

Comment [LY1]: Will insert logo.

All of this will be formatted in the final version.

Regional Resilience Partnership

Flooding Resilience in the Chicago Region

Many communities in the Chicago region experience chronic and severe flooding. Flooding is caused by three main reasons:

- **Overbank flooding:** Also known as riverine flooding, overbank flooding occurs when excess water volume causes a body of water to overflow its banks onto adjacent areas
- **Overland flooding:** Overland flooding occurs when runoff exceeds the lands capacity to absorb water, or when local topography does not support adequate drainage. This can be due to high impervious cover, including rooftops, roads, and parking lots.
- **Basement flooding:** Basement flooding is the structural flooding that generally occurs when the sewer pipe is overwhelmed with stormwater and backs up through basement drains, or when stormwater seeps through walls or foundation floors.

Together, these causes of flooding can cause significant property damage, utility and road outages, economic disruption, and environmental degradation. During the record-breaking floods of April 2013, cumulative smaller rainstorms followed by a major storm of more than 5 inches of rain in 24 hours left the region in a state of emergency with 24,000 residents lacking power and many neighborhoods several feet underwater. The impacts of flooding extend beyond the April 2013 event: 70% of surveyed Cook County residents reported that their properties have flooded more than three times in the last five years. Many communities have not fully recovered from the damages to their public infrastructure, homes, businesses, and ecosystems.

Climate change is expected to increase the risk of flooding. In addition to a projected increase in the frequency and magnitude of strong storms, longer drought periods between rains and more frequent extreme heat days will have significant implications for the human, ecological, and economic health of the Chicago region.

National Disaster Resilience Competition

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is holding a [National Disaster Resilience Competition](#) (NDRC) for eligible communities across the country that have experienced recent natural disasters. The competition will support innovative projects and policy changes to increase community resilience to the impacts of extreme weather and climate change. The investments resulting from this process will not only rebuild communities' hit with disasters, but also improve their ability to withstand and adapt in the long run.

These remaining recovery needs from the 2013 storms (among other declared disasters) not only qualify the City of Chicago, Cook County, and DuPage County to be [eligible for the NDRC](#), but also underscore the importance of focusing on long-term planning in disaster recovery.

Taking advantage of this national competition, local decision-makers across the Chicago region are leading a coordinated effort to collect data, engage residents and local businesses, test pilot projects, and develop a region-wide plan for improving our resilience to flooding and other climate impacts. Initial efforts will be prioritized in communities that are most vulnerable to flooding. These areas will serve as pilots to test resiliency strategies and help us determine what should be done to improve flood resilience in communities across the region.

Flood Resilience Questionnaire

Reducing current and future risk is essential to the long-term vitality, safety, and prosperity of our communities. We need your help to identify the impacts that you face from flooding.

On the next page, you will find a questionnaire that will help us better understand your experiences with flooding. The responses you provide will help us develop effective local solutions to address flooding to better prepare communities for and recover from disasters.

Please return survey on the next page to the appropriate contact.

City of Chicago: Aaron Koch, Department of Water Management,
Aaron.Koch@cityofchicago.org. [INSERT MAILING ADDRESS]

Cook County: Deborah Stone, Department of Environmental Control,
Deborah.Stone@cookcountyil.gov. [INSERT MAILING ADDRESS]

DuPage County: Mary Mitros, Department of Stormwater Management,
Mary.Mitros@dupageco.org. [INSERT MAILING ADDRESS]

Comment [LY2]: Grantees: please edit this section to reflect the contact information you would like to use on your survey.

Learn More

For more information about flooding, the National Disaster Resilience Competition, upcoming events, resources, and ways to get involved, please visit <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/livability/sustainability-climate-change/ndrc>.

2015 National Disaster Resilience Competition Questionnaire

Please take some time to consider the following questions and write your answers below. If you are answering these questions on your own, please return the form to the appropriate contact listed on the back.

Question 1: What is your zip code?

Question 2: How worried are you when heavy rains are forecast (1: *not at all*, 10: *very much*)?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Question 3: How inconvenienced are you when flooding occurs (1: *not at all*, 10: *very much*)?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Question 4: Take a minute to think about the last time it flooded. How did this event affect you and/or your family? What were some of the challenges you experienced? Check all that apply.

- Displaced from home or business location (permanently or temporarily)
- Experienced property damage
- Unable to go to work/lost wages
- Unable to go school (for you and/or your family)
- Unable to commute or travel due to road or transit closure
- Experienced trauma or stress
- Forced to close business (for business owners only)
- Disrupted shipping or supply-chain logistics (for business owners only)
- Disrupted business production (for business owners only)
- Other (please explain):

Please describe the challenges you identified or add additional challenges below.

Comment [LY3]: The final version will be included as print-based survey to bring to public meetings, leave at community centers, or administer to residents in other ways.

There will also be a Survey Monkey version that we can host on the CMAP NDRC website and that you can link to on your own digital communication platforms. DuPage is creating its own Survey Monkey link and you are welcome to do the same or CMAP is happy to host the general one. Let me know your preference.

For print responses, it would be helpful for grantees to input the responses into Survey Monkey so we can receive all answers in the same format. This is how DuPage is addressing the paper responses they receive.

Question 5: Chances are you needed to do something to address the flooding you previously described. What actions did you have to take to respond to flooding in your home or business? What solutions, if any, have you found (eg. filed flood insurance claim, sandbagging, move items out of flood-prone areas)? Write your answer(s) in the space below.

- Submitted a complaint through 311, 911, See-Click-Fix, or another municipal service
- Filed a flood insurance claim
- Made temporary changes to your property (such as sandbagging or moving items out of flood prone areas)
- Made permanent property improvements (such as installing overhead pipes or backup generators)
- Installed green infrastructure on property (such as rain barrels and rain gardens)
- Relocated residence or business
- Other (please explain):

Please provide any detail about your actions below.

Question 6: Reflecting on the actions you have taken in the past, what resources (ex. access to information, services, financial resources, etc.) would be helpful to have the next time flooding impacts your home or business? Please write your answer(s) below.

Thank you for your input. If you'd like to be updated as the competition progresses, please leave your contact information (*this is optional*).

Name

Email / Phone
