
TUTORIAL: THE VALUE OF A COMMUNITY PRIMER

Key Points

In the Guide, review Step 2, Task 3: Creating a Community Primer

Summary points

- ▶ The community primer covers 2 areas: natural systems and socioeconomic systems
- ▶ Very important as it helps build a common understanding of the local landscape for your planning team, workshop participants and stakeholders that you'll need before beginning your planning efforts
- ▶ 2 questions to answer
 - ▶ How does your community function now?
 - ▶ What changes are expected in the future?
- ▶ Community primer provides
 - ▶ An overview of how your community functions today and existing trends
 - ▶ Initial information on changes that might be expected, based on what was learned in the Climate Trends Primer
- ▶ Natural systems
 - ▶ Are comprised of local natural surroundings and resources
 - ▶ Provide a range of services to the community and a buffer against the impacts of climate change
 - ▶ Health (of natural systems) is directly linked to community resilience
 - ▶ Understanding the relationship between community needs and the health of natural systems prepares your planning teams to create solutions that work for people and nature
- ▶ Socioeconomic systems
 - ▶ Affordable housing, durable infrastructure, economic diversity, accessible health care, and emergency preparedness are directly linked to community resilience
 - ▶ Socioeconomic information provides participants with a greater understanding of existing trends and stressors
 - ▶ Having a common understanding of how climate change impacts the social fabric of your community will help your workshop participants develop sound solutions