

This Appendix provides a summary report including the public input and response to the online citizen hazard mitigation survey.



1. Please indicate your age range:

		Response Percent	Response Count
18 to 30		2.4%	4
31 to 40		14.2%	24
41 to 50		26.0%	44
51 to 60		26.6%	45
60 or over		30.8%	52
		answered question	169
		skipped question	5

2. Please indicate what municipality you live in Tioga County:

		Response Percent	Response Count
Barton, Town		4.6%	8
Berkshire, Town		0.0%	0
Candor, Town		5.2%	9
Candor, Village		0.6%	1
Newark Valley, Town		3.5%	6
Newark Valley, Village		0.6%	1
Nichols, Town		2.3%	4
Nichols, Village		3.5%	6
Owego, Town		26.0%	45
Owego, Village		29.5%	51
Richford, Town		3.5%	6
Spencer, Town		2.3%	4
Spencer, Village		1.2%	2
Tioga, Town		15.6%	27
Waverly, Village		1.7%	3
answered question			173
skipped question			1

3. How long have you lived in Tioga County?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Less than 1 year		1.7%	3
1 to 5 years		5.2%	9
6 to 9 years		9.2%	16
10 to 19 years		14.5%	25
20 years or more		69.4%	120
answered question			173
skipped question			1

4. Do you own or rent your place of residence?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Own		93.6%	161
Rent		6.4%	11
answered question			172
skipped question			2

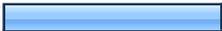
5. What is your zip code?

	Response Count
	172
answered question	172
skipped question	2

6. What is your home address? (optional, will be kept confidential - only used to identify localized hazard areas such as flooding)

	Response Count
	116
answered question	116
skipped question	58

7. Please rank how prepared you feel you and your household are for the probable impacts of natural hazard events likely to occur within Tioga County. Rank on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 representing the most prepared.

		Response Percent	Response Count
1 (least)		9.4%	15
2		18.2%	29
3		30.2%	48
4		32.7%	52
5 (Most)		9.4%	15
	answered question		159
	skipped question		15

8. In what ways do you believe you are prepared for the probable impacts from natural hazard events that may occur within Tioga County? (Please check all that apply)

		Response Percent	Response Count
I have taken precautionary measures to protect my property though retrofits or when constructed		29.9%	46
I have a preparedness kit consisting of basic supplies and materials for my family and myself		53.9%	83
I have identified the location of the nearest severe weather shelter		22.1%	34
I have a personal family emergency preparedness plan, and have discussed it with my family and others for whom I have responsibility		37.0%	57
I have at least two methods for receiving emergency notifications and for information during severe weather or other potential emergency situations		56.5%	87
I have insurance policies to cover losses from specific risks (e.g. flood insurance)		43.5%	67
Emergency preparedness information from a government source (e.g., federal, state, or local emergency management)		37.0%	57
Locally provided news or other media information		56.5%	87
Schools and other academic institutions		13.0%	20
I have attended meetings that have dealt with disaster preparedness		40.3%	62

Other (please specify)



11.0%

17

answered question

154

skipped question

20

9. In the past 10 years, which of the following types of hazard events have you or someone in your household experienced, or sustained damage as a result of, within Tioga County, and how concerned are you about the following natural hazards impacting the area? (In the first column indicate if you have experienced the hazard, then indicate your level of concern).

	Have Experienced	Not Concerned	Somewhat Concerned	Very Concerned	Extremely Concerned	Response Count
Dam Failure	2.7% (3)	79.1% (87)	16.4% (18)	1.8% (2)	1.8% (2)	110
Drought	24.6% (29)	30.5% (36)	50.0% (59)	13.6% (16)	0.0% (0)	118
Earthquake	22.0% (27)	61.8% (76)	30.1% (37)	1.6% (2)	0.0% (0)	123
Epidemic/Pandemic	3.7% (4)	32.1% (35)	54.1% (59)	10.1% (11)	2.8% (3)	109
Extreme Temperatures	22.1% (25)	43.4% (49)	38.1% (43)	13.3% (15)	3.5% (4)	113
Flooding - Property	33.3% (43)	29.5% (38)	16.3% (21)	19.4% (25)	22.5% (29)	129
Flooding - Basement	42.6% (55)	24.0% (31)	21.7% (28)	10.9% (14)	24.0% (31)	129
Flooding - 1st Floor	17.4% (20)	50.4% (58)	9.6% (11)	12.2% (14)	17.4% (20)	115
Flooding - Above 1st Floor	3.0% (3)	75.0% (75)	8.0% (8)	11.0% (11)	5.0% (5)	100
Flooding - Street	42.6% (55)	25.6% (33)	21.7% (28)	14.0% (18)	23.3% (30)	129
Hail	40.8% (51)	36.8% (46)	41.6% (52)	8.0% (10)	0.8% (1)	125
Hurricane\Tropical Storm	41.1% (53)	16.3% (21)	38.0% (49)	20.9% (27)	11.6% (15)	129
Ice Storm	39.2% (51)	13.8% (18)	43.8% (57)	26.9% (35)	5.4% (7)	130
Infestation	7.4% (8)	56.5% (61)	35.2% (38)	5.6% (6)	1.9% (2)	108
Land Subsidence/Sinkholes	11.8% (13)	66.4% (73)	21.8% (24)	5.5% (6)	1.8% (2)	110
Landslide	2.9% (3)	78.4% (80)	15.7% (16)	2.9% (3)	0.0% (0)	102

