

Natural Hazard Mitigation Association Workshops and Peer Consults

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The Natural Hazard Mitigation Association (NHMA) is a national organization of mitigation practitioners and professionals. Our members are joined in dedication to help our nation achieve the *goal of reducing the devastating impacts of natural hazards and improving public safety, health and community well being.*

NHMA offers **Workshops** and **Peer Consults** to state and local public and private organizations embarking upon community resilience and mitigation. We bring national expertise and lessons learned from experience to help you establish local training, action groups and resilient neighbor networks (RNN).

NHMA workshops and consultations encourage each participant and organization to create and advance an “Action Plan,” to support their own community and arena of practice.

NMHA WORKSHOPS

NHMA Workshops include expert presentations, tools and resources, and team-building exercises. Presentations are custom-tailored to help you improve your community’s safety and resilience and to identify issues for resolution and implementation in mitigation plans and projects.

We focus on “Tools You Can Use.” Workshops topics are selected to enable your organization to learn about and apply the latest mitigation practices best suited to your particular community.

Workshops may be short, one-day presentations, or two- to three-days. A Workshop may focus on only one topic (e.g., legal aspects), or may include a broader spectrum, e.g., multi-hazards, sustainable and resilient development.



NMHA PEER CONSULTS

A NMHA Peer Consult is an intensive visit by a small, select group of mitigation experts. Each team is selected to address the unique and specific challenges that your organization or community defines. An NMHA team may include legal, financial, planning, engineering, architecture and building topics, as well as community organization, social and public health, targeted to a specific set of issues or local project area.

Preparation for a NHMA Peer Consult includes documentation of present conditions, reports, and related information to serve as advanced briefing for the team. A preliminary visit by an NMHA team member may assist in such preparation. Once preparation is in order, the NHMA Peer Consult will include a schedule of on-site meetings, from three- to four-days with you and your local team, working intensively in addressing the brief. Such visits typically include field inspection of areas of concern, one-on-one or team intensives (peer to peer), and presentations to larger groups, possibly public meetings as appropriate. Deliverables are defined in advance and delivered (in DRAFT form) before team departure.

What do participants say about NHMA?

NHMA carefully evaluates all of our programs, fostering a spirit of continuous learning and improvement. Here is what our attendees have told us (full reports available on request).

- *Excellent speakers and great involvement of attendees. Best informative, motivational workshop I have ever attended. Much appreciation for world class speakers.*
- *Comprehensive topics - animated / passionate speakers.*
- *Basic principles of coordination between public entities. Power of "No." Power of "Yes." Public and private owners do not have the right to adversely affect other properties.*
- *Great workshop. Very entertaining and informative. This information needs to be in the hands and minds of local administrators and policy makers, i.e., City Managers and Council members.*
- *Real world examples and solutions, specific examples. Case studies. Book recommendations.*
- *The legal examples for future use. David Mallory's examples for the development in the floodway were a great way to relate information to us, as city officials.*
- *Out of state presenters did an outstanding job of making their presentations very local - Great!*
- *Locally relevant examples! Case studies. Easily obtained outside resources. Presenters were excellent. Good ideas on why mitigation planning is a fundamental duty.*
- *I liked the legal issues and they were discussed and how to get to yes and say no. Don Watson remarks very good as was David Mallory (Colorado cases).*
- *All presenters obviously went to a lot of effort to make their presentations specific to our (the Utah) area and condition.*
- *Interaction/group discussion from local communities prompted and based on speaker information. Appreciated hearing multi-hazard management: flood, fire, drought and watershed scale planning.*
- *Discussion with peers. Input from Thomas. Real-world applications.*
- *Monday afternoon's discussion--learning from other communities about challenges, successes. Very constructive discussion. Legal discussions, court decisions, takings discussions - great!*
- *The positive way in which the messages were delivered. Examples were good and participation of everyone encouraged.*
- *Great to find out what resources are available. Very interesting information on mitigation. Good to think about being "proactive," rather than reactive*
- *Interaction with people was great. Handouts with contact info and educational info very helpful.*
- *Plethora of resources provided, which really helps me to carry this message forward. All presenters were very well versed and educated in their topics.*
- *Mitigation = prevention of disaster. The quality of the speakers was phenomenal!!*
- *Appreciation you showed for the work we're doing.*

