

Shoreham LHMP Executive Summary 2026

The Town of Shoreham updated its All-Hazards Mitigation Plan in 2025 and 2026. Town officials and citizens conducted a hazards inventory and risk assessment matrix, identified locations where hazards are known to the community, and identified potential mitigation projects associated with priority hazards.

The Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee identified the following hazards as their **Highest Priorities**, based on probability, warning time, geographic impacts, and potential impacts:



- Severe Heat (Risk Score 9.00)
- Highway Accident (8.00)
- Structure Fire (8.00)
- Widespread Power Failure (8.25)
- Invasive Species (8.00)



- High Winds (6.75)

High Priority:

- Severe Cold (6.75)



- Severe Snow Storm (6.75)

- Drought (6.00)



- Flash Flood (6.00)

- Air Quality (6.00)



- Severe Ice Storm (5.25)

- Insect-borne Illness (5.25)



- Large-Scale Hazardous Materials Incident (5.00)

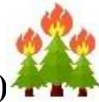
- Hail Storm (4.50)

- Infectious Disease/
Pandemic (4.50)



Moderate Priority:

- Wildfire (4.25)



- Lightning Storm (3.75)



- Tornado (3.50)



For each high-vulnerability hazard type, the committee considered previous occurrences and extent, current vulnerability, and future probability. The committee set these overall mitigation goals and objectives:

Goal 1: Increase Individual Awareness of Shoreham's Vulnerability to Natural Hazards and Work towards developing a Community Social Resilience Ethic

Objective: Inform and educate the community about the types of hazards the Town of Shoreham is exposed to, where they occur, how to prepare, and recommended responses

Goal 2: Reduce Vulnerability of People, Property, and the Environment to Natural Hazards

Objective: Provide mechanisms to enhance life safety

Objective: Reduce impacts to critical facilities and services

Objective: Reduce impacts to existing buildings and infrastructure to the extent possible

Objective: Reduce impacts to future development and infrastructure to the extent possible

Objective: Reduce impacts to the town's natural and historic resources

Objective: Reduce impacts to public health

Goal 3: Increase Interagency Capabilities and Coordination to Reduce the Impacts of Natural Hazards

Objective: Continue to collaborate and coordinate with other agencies on planning, projects, hazard response, and funding opportunities

The Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee has developed a prioritized list of future mitigation actions and projects, with care taken to include those projects which can be considered reasonable and feasible based primarily on capacity, cost, and political feasibility. The high priority future mitigation actions include:

Hazard	Future Mitigation Actions
All-Hazards	Provide community information on preparation kits and Go-Bags.
Severe Heat	Maintain Library as emergency cooling shelter with generator and air-conditioning & improve Congregational Church as additional shelter.
Widespread Power Failure	Add generator capability to town library building, Maintain the back-up generator for the Town Office, Road building, and Fire Department.
Highway Accident	Request improvements to lines of sight at the high risk Doolittle Road-Route 22A intersection.
Structure Fire	Acquire compressor for refilling Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus tanks.
Invasive Species	Limit the spread of Poison Parsnip, Phragmites, and Emerald Ash Borer.
High Winds	Remove dead and dying trees from town rights-of-way.
Severe Cold	Maintain school gym as emergency heating shelter with generator.
Severe Snow Storm	Maintain snow removal equipment and qualified personnel.
Drought	Work with Tri-Town Water District on vulnerability assessment.
Flash Flooding & Fluvial Erosion	Include flood resiliency language in the current update of the Town Plan, Replace small (bridge) structure on Doolittle Road
Air Quality	Provide indoor shelter with filtered air systems.
Severe Ice Storm	Manage vegetation in Rights-of-Way to minimize/allow space for powerlines.
Insect-Borne Illness	Provide mosquito-safety educational materials on the use of appropriate repellants and behavior patterns which reduce the likelihood of mosquito bites.
Hazardous Materials Incident	Support HazMat training efforts of the Shoreham Volunteer Fire Department.
Infectious Disease Outbreak/Pandemic	Develop and maintain continuity planning and agreements for potential town staff shortages.
Hail Storm	Provide hail-safety education materials.
Wildfire	Require outdoor burn permits prior to any outdoor burning, support Shoreham Volunteer Fire Department wildfire training and equipment.
Lightning Storm	Provide lightning-safety and mitigation education materials.
Tornado	Encourage residents to sign up for VT-Alert to receive early weather warnings

A Hazard Mitigation Plan is dynamic and should not be static. To ensure that the plan remains current and relevant, it is important that it be updated periodically. The hazard mitigation plan should be reviewed by all new town officials and revised and updated in its entirety every 5 years.

The Town of Shoreham will monitor and evaluate its hazard mitigation goals, strategies and actions annually as the town budget is created. In updates of the Town Plan by the Planning Commission, the concepts, goals and strategies from this hazard mitigation plan should be incorporated and used to inform municipal development strategies.