Severe Storms	46.2% (60)	7.7% (10)	39.2% (51)	28.5% (37)	14.6% (19)	130
Severe Winter Storms (Blizzard, Heavy Snow, Ice)	49.3% (68)	12.3% (17)	34.8% (48)	34.1% (47)	9.4% (13)	138
Tornado	17.2% (20)	25.9% (30)	46.6% (54)	15.5% (18)	10.3% (12)	116
Utility Failure	55.2% (80)	11.0% (16)	33.8% (49)	27.6% (40)	13.8% (20)	145
Wildfire	3.9% (4)	62.1% (64)	30.1% (31)	3.9% (4)	1.0% (1)	103
Other	8.7% (4)	69.6% (32)	19.6% (9)	2.2% (1)	2.2% (1)	46
answered question						160
skipped question						14

10. Information on the impacts of and how to prepare for a natural disaster can be disseminated to the public in various ways. Of the information sources below, please identify the top three (3) that are MOST EFFECTIVE in providing you with information to make your home safer and better able to withstand the impact of natural hazard events.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Newspaper - Press & Sun-Bulletin		33.3%	53
Newspaper - Morning Times		6.3%	10
County and/or Local Gov't. Websites		18.9%	30
Local Government E-Mail		9.4%	15
Police, Fire, EMS, 9-1-1		20.8%	33
Telephone Book		1.3%	2
Informational Brochures		17.0%	27
Public Meetings		26.4%	42
Workshops		10.7%	17
Schools		5.0%	8
TV News		51.6%	82
TV Advertising		7.5%	12
Radio News		41.5%	66
Radio Advertisements		3.8%	6
Outdoor Advertisements		1.9%	3
Internet		34.0%	54
Chamber of Commerce		0.6%	1
Fire Department/EMS Agency		17.6%	28
Academic Institutions		0.6%	1
Public Awareness Event		14.5%	23

Books		1.3%	2
Public Library		0.6%	1
Other (please specify)		11.3%	18
answered question			159
skipped question			15

11. To the best of your knowledge is your property located in a designated floodplain?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		27.0%	43
No		67.3%	107
Not Sure		5.7%	9
answered question			159
skipped question			15

12. Do you have flood insurance?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		23.3%	37
No		76.7%	122
answered question			159
skipped question			15

13. If you do NOT have flood insurance, what is the primary reason?

		Response Percent	Response Count
I don't need it/my property has never flooded		16.7%	20
Don't need it/located on high ground		67.5%	81
It is too expensive		6.7%	8
Not familiar with it/don't know about it		3.3%	4
Insurance company will not provide		2.5%	3
My homeowners insurance will cover me		1.7%	2
It is not worth it		1.7%	2
		answered question	120
		skipped question	54

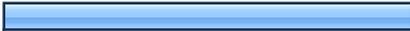
14. Do you or did you have problems getting homeowners/renters insurance due to risks from natural hazards?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		1.3%	2
No		98.7%	154
		answered question	156
		skipped question	18

15. If you answered "yes" to the previous question, please identify the natural hazard risk that caused you to have problems obtaining homeowners/renters insurance.

	Response Count
	4
answered question	4
skipped question	170

16. Did you consider the impact a natural disaster could have on your home before you purchased/moved into your home?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		38.3%	59
No		61.7%	95
	answered question		154
	skipped question		20

17. Was the presence of a natural hazard risk zone (i.e. flood zone) disclosed to you by a real estate agent, seller, or landlord before you purchased/moved into your home?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		13.7%	21
No		37.3%	57
Not Applicable		49.0%	75
	answered question		153
	skipped question		21

18. Would the disclosure of this type of information influence your decision to purchase/move into a home?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		80.4%	119
No		19.6%	29
answered question			148
skipped question			26

19. How much money would you be willing to spend on your current home to retrofit it from the impacts of potential future natural disasters within our community? Examples of retrofitting are: Elevating a flood-prone home; elevating utilities in flood-prone basements; retrofitting your roof, siding or windows to withstand high winds; removing threatening trees or branches.

