



## Natural Hazard Mitigation Association (NHMA)

### Mission:

The mission of NHMA is to bring together individuals and organizations working in the field of hazard mitigation in order to be a catalyst for societal change by elevating the value of hazard mitigation and sustainable resilience so that natural hazard events do not cause disasters, and suffering and misery to people, property, the environment, and taxpayers. We promote education, policies, and activities that mitigate current and future losses, costs, and human suffering unnecessarily caused by unwise development practices without regard to natural hazards.

### 5-Year Strategic Goals:

- **Goal 1.0.** Ingrain hazard mitigation and sustainable resilience as a part of our communities' culture.
  - a) Education and training for public, practitioners, and political entities; messaging, publications
  - b) Change policy and practice (laws)
  - c) Raise awareness of NHMA and its resources, create partnerships
  
- **Goal 2.0.** Develop effective mitigation and sustainable resilience programs that benefit the community as a whole.
  - a) Analyze existing, former, and potential mitigation and sustainable resilience programs to assess their current political, environmental and socioeconomic effectiveness.. Look for the reintroduction and strengthening of successful components in today's environment and work to eliminate ineffective and dangerous practices
  - b) Tear down political barriers to mitigation.
  
- **Goal 3.0.** Create a forum for professionals and citizens working in hazard mitigation and sustainable resilience to share ideas and experiences.
  - a) Web site and social media;
  - b) Market NHMA to potential members, both nationally and internationally
  - c) Maintain and serve membership; serve as experts in hazard mitigation
  - d) Host an annual Mitigation Practitioners Workshop
  
- **Goal 4.0.** Elevate the societal, economic, and environmental value of hazard mitigation and sustainable resilience as a profession and as an ancillary to other professions.
  - a) Develop a membership with a specialized body of knowledge and specialized set of skills
  - b) Develop a membership dedicated to the NHMA mission, governed by standards of behavior and practice, promoting team concepts and peer consultation and review.
  - c) Develop and sustain mutually beneficial partnerships with other professional associations, non-profit organizations and educational institutions.

- **Goal 5.0.** Serve as a trusted source of training and technical information to those working in the field.
  - a) Work with others to develop current and timely hazard mitigation related training and technical information and deploy to those working in the field, with evaluation
  - b) Provide networking and professional and citizen development opportunities
- **Goal 6.0.** Function as a professional and respected voice for hazard mitigation managers.
  - a) Ensure that NHMA has a clear, professional and unified position and clearly defines the issues (safety, economic, social, environmental), developed by the Board of Directors, on all national hazard mitigation related issues
- **Goal 7.0.** Achieve greater awareness of the social and environmental component of hazard mitigation and sustainable resiliency decisions.
  - a) Work toward greater public awareness of natural hazards, better outreach and communication, better hazard mapping and vulnerability assessment, greater appreciation of the benefits of mitigation and sustainable resilience.
  - b) Develop strategies to manage the risks associated with natural hazards, promote better land use controls, building guidelines.

## Natural Hazard Mitigation Association (NHMA)

The Natural Hazard Mitigation Association is an organization of professionals involved in natural hazard mitigation. The association was founded in 2008 to bring together the various individuals and organizations working in the field of hazard mitigation.

Members represent communities, governments, the research community, the insurance industry, and the fields of engineering, emergency response, water resources, planning and many other mitigation related fields. The business of the Association is run solely by a volunteer Executive Director, a volunteer Board and Committee members. NHMA occasionally employs an accountant, at a discounted rate – there is currently no paid staff.

NHMA maintains a website, [www.nhma.info](http://www.nhma.info), a listserv, and has a page on LinkedIn and Facebook.

An important priority of the NHMA is the creation of partnerships with other mitigation-oriented organizations. NHMA currently serves as one of the Tri-Chairs for the National Mitigation Collaborative Alliance. Additionally, NHMA has relationships with

- Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM)
- Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH)
- International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM)
- National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS)
- National Emergency Management Association (NEMA)
- Natural Floodplain Function Alliance (NFFA)
- Sustainable Urban Forests Coalition (SUFC)
- Institute for Building and Home Safety (IBHS)
- American Meteorological Society (AMS)
- Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN)