

Table #. Isanti County Mitigation Action Chart

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#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
1	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage all county residents to sign-up for the county's Everbridge emergency notification alert system.	Existing High 2023-2028	Isanti County Emergency Management (ICEM)	A link for the Everbridge emergency notification system is located on the Isanti County Sheriff's Office website and reminders are put out on Isanti County social media as well as in local news articles.	County
2	All-Hazards	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure the Isanti County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is updated and addresses policies & procedures needed to support EM functions prior to, during, and following a disaster.	Existing Moderate 2023-2028	ICEM	ICEM has an EOP that is updated on a regular basis which helps the county be ready to respond to disasters across a range of EM functions. This includes plans in place for sheltering of displaced residents and pet sheltering.	County
3	All-Hazards	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure designated facilities are in place and prepared for providing mass care sheltering and county staff are trained in sheltering operations.	Existing Moderate 2023-2028	ICEM, Isanti County Public Health (ICPH)	In partnership with the American Red Cross, Isanti County has designated facilities throughout the county that could be utilized to provide mass care services to support an evacuation or other incident where temporary housing and basic human services are needed. ICPH maintains a list of shelters within the county and has trained staff prepared for shelter operations.	County

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4	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Education & Awareness Programs	Provide education and outreach to residents on personal preparedness for severe weather events and extended power outages. Coordinate with local jurisdictions to share information locally.	Existing High 2023-2028	ICEM in coord with Local Gov't	Isanti County participates in and promotes the NWS severe weather awareness weeks in spring and fall each year. Information is available via the Isanti County website and social media platforms. Isanti County actively promotes the use of NOAA Weather Radios by local residents, businesses, schools, long term care facilities, government buildings, faith communities, and other places of common gathering to encourage their use & functionality. The county continues to participate in events where NOAA Weather Radios are distributed.	County
5	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Structure & Infrastructure Systems	Work with the county's rural electric coops to encourage them to address burying powerlines or strengthening power poles where needed to reduce vulnerability from high wind events and storms.	Existing High 2023-2028	ICEM in coord with Rural Electric Coops	The electric coops that serve Isanti County (East Central Energy and Connexus) continue to address where power lines can be strengthened or buried underground. ICEM will assist as needed with future applications to FEMA for eligible projects to reduce risk of power outages by these rural electrical coops.	Electric Coops, FEMA HMA grant
6	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Work with local jurisdictions to acquire generator backup power to support critical infrastructure and delivery of essential services during an extended power outage due to storms.	Existing Moderate 2023-2028	ICEM in coord with Local Gov't	ICEM continues to provide assistance to local jurisdictions that need to acquire portable generators to power infrastructure such as lift stations and other key facilities such as City Hall /community shelters in the event of a power outage. In some cases, this may include helping to identify where used portable generators may be obtained or helping to prepare a funding application.	County, Local Gov't

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7	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Natural Systems Protection	Conduct vegetation management along county-owned roads to reduce the risk of downed trees and branches resulting from severe storms.	Existing Moderate 2023-2028	IC Highway Dept.	The Isanti County Hwy. Dept and local utility providers continue to address tree management near powerlines. Townships & cities are encouraged to do the same for roads under their authority.	County
8	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Encourage schools and long-term facilities that house senior citizens or other vulnerable populations to have emergency plans and generators in place to deal with severe weather, extreme temperatures and power outages.	Existing High 2023-2028	ICEM and ICPH in coord with Schools & Other Facilities	ICEM and IC Public Health continue to work with school districts and other long-term care facilities across the county and will encourage them to have plans in place for when the need arises.	County, Local Facilities
9	Severe Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Work with cities and township governments to ensure the functionality of all outdoor warning sirens within Isanti County.	Existing High 2023-2028	IC Sheriff's Office in coord with Local Gov't	There are 15 outdoor warning sirens located in Isanti County which are tested on a monthly basis by the Isanti County Sheriff's Office. Sirens are operated by the Isanti County Sheriff's Office. The sirens are owned and maintained by the cities or townships they are located in.	County, Local Gov't
10	Severe Summer Storms	Local Planning & Regulations / Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Provide assistance to local jurisdictions that require purchase & installation of new outdoor warning sirens and ensure they are connected to the county's remote activation system.	Existing Moderate 2023-2028	ICEM in coord with Local Gov't	In the event new or updated warning sirens are needed in the county, ICEM will assist as needed with applying for funding to the USDA Community Facilities Grant Program which may be a source for funding outdoor warning sirens. All new sirens will be connected to the county's remote activation system.	County, Local Gov't, USDA CF Grant Program
11	Severe Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Ensure there is a network of trained Storm Spotters throughout the county to support situational awareness of and public notification for dangerous storms such as severe thunderstorms and tornadoes.	Existing Moderate 2023-2028	ICEM in coord with NWS & Local Gov't	The Isanti County Sheriff's Office and Emergency Management partners with the National Weather Service to provide SkyWarn storm spotter training on an annual basis to local law enforcement, fire departments, and local residents who wish to participate.	County, NWS