		Response Percent	Response Count
\$5,000 or above		26.5%	40
\$2,500 to \$4,999		11.3%	17
\$1,000 to \$2,499		14.6%	22
\$500 to \$999		5.3%	8
\$100 to \$499		4.6%	7
Less than \$100		1.3%	2
Nothing		9.9%	15
Don't know		26.5%	40
answered question			151
skipped question			23

20. If available, which of the following incentives would help to encourage you to spend money to retrofit your home from the possible impacts of natural disasters? (Please check all that apply)

		Response Percent	Response Count
Building permit fee waiver		29.6%	45
Insurance premium discount		55.9%	85
Low interest rate loan		27.6%	42
Property tax break or incentive		70.4%	107
Mortgage discount		23.0%	35
Grant funding that requires a "cost-share"		50.7%	77
None		11.8%	18
Other (please specify)		9.2%	14
answered question			152
skipped question			22

21. If your property were located in a designated "high hazard" area, or had received repeated damages from a natural hazard event, would you consider a "buyout", elevation of the structure, or relocation offered by a public agency should it be made available?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		90.6%	135
No		9.4%	14
answered question			149
skipped question			25

22. What types of projects do you believe local, county, state or federal government agencies should be doing in order to reduce the damage and disruption of natural hazards in Tioga County? Rate these by importance on a scale of H (high), M (medium), or L (low):

	H	M	L	Response Count
Retrofit and strengthen essential facilities such as police, schools, hospitals	59.3% (89)	32.7% (49)	8.0% (12)	150
Retrofit infrastructure, such as elevating roadways and improving drainage systems	74.7% (112)	20.7% (31)	4.7% (7)	150
Work on improving the damage resistance of utilities (electricity, communications, etc.)	70.2% (106)	25.8% (39)	4.0% (6)	151
Install or improve protective structures, such as floodwalls or levees	51.0% (78)	36.6% (56)	12.4% (19)	153
Replace inadequate or vulnerable bridges and causeways	66.9% (101)	27.8% (42)	5.3% (8)	151
Strengthen codes, ordinances and plans to require higher hazard risk management standards and/or provide greater control over development in high hazard areas	46.7% (70)	36.0% (54)	17.3% (26)	150
Acquire vulnerable properties and maintain as open-space	34.2% (52)	40.8% (62)	25.0% (38)	152
Inform property owners of ways they can mitigate damage to their properties	61.8% (94)	28.9% (44)	9.2% (14)	152
Provide better information about hazard risks and high-hazard areas	60.7% (91)	28.0% (42)	11.3% (17)	150
Assist vulnerable property owners with securing funding to mitigate their properties	58.3% (88)	30.5% (46)	11.3% (17)	151
			Other (please specify)	11

answered question	153
skipped question	21

23. Other Comments:

	Response Count
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37

answered question	37
skipped question	137

Page 3, Q8. In what ways do you believe you are prepared for the probable impacts from natural hazard events that may occur within Tioga County? (Please check all that apply)

1	THRU MY EMPLOYER BEFORE RETIREMENT	Aug 13, 2012 2:22 PM
2	Watch Weather Daily, Heed Warnings, Been through 2 floods (have gear, routine, etc).	Mar 25, 2012 3:14 PM
3	FEMA Courses, SKYWARN, EMT,	Mar 11, 2012 9:46 AM
4	purchased an emergency power generator	Mar 8, 2012 7:02 PM
5	Well armed	Feb 27, 2012 10:34 PM
6	General knowledge on what needs to be done	Feb 26, 2012 2:10 PM
7	back up power sources in case of loss of power	Feb 23, 2012 5:28 PM
8	purchased an emergency power generator	Feb 23, 2012 12:26 PM
9	Volunteer FF Campville	Feb 23, 2012 11:50 AM
10	I am on emergency preparedness team for Tioga County Health Department	Feb 23, 2012 10:48 AM
11	owego fire dept. member	Feb 23, 2012 9:07 AM
12	Electric Generator in case of electricity outage	Feb 22, 2012 5:04 PM
13	purchased generator	Feb 22, 2012 2:27 PM
14	need to buy gas generator	Feb 22, 2012 1:37 PM
15	Generator	Feb 22, 2012 12:52 PM
16	on line information available when ther's power and service	Feb 21, 2012 9:55 PM
17	knowledge learned as a result of flood 2011	Feb 21, 2012 4:59 PM

Page 3, Q10. Information on the impacts of and how to prepare for a natural disaster can be disseminated to the public in various ways. Of the information sources below, please identify the top three (3) that are MOST EFFECTIVE in providing you with information to make your home safer and better able to withs...

1	Sheriff's department training at work	May 14, 2012 1:16 PM
2	FEMA	Mar 16, 2012 1:35 PM
3	Local papers cOURIER, pENNYSAVER, cOMMUNITY pRESS BORADER VIEW WEEKLY	Mar 14, 2012 4:51 PM
4	Newspaper - Ithaca Journal	Mar 14, 2012 10:56 AM
5	/National Weather Service	Mar 11, 2012 9:46 AM
6	Reverse 911 System	Feb 28, 2012 12:07 PM
7	local scanner frequencies	Feb 27, 2012 1:42 PM
8	Ithaca Journal	Feb 24, 2012 1:46 PM
9	common sense - individual awareness	Feb 24, 2012 12:00 PM
10	pennysaver (website)	Feb 22, 2012 7:07 PM
11	neighbors	Feb 22, 2012 4:07 PM
12	Pennysaver or Courier	Feb 22, 2012 2:27 PM
13	Penny Saver	Feb 22, 2012 12:21 AM
14	Facebook	Feb 21, 2012 7:49 PM
15	Word of mouth / neighbors	Feb 21, 2012 5:21 PM
16	door to door to deliver the brochure, flyer , message- the personal connection helps us remember	Feb 21, 2012 4:59 PM
17	Facebook	Jan 27, 2012 3:21 PM
18	Tioga County Courier	Jan 27, 2012 2:53 PM

