

**MEDIA RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Westhampton Sets Public Meetings for Disaster Planning  
March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 6:30 PM**

Westhampton residents are invited to provide comments on the development of the Town of Westhampton's Hazard Mitigation Plan the next public meeting to be held at Westhampton Town Hall, 1 South Road, at 6:30 p.m. on:

Wednesday, March 16, 2016

All members of the public are welcome to attend the event. Local businesses, residents of neighboring communities, and municipal officials of neighboring communities are also encouraged to attend and provide their feedback.

The meetings will include an introduction to the Hazard Mitigation planning process, a summary of existing mitigation initiatives, and an overview of past hazards in the Town. Municipal officials and PVPC staff will be available to answer questions and listen to comments.

The plan is being produced by the Town with assistance from the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission and is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). This planning effort is being undertaken to help the Town of Westhampton assess the risks faced from natural hazards, identify action steps that can be taken to prevent damage to property and loss of life, and prioritize funding for mitigation efforts. A mitigation action is any action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards.

For more information, please contact Christopher Norris, Westhampton Emergency Management Director, (413) 529-7181

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