainage Improvements project in unincorporated Knollwood. The project helps alleviate flooding by daylighting a storm pipe and expanding an existing drainage channel.

### **Acquire Properties in Flood-Prone Areas**

LCSMC pursues grant funding annually for projects that reduce flood damages and the risk of flooding. In 2020, SMC was awarded funding from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Water Resources Flood Mitigation program, to acquire and demolish two repetitive loss homes located in Antioch and Russell Township in unincorporated Lake County. Both properties were acquired and have subsequently been demolished in early 2022.

In 2022, there were no additional residential property acquisitions within unincorporated Lake County.

### **Implement Maintenance Programs for Drainage Systems**

The Lake County Planning, Building and Development Department enforces the Lake County Code of Ordinances when reviewing and approving development plans. The Code requires all new drainage systems be maintained within drainage easements by a designated responsible party, and a Stormwater Management, Monitoring, and Maintenance Plan is required for systems involving a detention basin.

### **Reduce Inflow and Infiltration and Sewer Backups**

The Lake County Public Works Department (LCPW) is committed to reducing sanitary sewer overflows caused by system inflow and infiltration. The annual Capacity Management, Operations and Maintenance (CMOM) program investigates and addresses inflow and infiltration, allowing the LCPW to take corrective measures and increase the capacity of the sanitary system when it is most needed, during critical rain events. LCPW takes corrective action as necessary, and considers data from field inspections, flow monitoring, sanitary sewer evaluation studies, including smoke testing, dye testing, manhole inspections, and sanitary sewer main line televising and analysis. In 2022, LCPW replaced 2,700 of sanitary sewer pipe on Linden Avenue in unincorporated Lake County. LCPW continues to televise and clean sanitary sewers and perform preventative maintenance on pertinent portions of the sanitary sewer system to ensure the peak system capacity can be achieved.

### **Maintain Compliance with NFIP**

The Lake County Planning, Building and Development Department has maintained its status as a National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community, while maintaining its status as a Class 6 Community in the NFIP Community Rating System, resulting in up to a 20 percent reduction in flood insurance premiums for unincorporated residents.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS AND REVISIONS**

The Lake County Planning, Building and Development Department will continue to maintain Community Rating System status and will continue to work to reduce flood damages within unincorporated Lake County, Illinois, enforcement of floodplain regulations on individual permits, and completion of public outreach projects. The Lake County Public Works Department will continue to monitor sanitary sewer infrastructure and will work to address inflow and infiltration and sewer backups. The Lake County Stormwater Management Commission plans to pursue funding on an annual basis to continue to purchase flood-prone properties throughout the County.