Page 3, Q15. If you answered "yes" to the previous question, please identify the natural hazard risk that caused you to have problems obtaining homeowners/renters insurance.

1	earthquake	May 27, 2012 10:20 PM
2	Cost prohibative	May 14, 2012 1:16 PM
3	na	Feb 22, 2012 7:07 PM
4	I did not have a problem getting insurance in June 2011, but I am concerned that	Feb 21, 2012 10:58 PM

Page 3, Q15. If you answered "yes" to the previous question, please identify the natural hazard risk that caused you to have problems obtaining homeowners/renters insurance.

I will have a problem when I go to renew my insurance this June.

Page 4, Q20. If available, which of the following incentives would help to encourage you to spend money to retrofit your home from the possible impacts of natural disasters? (Please check all that apply)

1	Grant	Apr 30, 2012 10:17 PM
2	Eliminating the cause of extreme weather: fossil fuel use and extraction	Feb 28, 2012 7:26 PM
3	we don't own our home	Feb 23, 2012 10:52 AM
4	My driveway was destroyed by runoff. Can't afford to fix it.	Feb 22, 2012 9:59 PM
5	3rd party review for potential hazards and ways to mitigate	Feb 22, 2012 5:11 PM
6	low price.	Feb 22, 2012 1:42 PM
7	Paid for by public funds	Feb 22, 2012 1:09 PM
8	Buying out my house so I can get out of the village. Never did I think that we would have been hit this hard and it is terrifying that the majority of the village got slammed like it did. I want out. But we are stuck as no one will want my house now.	Feb 22, 2012 12:31 PM
9	I believe that the flood impact has been exacerbated by village and state decisions. Thus, I believe they should pay for the mitigation. The Village allowed development of the Price Chopper Plaza by Weitsman. This was a natural flood plain and I believe has displaced at least a block of water during a flood. Also, the Village and State allowed the contractor that build the bridge to leave fill in the river and this has exacerbated the floods.	Feb 21, 2012 11:13 PM
10	grant monies for low income home owners	Feb 21, 2012 9:59 PM
11	full grant	Feb 21, 2012 9:50 PM
12	Grants, no cost to myself	Feb 21, 2012 8:31 PM
13	We rent so we wouldn't pay for it.	Feb 21, 2012 7:50 PM
14	Rebate for steps we have already taken	Feb 21, 2012 4:19 PM

Page 4, Q22. What types of projects do you believe local, county, state or federal government agencies should be doing in order to reduce the damage and disruption of natural hazards in Tioga County? Rate these by importance on a scale of H (high), M (medium), or L (low):

1	Require and take seriously an environmental impact on companies that want to set up business in the area	May 27, 2012 10:30 PM
2	Create an alternative route to get trucks off of north ave and have an escape route for down town people during floods.	Apr 25, 2012 11:17 AM
3	Do more cleaning out of the rivers and creeks!	Mar 10, 2012 1:44 PM
4	Quickly embark plans for energy conservation and renewables.	Feb 28, 2012 7:26 PM
5	finding other ways to prevent flooding. possibly damn systems like those used after Agnes that have held to current date to prevent flooding in Pa and parts of NY.Preventing the flooding is priority, then concentrating on the rest.	Feb 23, 2012 5:41 PM
6	clear/dredge the creeks and river-throw up flood walls--redirect water away from peoples' homes	Feb 22, 2012 4:37 PM
7	Information should be shared with the community on what projects, if anything, are being considered at the Federal, State or Local level in an attempt to reduce the impact of future disasters (floods).	Feb 22, 2012 2:29 PM
8	clear debris from streams yearly with volunteers	Feb 22, 2012 1:47 PM
9	cleaning the waterways of debris~~~	Feb 22, 2012 12:56 PM
10	All areas need to be addressed as they are all intertwined. But there needs to be high attention paid to drainage from hills, new developments, and better levees and flood walls	Feb 22, 2012 12:31 PM
11	Village residents and small businesses seem to be victims of the lack of controls in place for the local industries and former superfund sites. Nothing seems to be done or is in place to handle these potential sources of pollution. There needs to be a clear emergency plan for the industrial companies in the area. I am concerned that Superior Wells did not have an emergency plan for flooding even though it is in a flood plain. Also, Weitsman needs to have controls in place in anticipation of flood.	Feb 21, 2012 11:13 PM

Page 4, Q23. Other Comments:

