

Table G - 3. Mitigation Actions Identified for Implementation by the City of Rice (2017-2021) (From Benton County Master Mitigation Action Chart)

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	City of Rice Mitigation Action	Status	Priority Ranking	Time-frame	Jurisdictions	Responsibility	County/City Comments on Planning Mechanisms for Implementation	Possible Funding
1	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Work to ensure that all Benton County residents are aware of and sign-up for the Swift Reach emergency notification system	Ongoing	High	2017-2021	Benton County, Foley, Gilman, <b>Rice</b> , Sauk Rapids and All Townships	BC Emergency Management in coordination with local city and townships	This is a standing effort of the Benton County Emergency Management Program. Sign-up for Swift Reach is available on the Benton County Emergency Management website and reminders are also put out via Facebook. Cities also work to promote sign-up by local residents by sharing information on city websites and announcements at public meetings.	County Budget
4	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	Encourage residents of Benton County to sign up for the Benton County Emergency Management Facebook page.	Ongoing	High	2017-2021	Benton County, Foley, Gilman, <b>Rice</b> , Sauk Rapids and All Townships	BC Emergency Management in coordination with local city and townships	This is a standing effort of the Benton County Emergency Management Program. Our FB page is an important communication tool to convey timely information on emergency conditions and personal preparedness.	County Budget

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5	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations / Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Work with all city and township governments to improve emergency preparedness and response capabilities, including ability to coordinate with Benton County Emergency Management.	Ongoing	High	2017-2021	Benton County, Foley, Gilman, <b>Rice</b> , Sauk Rapids, and All Townships	BC Emergency Management in coordination with city and township officials	This is an ongoing effort of Benton County Emergency Management. Annual training and exercises are held in the county that engage local government officials and first responders. A general strategy to improve the overall quality of emergency preparedness with townships is also being implemented. Each township has been requested to identify one individual within their jurisdiction that will act as the Township's Emergency Coordinator. This individual will work directly with the County Emergency Management Director in developing response plans for each Township and during emergencies. So far only several townships have indicated that they are willing to work with County Emergency Management. The effort will continue to be made to increase these numbers.	County / City / Township Budgets
8	All-Hazards	Mitigation Preparedness and Response Support	Ensure that interoperable radio communications (800 MHz) are in place between Benton County and city emergency management.	New	High	2017-2021	Benton County, Foley, Gilman, <b>Rice</b> , Sauk Rapids	BC Emergency Management in coordination with city EM's	This project will be addressed by the Benton County Emergency Manager in coordination with the EM department of each city.	County Budget, other grants

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9	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Education & Awareness Programs	Work to promote severe weather awareness and emergency preparedness for families and individuals.	Ongoing	High	2017-2021	Benton County, Foley, Gilman, Rice, Sauk Rapids	BC Emergency Management & BC Public Health in coordination with local cities	This is a standing effort of the Benton County Emergency Management Program. Information on emergency preparedness is provided on the BC Emergency Management website and through local outreach efforts. The County also participates annually in the NWS Winter Hazard Awareness Week (November) and Severe Weather Awareness Week (April). Cities are encouraged to further share information within their jurisdictions (i.e., website, FB posting). Extra outreach effort is made during the summer storm season. Radio shows, media releases and social media posts are made as weather develops.	County Budget

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10	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness and Response Support	Promote the use of NOAA weather radios as a key communications resource for residents, businesses, and facilities that house vulnerable populations (i.e., nursing homes, group homes, senior centers, and day care facilities).	Ongoing	High	2017-2021	Benton County, Foley, Gilman, <b>Rice</b> , Sauk Rapids, All Townships, and Public School Districts (ISD #47 & ISD #51)	BC Emergency Management in coordination with City EM's and School Districts	This is a standing effort of the Benton County Emergency Management Program. Benton County Emergency Management seeks to have weather radios available for loan during events to have them present in all public buildings where large events are held. Weather Radios have been promoted through the annual Skywarn training as well as Benton County's annual participation in the NWS spring and winter Severe Weather Awareness Weeks in April and November.	County/City Budgets

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11	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness and Response Support	<p>Identify critical facilities or infrastructure that do not have backup power in the event of a major power outage resulting from severe winter or summer storms.</p> <p>(Critical facilities may include: police/fire departments, EOC, health care facilities, water &amp; sewer treatment facilities, and other facilities deemed as critical, i.e. public schools and sheltering facilities).</p>	New	High	2017-2021	Benton County, Foley, Gilman, <b>Rice</b> , All Townships, Sauk Rapids and Public School Districts (ISD #47 & ISD #51)	BC Emergency Management, City Admin & Public Works, and School District Staff	<p>Some County buildings have generator backup, others do not. In the event of a power outage, some County departments can't function and serve the public. Ideally, all County buildings would have generator backups that can fully support all County facilities. BC Emergency Management encourages all area cities and schools to also ensure that there is have backup power generation options to ensure operations of critical infrastructure and services during a power outage.</p> <p><i>City Comment - The main wastewater lift station does not have a backup generator, because of the power requirements for the lift system, a portable generator will not be able to connect to that station. The city's water system also does not have a backup power system. In the event of an extended power outage, the city is limited to the water stored in the water tower. (150,000 gallons).</i></p>	County, City, Township, & School budgets