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12	Severe Summer Storms	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Address the need for the construction of storm shelters or tornado safe rooms in communities, parks, or other locations in the county where people are vulnerable to high wind or tornadic events.	Existing Moderate 2023-2028	ICEM in coord with Local Gov't	The Isanti County Emergency Management team will continue to work with the mobile home parks and campgrounds to develop plans and locations for safe locations for residents and visitors to go in times of dangerous weather. ICEM will provide assistance as needed to help assess need, possible construction options, and assist in applying for grant funding as needed (i.e., FEMA HMA safe room grant).	County, FEMA HMA grant funding, Other (TBD)
13	Wildfire	Local Planning & Regulations	Work with the MN DNR Firewise Program to develop a County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) for Isanti County.	New Moderate 2023-2028	ICEM in coord with MN DNR Firewise	The MN DNR Firewise Program notes that Isanti County has a past CWPP Equivalent on file. A CWPP Equivalent is not a stand alone document but the intention of a CWPP is met within the county Emergency Operations Plan. ICEM will seek to work with the MN DNR Firewise Program and local fire departments to conduct a coordinated, comprehensive risk assessment for wildfire risk and targeted wildfire mitigation activities. Funding for development of the CWPP may be sought from the Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG).	County, MN DNR Firewise Grant, CWDG grant funding
14	Wildfire	Local Planning & Regulations	Encourage homeowners in high-risk areas of Isanti County to conduct Level-1 and Level-2 Firewise assessments and plan for targeted fuel reduction measures.	New Moderate 2023-2028	ICEM in coord with local FD's	ICEM will work with local fire departments to promote this service. Level-1 and Level-2 Firewise assessments should be encouraged for homeowners living in rural, woodland high-risk wildfire areas. Level 1 is quick photo interpretation and Level 2 is a site visit, which can be done by local fire department or others. MN DNR Firewise funding available.	

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15	Wildfire	Local Planning & Regulations	Apply for FEMA HMA or MN DNR Firewise grants program funding to support the implementation of targeted wildfire mitigation activities such as wildland fuels reduction measures, installation of dry hydrants, and public awareness campaigns.	New High 2023-2028	ICEM in coord with local FD's	ICEM will work to assist local fire departments in application for grant funding as appropriate for the implementation of eligible wildfire mitigation activities.	FEMA HMA, MN DNR, other TBD
16	Drought	Public Awareness & Education	Conduct outreach to local governments and residents to be aware of water restrictions, water conservation tips, and fire safety during periods of severe drought.	New Moderate 2023-2028	ICEM in coord with Local Gov't.	ICEM continues to provide public outreach and education during heightened drought periods using the Isanti County website and social media pages. ICEM further encourages city and townships to promote drought awareness to residents.	County
17	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations	Participate in the National Flood Insurance Program and enforce policies that address development in high-risk flood areas.	Existing High 2023-2028	IC Zoning Dept.	Isanti County's Zoning Department maintains and enforces Zoning Ordinance, Section 13, Flood Plain Overlay District) and floodplain maps for the county. The Zoning Department is the repository for the National Flood Insurance Program's Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM), as well as flood boundary and floodway maps for rural Isanti County. The Zoning Office can assist county residents in determining whether their property is affected by an officially mapped flood area.	County