1	<p>Our community exceeded requirements with respect to saving lives and providing support to those in need with respect to recent major flood. Tioga County has put together a proactive team to address needs and actions for the future to insure high quality of life while living close to our beautiful river. Continued high effort needs to be implemented to gain FEMA funding for the flood mitigation projects identified to reduce flood damages and saving lives.</p>	Jul 11, 2012 11:29 AM
2	<p>I am very concerned about the companies that are polluting (Weitzman Metal Recycling) and/or have toxic chemicals onsite (Superior Stimulation and Cementing) that are located on the flood plain. Weitzman is a toxic mess and has been for years and Superior had no plan in place to remove or handle chemicals or hazardous silica sand in case of a flood. Go up to the Indian Monument and look out over the village of Owego and you will see this big dirty cloud over the western part of the village. For the sake of a few crummy jobs, the county is allowing a large chemical pollution risk, with minimal tax return. Also, there have been no mitigations for the large amount of flood plain that Price Chopper Plaza has displaced. I believe the flooded western part of the the village of Owego equals the amount of flood plain displaced by this plaza. This is an example of very bad planning. Also, I am most concerned about the hazard of unconventional gas drilling (fracking). The county is not at all prepared for the air and water pollution from this industry. None of the County or Town officials attends any of the public education events to provide understanding of the impact of unconventional gas drilling. They seem to want to make this county a pleasant place for industrialization and an unpleasant place to live. I have a good middle class income and want to move from this area. I will do so soon if there is no progress by the local government in reducing the pollution from local industrialization. The flood response by the County, Town and Village was incompetent at best, nothing was learned from the 2006 flood.</p>	May 27, 2012 10:30 PM
3	<p>I'm really not sure what, if anything, has been done over the last 6 years to improve the Emergency Management Plan. Homes/businesses located in 'High Risk' flood areas, were not properly informed pre or post Sept. 2011 flood of mitigation plans. It appears that the Tioga County Government has dropped off the map, in regards to recovery efforts. If Tioga County were to have another natural disaster within the next couple years, I do not feel that the county would be in a position to make a positive impact. What efforts have been made by the county to quantify the damage? What grants have been applied for that HAVE NOT been announced by the governor? How many citizens of Tioga County have been informed of this poll?</p>	May 8, 2012 5:25 PM
4	<p>Create another truck route to get them off of North Ave. Make some other avenue to get trucks over the tracks as well as pedestrian traffic. In the event of a medical emergency during a flood the filled under pass will trap people and curtail rescues. If a fracking or other chemical containing truck were to have an accident at the North Ave corner it could end up as a catastrophic event and permanently devalue and damage the down town village</p>	Apr 25, 2012 11:17 AM
5	<p>I am in need of funding to elevate my home which was damaged with Tropical Storm Lee, 9/3/12. I need to elevate my home but do not have the resources to do so. Kenneth Sutfin 607-592-22268</p>	Apr 1, 2012 12:48 PM
6	<p>Raise Ranch, first level (below grade) flooded in 2006 and 2011, both times flooding cause by Laine Creek which is on property. Local streams, drainage</p>	Mar 16, 2012 1:54 PM

Page 4, Q23. Other Comments:

areas need to be clear and banks supported as these streams fill in. Creek banks were 10+ feet when we built our home. In 2006 creek had filled in to point where banks were only 2-3 ft. Creek was dredge after 2006 flood to 8-10 ft. banks, in 2011 banks were again only 2-3 ft. Damages to my home were over \$35,000 in 2006 and over \$40,000 in 2011. It should be noted that Flood Insurance does not cover "property" in below grade areas. Many raised ranches have below grade 1st floors (Note regulation states that only 1 side needs to be below grade). Therefore all property lost can not be covered by Flood insurance. In our case we had 1 bathroom, two bedrooms and a recreation room and all the contents can not be covered by Flood Insurance. State and Local governments should advocated that flood insurance coverage be allowed for below grade "essential living areas". Stream/drainage and the rivers should all be considered for hazard mitigation. This would create jobs and provide a higher tax base as home values would increase and less people would leave (Several of our neighbors have abandoned there homes due to flooding). Assessments will also be lower because of the lost of value for homes in flood areas.

7 Start CERT training in Tioga County. Mar 11, 2012 9:49 AM

8 We see more and more flooding due to the fact that gravel has filled in the areas where the creeks hit the Susquehanna river. Also the creeks that were maintained for years back in the '70's and '80's (and previous to that) made many homes safer to live in. We see the DEC as caring more about a little fish than people. What a shame! Mar 10, 2012 1:44 PM

