

Northampton County Emergency Operations Plan

2.1 Assumptions

A disaster may result from a natural, technological, or human-made hazard.

A disaster affecting Northampton County may be sudden (with a defined start point such as a hurricane) or covert (with an unidentified start point such as a pandemic).

A disaster will interrupt the normal daily activities of the community.

The immediate concern is the protection of life, followed by critical infrastructure and property.

A disaster response will require coordinated efforts among town governments, county government, neighboring jurisdictions, private industry, and state and federal resources.

Local resources may become rapidly overwhelmed following a disaster.

State resources may not arrive for at least 72 hours following the immediate post-event period.

Mutual aid resources from the state and federal government may be delayed due to the isolated location of Northampton County.

Full recovery from a disaster may take several weeks, months, or years.