



## 4.2 Hazard Identification

### 4.2.1 Disaster Declarations

In reviewing and updating Pike County’s hazards of concern, the Steering Committee and Planning Team reviewed additional information and historical records from a wide range of sources. The following discusses the Presidential Disaster and Emergency Declarations, Gubernatorial Disaster Declarations or Proclamations and Small Business Administration Disaster Declarations that have affected Pike County.

Presidential Disaster and Emergency Declarations are issued when it has been determined that state and local governments need assistance in responding to a disaster event. Table 4.2-1 identifies Presidential Disaster and Emergency Declarations issued between 1955 through August 2016 that have affected Pike County. Additional declarations beyond August 2016 can be found on the FEMA website at: <https://www.fema.gov/disasters>.

**Table 4.2-1: Presidential Disaster and Emergency Declarations affecting Pike County**

Declaration Number	Date	Event
4099	October, 2012	Hurricane Sandy
4025	September, 2011	Remnants of Hurricane Irene
1649	June, 2006	Severe Storms, Flooding, and Mudslides
1587	April, 2005	Severe Storms, Flooding, and Mudslides
3235	September, 2005	Proclamation of Emergency - Hurricane Katrina
1557	September, 2004	Tropical Depression Ivan
1219	June, 1998	Flooding, Severe Storms, and Tornadoes
1085	January, 1996	Blizzard
1093	January, 1996	Flooding
3105	March, 1993	Proclamation of Emergency - Blizzard
340	June, 1972	Flood (Agnes)
273	August, 1969	Drought
206	August, 1965	Drought
40	August, 1955	Flood (Diane)

In addition to these Presidentially-declared events, 30 events warranted Gubernatorial Disaster Declarations or Proclamations. Table 4.2-2 lists Gubernatorial Disaster Declarations or Proclamations that have been issued for Pike County between 1954 and 2016.

**Table 4.2-2: Gubernatorial Disaster Declarations or Proclamations affecting Pike County**

Date	Event
January, 2016	Proclamation of Emergency – Severe Winter Event
August, 2015	Proclamation of Emergency – High Winds, Severe Thunderstorms, Heavy Rains, Tornadoes and Flooding
January, 2015	Proclamation of Emergency – Severe Winter Event
February, 2014	Proclamation of Emergency – Severe Winter Weather



Date	Event
January, 2014	Proclamation of Emergency – Severe Cold Weather
October, 2012	Proclamation of Emergency – Hurricane Sandy
April, 2012	Proclamation of Emergency – Winter Storm
August, 2011	Proclamation of Emergency – Hurricane Irene
January, 2011	Proclamation of Emergency – Severe Winter Storm
February, 2010	Proclamation of Emergency – Winter Storm
April, 2007	Proclamation of Emergency - Severe Winter Storm
February, 2007	Proclamation of Emergency - Regulations
February, 2007	Proclamation of Emergency - Severe Winter Storm
September, 2006	Proclamation of Emergency - Tropical Depression Ernesto
June, 2006	Proclamation of Emergency – Summer Floods
April, 2005	Proclamation of Emergency – Severe Storms and Flooding
September, 2004	Proclamation of Emergency – Severe Storms, Heavy Rain, High Winds and Flooding associated with Hurricane Ivan
September, 2003	Hurricane Isabel / Henri - related storms and flooding
February, 2002	Drought and Water Shortage
September, 1999	Hurricane Floyd
July, 1999	Drought
April, 1997	Snowstorm
September, 1995	Drought
January, 1994	Severe Winter Storms
November, 1980	Drought Emergency
February, 1978	Blizzard
January, 1978	Heavy Snow
February, 1974	Truckers Strike
February, 1972	Heavy Snow
January, 1966	Heavy Snow

Pike County has also received Small Business Administration Disaster Assistance for a number of disaster events. A Small Business Administration Disaster Declaration qualifies communities for access to affordable, timely, and accessible financial assistance. Table 4.2-3 illustrates Small Business Administration Disaster Declarations issued for Pike County between 1954 and 2016.

**Table 4.2-3: Small Business Administration Disaster Declarations affecting Pike County**

Date	Event
April, 2007	Severe Storms and Flooding
July, 1991	Drought
February, 1981	Flash Flood (Matamoras)

Since 1955, declarations have been issued for various hazard events including hurricanes or tropical storms, severe winter storms, and flooding. A unique Presidential Emergency Declaration was issued in September, 2005. Through Emergency Declaration 3235, President George W. Bush declared that a state of emergency



existed in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and ordered federal aid to supplement Commonwealth and local response efforts to help people evacuated from their homes due to Hurricane Katrina. All counties within the Commonwealth, including Pike County, were indirectly affected by Hurricane Katrina as a result of evacuee assistance.

### 4.2.2 Summary of Hazards

As part of the plan update process, the Steering Committee and Planning Team reviewed the hazards of concern detailed in the 2012 version of the plan as well as those identified in the State HMP. They also considered the history of hazard events occurring in Pike County, as well as events occurring after the completion of the 2012 version of the plan. This review of historical events included an evaluation of all emergency and disaster declarations in the Commonwealth, with a focus on those in which Pike County was designated for federal assistance.

Further, all jurisdictions participating in the plan update process were provided a *Hazard Identification/Evaluation of Risk* worksheet to help identify the hazards—natural and non-natural—that each community believed posed significant risk to Pike County, including any that may not have been considered in either the 2012 version of the plan or the State HMP. Completed worksheets submitted by the municipalities are included in Appendix D. Following review of the 2012 hazards list and completion of the *Hazard Identification/Evaluation of Risk* worksheet, additional hazards were considered in need of a risk assessment. The Steering Committee and Planning Team decided to keep all 2012 hazards of concern and add the following hazards: 1) extreme temperature; 2) invasive species; 3) landslide; 4) lightning; and 5) radon. Several additional non-natural hazards were identified by the Planning Team and stakeholders; however, they were not included because they are addressed in other plans or programs within the county (e.g., Pike County Emergency Management Plan).

Based on all available information and input from the municipalities, the Steering Committee and Planning Team selected the following natural and non-natural hazards for consideration in this plan.

#### Natural Hazards

- Drought
- Earthquake
- Extreme Temperature
- Flood, Flash Flood, Ice Jam
- Hurricane, Tropical Storm, Nor'easter
- Invasive Species
- Landslide
- Lightning
- Pandemic
- Radon
- Tornado and Windstorm
- Wildfire
- Winter Storm

#### Non-Natural Hazards

- Dam Failure
- Drowning



- Environmental Hazards
- Nuclear Incidents
- Terrorism
- Transportation Accidents
- Urban Fire and Explosion
- Utility Interruption

These hazards have been profiled individually in Section 4.3 of this plan.

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