9 Once housing, businesses and public facilities, etc. are established in sparse rural or more intensely populated suburban environments in the vicinity of (as well as dependant upon), respective roads, drainage ditches, culverts and bridges... the corresponding drainage ways which were configured/managed prior to significant storms/floods cannot (should not) be neglected or under-managed. From the inherent features of our own terrain - the Northern Allegheny Plateau - with its deeply dissected and numerous high-gradient hollows; relatively narrow to moderate width streams/valleys... and one primary river; plus and the predominance of glacial till fragipan soils (limited internal soil drainage and rapid surface runoff), along all hills in all watersheds... two things are guaranteed to re-occur. The first is the certainty of a), localized flooding from locally severe portions of area storms affecting one or two towns and b), areawide flooding events along main valleys from region wide tropical storms. The second certainty is the ongoing movement of thousands of tons of stone and rock "bedload" material, scoured and eroded from high gradient segments of hollows and streams during each heavy storm flow - deposited along with log tree and brush debris in relatively low gradient segments of the streams... and in still flatter reaches nearing the river, resulting in channel blockage and expanded flooding beyond the mostst prone areas. To cut to the chase: the experience of an increase in localized flooding from area storms - as well as an increase in the extent of each local community which will flood from tropical storms wil continue, directly corresponding with the increased deposition - and inadequate maintenance - of bedload materials in primary ditches, waterways, streams and toward their mouth of delivery into the river. Unless the areas of established rural and suburban housing, businesses and other facilities... with the infrastructure of local, county and state roads can be provided a dependable, ongoing management/cleanout of bedload debris adequately above and below all culverts and bridges (together with practical ditch maintenance) down to the Mar 8, 2012 9:02 PM

Page 4, Q23. Other Comments:

original bed of the respective low gradient zone of bedload deposition, the local flooding situation will worsen from each succeeding event - guaranteed. For some easy to see examples, tour State Route 17C and look up and down the various intermittent streams/channels and the culvert sor bridges and see how much rock bedload is left behind in each after "emergency" work was "completed" - leaving behind a net gain of debris compared to the pre-Lee level. In some channels a majority of the deposition appears to have been scooped and spread back on an inclined angle, into the eroded banks - all loose and ready to wash out again and clog the channel bed and culverts.... (examples: Stream at Route 17C between TJs Market and Oak Hill Road, Barton and same stream at Old Barton Road East inside the hamlet; Pipe Creek, Tioga Center at local and state roads; series of crib drop structures north of 17C between Rte 282 and Smithboro.... Take a look at the various intermittent and perennial channels leading to the river in the Town of Nichols also; and the various high gradient hollows and receiving streams east west and south of Apalachin.... Consider checking into the recently started, ongoing channel drainage maintenance, intergovernmental program in Chemung Chemung County! the Chemung Co. Soil and Water Conservation District is one of the major parties in this ongoing maintenance and a key operator/manager. Within our same Northern Allegheny Plateau terrain, the Village of Walton experienced flooding in parts of the residential area that had not had any in many many decades, several years ago. While it was anticipated in the lowest portions of the village nearest the West Branch of the Delaware, it was not anticipated back 1/3 or 1/2 mile away in the residential sections divided amongst three tributary streams flowing through it toward the river. The majority of culverts and bridges along the village's part of the tributaries had an incremental buildup of alluvial bedload deposits which had been neglected, i.e.: had not been managed/ cleaned out back to original channel bed. The flow capacity of the channels was acutely compromised and the water of the three tribs found the path of least resistance: home yards and basements and streets. The weather can't be controlled; but recognizing the responsibility for drainage flow capacity management of intermittent and perennial stream channels for road culverts and bridges which affect homes, businesses and other facilities near should be. If not, it's only going to get worse.

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| 10 | Do not allow people to become complacent! | Mar 7, 2012 10:53 PM |
| 11 | Having a basic household emergency plan is very important as we are never sure what will occur next. Support starts at home and within each neighborhood and with each communities emergency agencies, ie, fire department local government, and police. Quick response by our local agencies with support from state and federal government is essential. | Mar 7, 2012 5:42 AM |
| 12 | Since the Village of Owego is located in a floodway I think that home owners should be offered the option to elevate or floodproof thier homes. I feel that there should be federal aid/grants to help the mitigation effort. | Mar 5, 2012 10:27 AM |
| 13 | The only effect the flood had on me personally was loss of power for four days and a flooded roadway that took out the road and the bridge (between Chestnut Ridge Rd. and Rhodes Rd.) on Pennsylvania Ave. Penn. Ave is a major road and when it is unpassable the alternate routes to reach S. Apalachin are minimal and potentially non-existent. The bridge at the end of Rhodes Road where it intersects with Penn. Ave has been closed for many years, which further reduces | Mar 2, 2012 5:28 PM |

Page 4, Q23. Other Comments:

access to South Apalachin (this bridge needs to be fixed and reopened!) . The bridge at the end of Lillie Hill Rd. where it meets Penn. Ave was washed out also...

