



CREATE Resilience: Resources for Community and Individual Preparedness

Communities resilient to extreme weather events and other environmental hazards make informed decisions to anticipate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from significant environmental hazards and stresses, with minimum damage to social well-being, the economy, and the environment.

The following is a listing of assets and resources from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and other federal, state and local agencies and organizations, to assist, educate and inspire people as they increase community resilience (not a comprehensive list).

Weather Forecasts (day to day weather patterns):

[National Weather Service](#) - The go-to source for all things weather!

The Lehigh Valley is served by the [Weather Forecast Office Philadelphia/Mt. Holly](#) - You can find forecasts, current conditions and more.

National Weather Service [Middle Atlantic River Forecast Center](#) (MARFC) - River observations and forecasts.

[NOAA Weather-Ready Nation](#) - Educational resources, safety campaigns and weather hazards.

[NOAA National Hurricane Center](#) - Provides hurricane tracking, forecasts, and related information.

Climate (long term average of weather conditions for a place):

[NOAA Climate.gov](#) - Tons of data on climate, maps, news, impacts, and more.

[U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit](#) - Tools and steps toward resilience.

[U.S. Global Change Research Program \(USGCRP\)](#) - The program (mandated by Congress) coordinates federal research around understanding global change and its impact.

[U.S. National Climate Assessment](#) - Provides a detailed analysis of how climate change is affecting the physical earth system across the United States

[Center for Climate Preparedness and Community Resilience](#) - Research, webinars, and resources helping communities to prepare for climate change and be resilient.

[Climate Explorer](#) - Interactive tool that provides county-level climate projections

*[Consortium for Climate Risk in the Urban Northeast \(CCRUN\)](#) - CRUN focuses on climate change adaptation in urban settings, addressing challenges such as urban heat island effects; poor air quality; development and highly diverse, socio-economic communities.

Extreme Heat:

[National Integrated Heat Health Information System](#) - Provides tools, maps, resources for planning and more related to extreme heat and urban heat island effect.

Flooding:

*[Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\)](#) - Federal agency with a mission to help people before, during and after disasters. Provides a range of resources and services to communities dealing with hazards. It also provides grants for hazard mitigation to communities.

[FEMA Flood Map](#) - Search by address/location and determine your flood risk. Whether you are in a high risk zone or not, you may need [flood insurance](#). Even in an area with low or moderate flood risk, you are 5 times more likely to experience flood than a fire in your home over the next 30 years. You can also see a PA flood zone map [here](#).

[FEMA National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System](#) - A National Flood Insurance Program that provides incentives (flood insurance premium rate reductions) to communities that appropriately manage their floodplains to reduce flood risk and damage.

Emergency Management and Hazard Mitigation:

[Lehigh Valley Hazard Mitigation Plan](#) - A bi-county hazard mitigation plan assists Northampton and Lehigh Counties with an increased understanding of natural and man-made hazards that impact the area, the risks and vulnerabilities of local communities, and the ways to develop more sustainable and resilient communities. The most recent plan was drafted with support from the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission.

*[Northampton County Emergency Management Services \(NCEMS\)](#) - NCEMS protects the county by coordinating activities necessary to prevent, prepare for, mitigate against, respond to, and recover from all hazards. Sign up for mobile alerts/community notification from NCEMS with [CodeRED](#). You can also receive alerts from local agencies through [Nixle](#).

*[Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency \(PEMA\)](#) - A state's Hazard Mitigation Officer serves as the responsible individual for all matters related to hazard mitigation and adaptation. PEMA provides training, resources, and floodplain management, among other services related to preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation.

[Ready.gov](#) - Provides information on all types of hazards/disasters and how individuals and communities can prepare before, act during, and recover after the event.

[ReadyPA.org](#) - Sign up for alerts and the Ready PA newsletter. Learn how to prepare yourself and your family for hazards in PA. The [emergency preparedness guide](#) provides information on different kinds of emergencies and how to create emergency plans and kits for your home.

* Partner on the CREATE Resilience project

As part of the CREATE Resilience project, Nurture Nature Center developed a virtual Resiliency tour highlighting local areas in the community that have implemented successful mitigation strategies. Learn more and view the tour [here](#).



CREATE Resilience is a multi-disciplinary collaboration between youth and community to increase knowledge of weather and climate science, the risks from local hazards, and strategies for hazard mitigation, while storytelling and co-creating a vision for community resilience. CREATE Resilience, a four-year project developed by Nurture Nature Center, is designed to engage rural, urban and suburban residents in the Lehigh Valley, facing shared and diverse hazards and risks, in a comprehensive education and action initiative, with two goals: 1) improved environmental hazards literacy, and 2) increased engagement in resiliency actions by youth and adults in the region.



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