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A Predisaster Mitigation Plan is required in order to be eligible for certain FEMA grant programs, including Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) funds. More information on the grant programs is available on the FEMA website, www.fema.gov.
**why predisaster mitigation?**

The purpose of the Strategy Document is to propose mitigation strategies that reduce:
- the loss of life and property
- human suffering
- economic disruption
- disaster assistance costs resulting from natural disasters

In 2005, the eight municipalities of South Western Connecticut put together the Region's first multi-jurisdictional Predisaster Mitigation Plan. The PDM was approved by FEMA on July 17, 2005 and covered the municipalities of Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, Norwalk, Stamford, Weston, Westport, and Wilton.

The *Predisaster Mitigation Strategy Document* is an update to the original plan adopted by the region’s municipalities in 2005.

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**the pdm process**

Municipalities have a variety of formal and informal hazard mitigation strategies in place. For example, zoning, subdivision and other land-use regulations often require structures to be raised in flood zones.

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**natural hazards**

- Floods
- Hurricanes & Tropical Storms
- Severe Storms
  - Coastal Storms
  - Wind Storms
  - Severe Winter Storms, Nor’easters, Blizzards & Ice Storms
- Severe Thunderstorms
- Tornadoes
- Dam Failure
- Drought
- Earthquakes
- Sea Level Rise

The purpose of the hazard evaluation and risk assessment is to evaluate the Region’s risk of natural disasters in terms of:

- Frequency
- Magnitude
- Vulnerable locations
- Economic loss

The hazard evaluation and risk assessment can help evaluate existing mitigation strategies and prioritize proposed mitigation strategies.