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| 14 | Restoration is always the most expensive solution...whether the focus is flooding or tooth decay. Courting high volume, slickwater hydraulic fracturing exacerbates extreme weather that causes so much damage. Educate people to look at the big picture and put the focus on primary prevention....End fossil fuel extraction and move quickly to rooftop solar. Through NYSEERDA, free energy analysis of homes is available for those with an annual income of less than 123,000 and low-cost for even those earning more, as well as on-bill financing of energy reducing solutions...starting with insulation. | Feb 28, 2012 7:26 PM |
| 15 | Redo large stone Owego Creek bank-reinforcement on Park Settlement Rd.between railroad tracks and the bridge over Owego Creek -- creek bank opposite Clark's property. It has slid forward into the creek and settled at a lower elevation than before. Also, remove peninsula that has formed below bridge, which is so large now, that it is displacing a significant amount of water; it has formed, as a result of the drag created by the bridge pilings or supports. | Feb 27, 2012 11:39 AM |
| 16 | There is a great need to get information to residents regarding sources and the availability of help/information to protect their homes and to find low cost monies to allow them to do what is needed to alleviate the consequences of natural disasters. | Feb 27, 2012 11:30 AM |
| 17 | The Village of Owego needs to stop allowing development in flood prone areas. Too many times, those with influence have been able to set up businesses in flood prone areas, and this is done to the detriment of the other residents. | Feb 26, 2012 5:46 PM |
| 18 | Planning Boards at Town and County level need more education before they approve appeals that are in a flood zone. I drive by a Church which is exempt from property taxes that was allowed to build directly next to a stream that flooded and has an impermeable asphalt large parking lot. This contributes enormously to the runoff and flooding that occurred in the Pennsylvania Avenue area of Apalachin. | Feb 25, 2012 2:31 PM |
| 19 | have flood ins. doesnt assist if not more than fifty percent damage. | Feb 24, 2012 8:35 AM |
| 20 | Improve County Emergency response plans to better address road closures, detours etc....in the event of natural disasters. | Feb 23, 2012 5:50 PM |
| 21 | After Agnes, in 1972 a 3 dam system was installed from the Wellsboro area to Elmira area. To date flooding has been prevented. These areas also bring in money to the areas. There is camping, boating etc. The diversion of water is a basic way to go. I remember the army corp of eng. everywhere during this process. Maybe Owego should take a good look at something like this. | Feb 23, 2012 5:41 PM |
| 22 | natural disasters will keep happening whether it be in the form of floods, earthquakes, tornados etc. there is nothing we can do to stop them from happening and we dont know what will happen or when. there is not enough money for the government to spend trying to prevent disasters from happening or when they do happen, less damage to property | Feb 23, 2012 11:26 AM |

Page 4, Q23. Other Comments:

23	I live on very high ground. However, I still have about 400 feet of elevation above my home. During extreme inclement weather or fast melts the ground cannot absorb it quickly enough. Therefore, large quantities of water threaten my house, garage, pool and driveway each time the above happens. I hand shovel runoff ditches the best I can and have always been able to save my house, garage and pool. My driveway has suffered terribly though. I cannot afford to have it re-paved or even excavated for that matter and I would have to have heavy machinery used to dig diversion ditches before that. Very frustating!!!!	Feb 22, 2012 9:59 PM
24	I believe that some of the towns and counties older bridges and roads need to be improved since many of them are aging and decaying. Many of our rural roads and bridges were constructed during the depression and need updating.	Feb 22, 2012 7:24 PM
25	It has been 6 months since the September flooding and we haven't seen the County or State do anything to address flooding except to blame property owners for living in flood prone areas-which were frequently not identified as a flood prone area when they bought the properties. Things have changed- because communities up river from Tioga have taken flood mitigation seriously, their overflow of flood waters now coming down stream and destroying Owego and neighboring areas. Some real flood mitigation HERE would be appreciated- such as clearing out streams and drainage pipes, and dredging the river to as deep as the Grand Canyon if that is what it takes to protect the citizens and their property. My general sense is the State and County leadership would just as soon see the citizens move away (float away) and turn this area into a fracking dump zone with some gambling on the side rather than take any steps to protect the citizens and their homes from further flooding.	Feb 22, 2012 4:37 PM
26	Creeks need to be cleaned out on a regular basis so that there is adequate room to accommodate high volume run off. Many creeks were full of gravel and dead wood that caused the loss of numerous bridges. Banks of creeks that have been the repeated location of water jumping the bank during high volume flow need to be built up.	Feb 22, 2012 4:25 PM
27	We live next to the Owego creek and the creek bed is getting shallower every time the water comes up. It was filled with gravel after this last flood. There are huge trees under the Talcott Bridge that block the water and cause it to back up. We need higher levees and flood walls. Monkey Run behind the Middle School and High School and between the bus garage needs something done with that. It can't handle much water. That is where the water comes up and comes accross the school grounds and over to George Street and Talcott and on. The levee had a weak spot right after the ball parks going toward the schools from Talcott Street. We weren't hit as bad as everyone else because we are higher up. We had water just inches from the first floor. Lost our cars and about everything in the garage. We have flood insurance but not for contents. It costs too much. In the 1972 flood this house had 2 feet of clean water in the basement before the levee was built. The most water we have ever had was 2 feet of clean water in the basement so we have everything elevated. We weren't prepared for the September flood. 2006 we got a couple inches. The worst part was there was no communication when you are surrounded by water. Our cell phones didn't work, no power ment no computers, to radio, no tv, etc.	Feb 22, 2012 2:32 PM
28	Communication of critical information in the midst of the flood to those without power (ie- no phone, radio, internet or TV) was severely lacking. That coupled	Feb 22, 2012 2:29 PM