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12	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness and Response Support	Purchase and install generator hook-ups and encourage local generator purchases for identified critical facilities that require backup power.	New	High	2017-2021	Benton County, Foley, Gilman, <b>Rice</b> , All Townships, Sauk Rapids, and Public School Districts (ISD #47 & ISD #51)	BC Emergency Management, City Admin & Public Works, School District Staff	Benton County and its jurisdictions will investigate where existing generators may be acquired (i.e., surplus equipment from MN DNR) or outside supportive funding for the purchase of generators.	County, City, Township, School Budgets & Possible FEMA HMA 5% Initiative Funding for Generators
13	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Structure and Infrastructure Projects	Work with rural electrical and municipal coops to identify and address mitigation measures for above ground power lines that are susceptible to damage from severe storms in order to reduce potential power outages.	New	High	2017-2021	Benton County, Foley, Gilman, <b>Rice</b> , Sauk Rapids	East Central Electric and Benton Telecommunications in cooperation with local cities	Locating lines underground where it is feasible and cost effective, as is occurring in some parts of Benton County, can reduce the damages and potential power outages. Benton County and individual cities will work with the electric coops to address projects where they are needed.	Electric Coop Funding, Possible FEMA HMA funding for Infrastructure Retrofit

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14	Severe Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Provide/participate in the National Weather Service's SkyWarn "Storm Spotter" training in various parts of the County for first responders and community residents.	Ongoing	High	2017-2021	Benton County, Foley, Gilman, Rice, Sauk Rapids	BC Emergency Management in collaboration with local cities and NWS	This is a standing part of the Benton County Emergency Management Program. Benton County works with the NWS on an annual basis to provide training sessions for community volunteers, law enforcement, and fire departments. We will continue to encourage more volunteers to become active in the severe storm spotters network.	County Budget and NWS funding to deliver program
15	Severe Summer Storms	Structure and Infrastructure Projects	Identify areas where vulnerable populations are susceptible to tornadoes or extreme wind events (i.e. schools, county parks, County fairgrounds, campgrounds, or mobile home parks) and evaluate for construction or retrofit of safe rooms or storm shelters.	Ongoing	High	2017-2021	Benton County, Foley, Gilman, Rice, All Townships, Sauk Rapids and Public School Districts (ISD #47 & #51)	BC Emergency Management, BC Hum, BC Parks Dept., and BC Dept. of Development in coordination with townships and local cities	Benton County has identified several existing key locations for potential safe rooms, including the County Fairgrounds, Benton Beach Park and the campground on Little Rock Lake. ISD #47 and ISD #51 also have identified a need for construction or retrofit of a safe room at public schools to provide for student and staff safety in the event of a tornado.  <i>City Comment – Our city park has little or no shelter in the event of severe weather. This is a priority area for a safe room because we have no place to shelter children and adults who come here for our summer ball programs.</i>	County, City, Township, School Budgets

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16	Severe Summer Storms	Structure and Infrastructure Projects	Implement construction or retrofit projects for safe rooms or storm shelters in identified vulnerable locations.	Ongoing	High	2017-2021	Benton County, Foley, Gilman, <b>Rice</b> , All Townships, Sauk Rapids and Public School Districts (ISD #47 & #51)	BC Emergency Management, BC Public Health, in coordination with townships and local cities	BC Emergency Management will work with any school or jurisdiction seeking to develop an application to FEMA for a safe room project.	County, City, Township, School Budgets & Possible FEMA HMA funding for Safe Room Construction
18	Severe Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	Identify cities and rural areas within the County where there are gaps in warning siren coverage, and work to obtain funding to install new sirens.	Ongoing	High	2017-2021	Benton County, Gilman, Foley, <b>Rice</b>	BC Emergency Management in coordination with City Admin/Public Works	<p>Benton County has a system of emergency warning sirens throughout the county, which are used to alert residents during severe wind events. However, there are gaps in warning siren coverage. The City of Gilman has no warning siren and the City of Foley needs a warning siren at the south part of town. Benton County Emergency Management will work with each City to address how to meet this need.</p> <p><i>City Comment - The Northwest portion of the City has no warning siren. We will work with Benton County Emergency Management to discuss how this can be addressed.</i></p>	County Budget, NOAA/NWS Grants, Possible FEMA grant funding through 5% Initiative



