

# Expanding the Reach of Your Mitigation Activities

Making the Connection to Cemeteries



# FEMA

Natural Hazards Center Webinar | February 13, 2024



# Mitigation Involves the Whole Community





# FEMA's Strategic Plan and Alignment with Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

## FEMA's Strategic Plan

1

Instill equity as a foundation of emergency management.

2

Lead whole of community in climate resilience.

3

Promote and sustain a ready FEMA and prepared nation.

## BRIC's Guiding Principles



Support Community Capability & Capacity Building.



Encourage and Enable Innovation.



Promote Partnerships.



Enable Large Infrastructure Projects.



Maintain Flexibility.



Provide Consistency.



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# FEMA's NMIS and Community Lifelines Also Encourage Whole-Community Engagement

National Mitigation Investment Strategy (NMIS) goals include building a shared understanding of mitigation to communicate its value.

Lifeline-focused mitigation projects could involve a wide variety of public, private and non-profit organizations.



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# The Guides Also Help Engage Sectors That May Not Be Actively Involved in Mitigation Planning

The **17 sectors** covered in the Guides play important roles in mitigation planning and risk reduction activities in their communities.



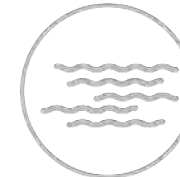
Agriculture



Arts and Culture



Cemeteries



Coast



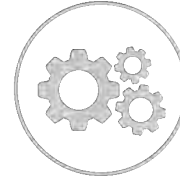
Codes and Standards



Communications Systems



Electric Power



Equity



Faith-Based Partners



Municipal Financing



Older Adults



People with Disabilities



Public Health



Transportation



Whole Community



Wildlife



Zombie Apocalypse



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# The Guides Are a Resource for Teams Who Focus on Mitigation Planning and Programs

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Anyone interested in reducing their community's risk from hazards can learn from the [Guides to Expanding Mitigation](#).



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## Within Each Guide, You Will Find:

1. Insights into the sector.
2. Potential vulnerabilities.
3. Engagement resources, recommendations and data.
4. Ideas for planning and projects.
5. Examples of successful collaboration.



Beyond recovery, engaging with a diverse range of stakeholders is a crucial part of the mitigation planning process that bolsters community resilience. Cooperative relationships strengthen hazard mitigation plans and the ability of communities to implement mitigation goals. By bringing the arts and culture sectors into mitigation planning conversations, officials can identify projects that not only reduce risk, but also benefit the broader community. Artists can support hazard mitigation projects by leveraging ideas, talents, and funding streams to accomplish more together. Ultimately, resilient communities are supported communities, arts and culture

The first goal of FEMA's Strategic Plan is to *BUILD a Culture of Preparedness*. Engaging with arts and culture partners can help achieve these guiding principles:



1. Trust – Develop trust by understanding the culture, context, and history of communities outside of disaster, as well as when an event occurs.
2. Inclusion – Bring the cultural perspectives of all stakeholders to the table.



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# Why Are the Guides Helpful? They:

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Offer new ideas.



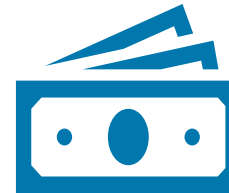
Expand organizations and sectors.



Increase the quality of plans and projects.



Encourage efficiency and creativity.



Provide funding streams and resources.



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# CEMETERIES



# CEMETERIES

## *Why they matter to hazard mitigation*

**Cemeteries are critical cultural resources. They are just as vulnerable to disasters as other community infrastructure.**

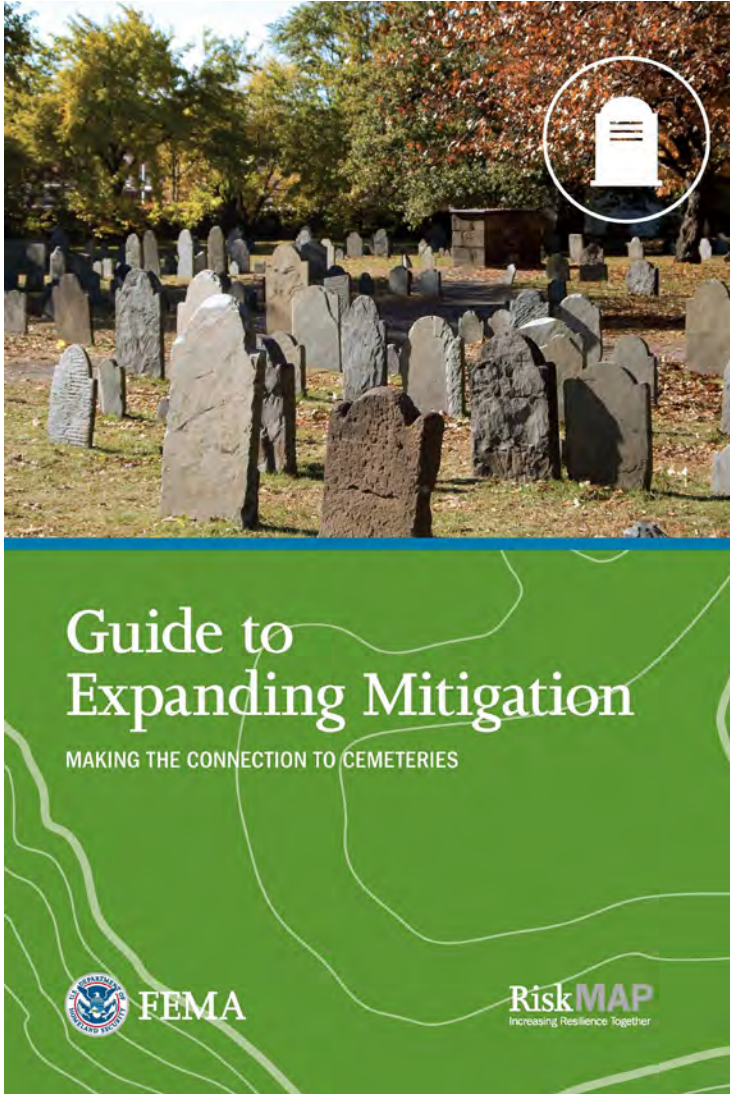
- Cemeteries are important physical records. Losing one can be like losing a community identity.
- From earthquakes to mudslides to erosion, any hazard your community faces can devastate your cemeteries.



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# CEMETERIES: Guide Summary

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This Guide is designed to help community officials talk about mitigation investments that can help make cemeteries more resilient.

Cemetery experts have skills and knowledge that can strengthen emergency management.

- Their historical knowledge makes them great resources on how the community has fared during past disasters and which groups may be most vulnerable.
- We must develop a more well-rounded approach to building community resilience that both plans for the future and honors the past.



# A Deeper Look Inside the Cemeteries Guide

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- How natural disasters affect cemeteries
- Cemeteries and climate change
- Active versus historic cemeteries
- Checklist for evaluating risk
- Challenges for cemeteries
- Opportunities for collaboration
- Resources
- References



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# Cemeteries Representatives

- Cemetery volunteers/friends groups
- Historical/genealogical societies
- State cemetery board
- Historic preservation offices
- Archaeologists
- Stone conservators
- Certified arborists
- Cemetery management companies
- Funeral home directors and associations
- Coroners or medical examiners



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**Sample Mitigation-Focused Project**  
*Anne Arundel County, Maryland citizen stewardship program*





**Sample Mitigation-Focused Project**  
***Laurel Hill Cemetery (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)***





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**The Guides are available here:**  
**[fema.gov/guides-expanding-mitigation](https://fema.gov/guides-expanding-mitigation)**