Page 4, Q23. Other Comments:

with the patchy cell phone service created additional stress during an already highly stressful situation. Developing a reliable non-electronic means of getting information and advisories to impacted residents should be a priority! It's all fine and good to have a Plan sitting on a shelf, but there needs to be an Action Plan that is very specific in addressing who is responsible for doing what. Leave no area for doubt...name titles (ie- the Village Mayor is responsible for X, the Town Supervisor is responsible for Y, Chair of the County Legislature is responsible for Z, etc.).

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| 29 | when we are with out power and needed information most of the local radio stations continued with normal programing. It would have been very helpful to know who had water and dry ice and gasoline for the generator and to have updates of road that were open/closed etc. | Feb 22, 2012 1:56 PM |
| 30 | In Florida, June 1st is Hurricane preparedness day. All property owners required to clean debris, sticks, boards, junk, yardwaste off properties to prevent flying "missiles" during storm. Enforced! | Feb 22, 2012 1:47 PM |
| 31 | 1. In addition to not having flood insurance on my home because it has never flooded (and was built in the 1800s), flood insurance is also expensive. 2. On the proposed new flood plain maps, my property would be included as at risk, even though it has never flooded. | Feb 22, 2012 1:09 PM |
| 32 | We need to get all municipalities within the southern tier (at a minimum) looking at ways to protect this area of the Susquehanna basin. There needs to be a bigger focus on protection and prevention from the flood that occurred in September. Elevating houses cannot be the first answer. These houses have existed where they are for, in some instances, hundreds of years. New development of houses, businesses, and strip malls and the drainage of these or re-direction of water flow have led to the situation we are in. There needs to be a high focus on mitigating the problems we have caused and concrete and immediate solutions for protecting the houses that have had NO part in any of this development. But this needs to be handled not just by Owego or Tioga county. It has to do with all municipalities along the Susquehanna in the southern tier region. It's a lofty goal. But we need to start somewhere. Rome wasn't built in a day and we need to stop throwing crap at the wall and seeing if it will stick. | Feb 22, 2012 12:31 PM |
| 33 | I am very concerned about the air pollution from Weitsman junk yard and trucks. If you walk up to the Indian monument and look down at Owego, you see a large dust ball over the western edge of town. Also, the large amount of truck traffic creates a lot of pollution. This is a hazard to the residents of Owego. A future hazard is fracking and this needs to be banned from the Village of Owego and the Town of Owego. | Feb 21, 2012 11:13 PM |
| 34 | I know my home will never be flooded, but the main highway 96b almost flooded the last time and flooded over the road once. This time part of the cause was the two creeks one that flows parrallel to prospect valley road and the other creek that flows parallel to 96b hasn't been cleaned out of fallen trees or any other debris that has floated down in many years. When I was growing up it was always interesting to see how NYSDOT would change the creek and what it would do to improve or mess up the swimming hole. The interesting thing was it never made the fish that chewed on your knees go away!! and you still saw the crawfish things in the water too. I know there have been lots of arguing about | Feb 21, 2012 9:04 PM |

Page 4, Q23. Other Comments:

dredging, and I am not talking about just dredging, I am talking about getting rid of debris that makes an artificial dam which is what happened in many places. Tires, pieces of metal, and old rotting trees do not belong in the creeks.

35 While I sympathize with anyone who lost a home to flooding I do not feel it to be the obligation of the taxpayer to provide financial assistance to these folks. I do not want my taxes or insurances to be raised because someone thought it would be nice to live by a river or creek. The because it never flooded in the past is not an excuse people need to take responsibility (financially) for there decisions to buy/live in a flood plane. Feb 21, 2012 4:46 PM

36 Although Tioga Soil and Water has actively worked at mitigating the stream that flooded my home, it was the failure of the bridge and debris of the stream, that combined in inundating my home. My fear is that there will never be adequate steps taken to ensure that type of event ever occur again. Now that it has, and with the failure to be able to control and maintain that stream and bridge, my home will always be a high risk for future flooding. The only solution(s) that I believe will allow me to live at my residence with reduced impact is either to help in providing the financial ability to elevate the current structure, allowing me as a property owner to maintain the stream/debris, Tioga ensuring that they will annually maintain the stream/bridge area and not become complacent over time. The other option to minimize the costs of the activities mentioned, is a buy out. I am completely open to a buy out proposal. Feb 19, 2012 8:01 PM

37 Train Highway crews to STOP removing all vegetation in road ditches. Reconfigure ditches to slow down the water. Feb 17, 2012 8:44 AM