



REACH *out for*
WELLNESS

Disasters and
Extension's Role

Disasters and Extension's Role

- Defining disaster
- Understanding impacts
- Exploring Extension's role



Defining disaster



What is a disaster?

A serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society at any scale due to hazardous events interacting with conditions of exposure, vulnerability, and capacity

Hazards may be natural and are inevitable but the impact they have on society is not



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nonaturaldisasters.com



What is a disaster?

A hazard will only become a disaster should it impact the workings of a community or society, and a disaster can only happen where a community or society exists

Communities and societies make decisions that will alter their vulnerability to the hazard and change how the hazard impacts them



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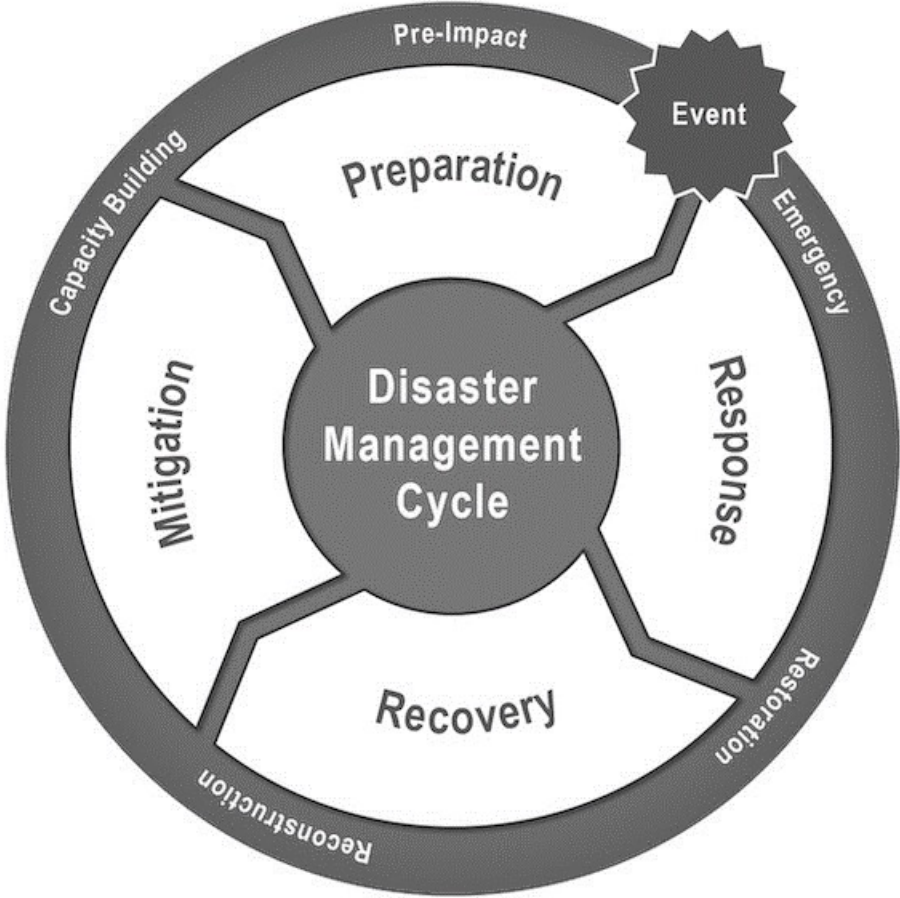


Defining disaster

- All disasters are local
- Disasters disrupt the functioning of communities and societies
- Disaster can be sudden – but not always



Defining disaster



Understanding impacts

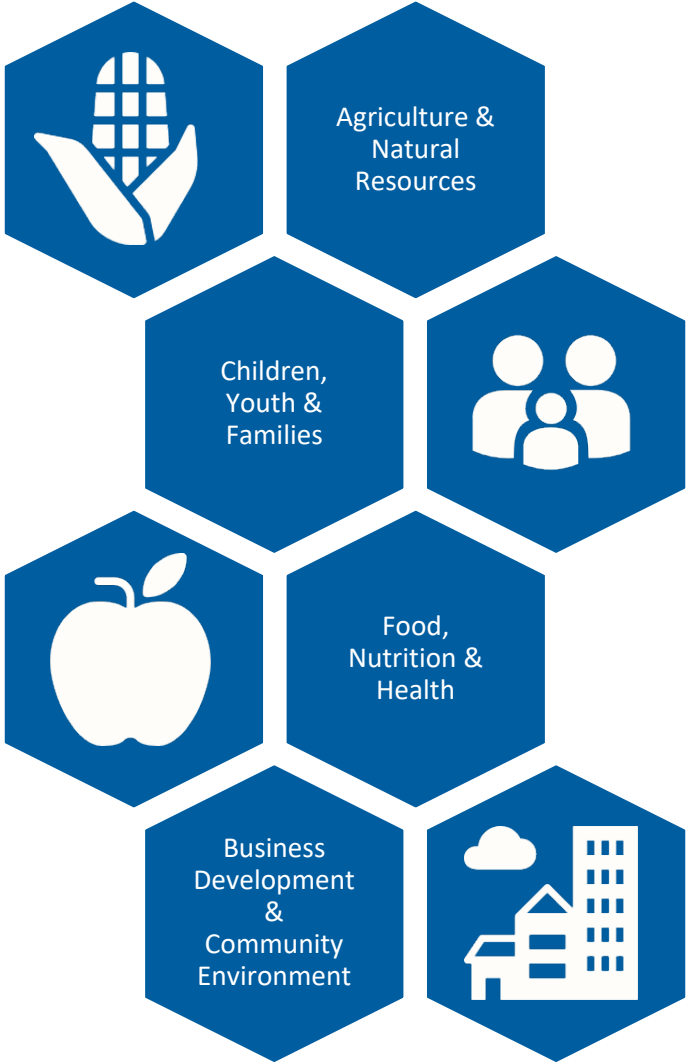


Understanding impacts

- Disasters that result from natural hazards aren't selective
- Impacts can vary but are dependent on conditions of exposure, vulnerability, and capacity



Understanding impacts



Understanding impacts

- Disasters impact all Extension program areas
- Disasters are local – and impacts may be personal
- The degree of impact varies



Exploring Extension's role



Exploring Extension's role

- Disasters are local – and so is Extension
- Extension can and does play a role in all phases of the disaster management cycle



Exploring Extension's role



National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

- USDA Emergency Support Function #11
– Agriculture and Natural Resources
 - National and regional levels
 - Extension Disaster Education Network
 - Local levels
 - Emergency Operations Centers, VOADs/COADs



Exploring Extension's role

Under ESF #11, USDA responsibilities include:

- Providing nutrition assistance;
- Responding to animal and agricultural health issues;
- Providing technical expertise in support of animal and agricultural emergency management;
- Ensuring the safety and defense of the Nation's supply of meat, poultry, and processed egg products; and,
- Protecting Natural, Cultural, and Historical (NCH) resources.



Exploring Extension's role

- Extension's role at the local levels may include:
 - Providing expertise on evident and emergent issues
 - Coordinating communication or resources
 - Managing volunteers
 - Conducting agricultural damage assessment
 - And more...



Exploring Extension's role

Extension can and does play a role in all phases of the disaster management cycle

We are connected to individuals and communities – and our networks are strong, diverse, and ever-growing



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