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18	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations / Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Plan for and implement measures to address minor localized flood reduction projects for roads, bridges, and culverts throughout the county.	In-Progress High 2019-2023	IC Highway Dept.	The Isanti County Highway Department continues to work on upgrading and replacing aging culverts and areas prone to flooding. The IC Hwy. Dept. maintains a Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) that identifies and schedules road improvement projects that include measures for flood mitigation. The current TIP is for 2006-2030. Isanti County continues to move forward with upgrades as planning allows.	County, State, Federal
19	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations / Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work with the Isanti SWCD, Rum River Watershed Partnership and Lower St. Croix Partnership to plan for and implement projects that help to reduce the impacts of future high rain events.	Flooding Moderate 2023-2028	Isanti SWCD in coord with watershed partners and IC Zoning Dept.	IC Zoning Dept. continues to work in collaboration with the Isanti SWCD, Rum River Watershed Partnership, and Lower St. Croix Partnership on flood mitigation actions included in the Rum River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan and the Lower St. Croix comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. Both plans address the issue of increased weather events due to climate change and water quantity issues. Specific actions related to flood mitigation include but are not limited to: wetland restorations, culvert inventories and appropriate culvert size design and replacement, urban water storage best practices, establishment of 1 flood forecasting location, forest protection, and water level/flow monitoring along the main stem of the Rum River. The Isanti SWCD takes the lead in many of these projects.	County, SWCD, Watershed Partners, FEMA HMA Grant funding

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20	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations / Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Conduct property buyouts to acquire homes affected by repetitive flooding and physically relocate or remove those homes to eliminate future flood damages.	Existing Low 2023-2028	ICEM, IC Zoning Dept. in coord with Local Gov'ts	There are currently no projects for conducting property buyouts, however Isanti County will continue to evaluate and assist with potential future property acquisition projects and application to FEMA or MN DNR for grant funding to conduct buyouts.	County, MN DNR, FEMA HMA, Local Gov't
21	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations	Enforce county policies that regulate zoning for new development, setbacks in shoreline and bluff areas, and stormwater management.	Existing Moderate 2023-2028	IC Zoning Dept.	IC Zoning Dept. is responsible for implementing State Shoreland Rules found in Minnesota Rules 6120.2500 – 3900. Isanti County Zoning Ordinance (2014), Section 11 Shoreland District addresses protection of shorelands as well as stormwater management. The county also adopts and enforces the State Buffer Law to protect sensitive areas from erosion; to stabilize soils, shores and banks; and to protect or provide riparian corridors.	County
22	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations / Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work with watershed partners to increase drainage system improvements upstream in the middle and upper geographical regions of the Rum River Valley.	Existing Moderate 2023-2028	IC Zoning Dept. in coord with Watershed Partners	IC Zoning Dept. and watershed partners will work together to evaluate the possibility to find and obtain one or several wetland banks, restore previously drained farmland into wetland bank and or develop an easement program that creates a funding opportunity for landowners to create wetland banks.	County, SWCD, Watershed Partners, FEMA HMA Grant funding

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23	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations / Structure & Infrastructure Projects	Work with watershed partners and local governments to address the issue of increased impervious surfaces in urban catchments draining into the Rum River.	Existing Moderate 2023-2028	IC Zoning Dept. in coord Isanti SWCD, Watershed Partners & Local Gov'ts	IC Zoning Dept. continues to work with the Isanti SWCD and watershed partners to evaluate projects to address increased urban stormwater runoff, such as: retrofit rain gardens, biofiltration basins, and innovative ideas on storm water recycling, filtering, and reuse in the municipalities of Cambridge, Princeton, and Isanti. The Isanti SWCD takes the lead in many of these projects. Isanti County Zoning Dept. will continue to help encourage city public works departments to work on large scale retrofit stormwater management projects to reduce storm surges resulting from increased precipitation events.	County, SWCD, Watershed Partners, Local Gov't