



**Flora/Clay County E.S.D.A.
P.O. Box 365
Flora, Illinois 62839**

Clay County Prepares for Natural Hazard Events

Flora, IL (March 2, 2026) — Clay County will update its hazard mitigation plan to reduce the damages caused by severe weather such as thunderstorms, floods, snow and ice storms, and tornados, among other events. This plan and the process to update it will be funded through a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

“The Plan describes the natural hazard events that have impacted the County and identifies activities and projects to reduce the risk to our residents and infrastructure,” said Steve Lewis, Flora-Clay County Emergency Services and Disaster Agency Coordinator. “By having an updated hazard mitigation plan, the County and its participating jurisdictions will remain eligible for federal funds to carry out these projects and activities,” he added.

The Clay County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee will hold its first meeting on Wednesday, March 18, at 1:00 P.M. The meeting will be at the Clay County Health Department, 601 E. 12th St., in Flora. The meeting is open to the public.

The Planning Committee includes representatives from the County, their municipalities, townships, school districts, fire protection districts, and healthcare services, as well as technical partners and other stakeholders. Meetings of this committee will be conducted over the next year as working sessions so that any interested residents can attend and ask questions. The purpose of these working sessions is to gather and discuss information that will be used to update the Plan.

“This mitigation plan is different from our County’s emergency response plan because it focuses on ways to reduce and prevent damages before they occur,” added Lewis.

Contact information:

Steve Lewis, ESDA Coordinator
618-662-8211
floraesda@florail.us