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21	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations	Identify, map, and prioritize roads, bridges, and culverts in the County that are impacted by flood events, and prioritize required mitigation measures to reduce future flood damages.	Ongoing	High	2017-2021	Benton County, Foley, Gilman, <b>Rice</b> , Sauk Rapids and All Townships	BC Public Works/Highway Dept., BC GIS, BC SWCD, and local city and township public works	Benton County strives to constantly improve its road and culvert infrastructure against flooding, but is limited by financial resources to go beyond maintenance on some projects. Funding shortages keep the Benton Co. Public Works Department from meeting all mitigation needs in the county.	County, and Township Budgets, Possible outside grants via SWCD
22	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations / Structure and Infrastructure Projects	Encourage and ensure that culverts and drainage ditches in the county are clear and unobstructed so that maximum flood water dispersal is possible.	Ongoing	High	2017-2021	Benton County, Foley, Gilman, <b>Rice</b> , Sauk Rapids	BC Public Works/Highway Dept. in coordination with local city and township road authorities	This is a function of the County Public Works/Highway department and local cities and townships. Private landowners are also encouraged to maintain their culverts and ditches to be free of debris.	County, City and Township Budgets
23	Flooding	Structure and Infrastructure Projects	Implement prioritized flood mitigation measures for roads, bridges, culverts, and drainage systems.	New	High	2017-2021	Benton County, Foley, Gilman, <b>Rice</b> , Sauk Rapids, and All Townships	BC Public Works/Highway Dept., BC GIS, BC SWCD, and local city and township public works	Benton County Highway Department and Benton County Public Works maintain an annual list of prioritized roads and transportation infrastructure projects to address improvements. Planning for projects is adjusted as flood events occur and may present new challenges.	County/State Aid, Federal Surface Trans., Clean Water Fund, SWCD funding, Possible FEMA HMA funding for Localized Flood Reduction Projects

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24	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations	Ensure that storm water management plans and improvement projects are identified and prioritized to address flood management for future high-impact rain events throughout the County.	Ongoing	New	2017-2021	Benton County, Foley, Gilman, <b>Rice</b> , Sauk Rapids, and All Townships	BC Public Works/Highway Dept., HC GIS, HC SWCD and local city public works depts., MNDNR, MPCA	Benton County will work with cities and townships to ensure we identify needed storm water management plans and improvement projects for future high-impact rain events. In the identification of projects we will seek to identify what projects may be eligible to apply for the MPCA's annual Clean Water Project Priority List (PPL). Projects must be on the PPL to be eligible to apply for low interest CWRF loans and other state grants and loans from the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority (PFA). PFA financing is for investments in municipal infrastructure which result in improvements in water quality. Funding is not available for privately owned infrastructure.	County/State Aid, Federal Surface Trans., Clean Water Fund, SWCD funding, Possible MPCA/PFA grant funding

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25	Flooding	Structure and Infrastructure Projects	Implement storm water management structure and infrastructure projects to assist with flood management throughout the County.	Ongoing	New	2017-2021	Benton County, Foley, Gilman, <b>Rice</b> , Sauk Rapids, and All Townships	BC Public Works/Highway Dept., HC GIS, HC SWCD and local city public works depts., MNDNR, MPCA	The County and jurisdictions will seek outside grant funding where possible to fund eligible stormwater improvement projects, such as through MPCA and FEMA HMA funding for flood reduction projects.	County/State Aid, Federal Surface Trans., Clean Water Fund, SWCD funding, Possible FEMA HMA funding for Localized Flood Reduction Projects
26	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations	Ensure that wellhead protection plans are in place to address flooding that may lead to contaminated drinking water.	New	High	2017-2021	Benton County, Foley, Gilman, <b>Rice</b> , Sauk Rapids	BC SWCD, MN Dept of Health and local city and township public works depts.	Cities work directly with the Minnesota Department of Health on the development or update of wellhead protection plans to ensure they meet State requirements.	MDH Source Water Protection grant funding for wellhead improvement projects
38	Drought	Education & Awareness Programs/ Local Planning & Regulations	Promote water conservation measures and awareness to residents during periods of drought. Enforce orders for water conservation when needed (i.e., prohibit watering lawns during drought).	Ongoing	High	2017-2021	Benton County, Foley, Gilman, <b>Rice</b> , Sauk Rapids	Benton County Emergency Management, Local City Government	Promoting water conservation during periods of drought is a standing effort of the County and local governments.	County/City Budgets