



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Wolf Administration and Local Leaders Highlight Restore Pennsylvania Potential for Future Severe Weather Victims**

**Harrisburg, PA** – Today in Fayette County, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency Acting Director Randy Padfield was joined by officials from Fayette County and the City of Connellsville to discuss how Governor Tom Wolf’s Restore Pennsylvania plan could help municipalities make investments to prevent storm damage before it occurs and aid disaster survivors when the impacts do not reach federally established thresholds for federal aid.

“Year after year, flooding has proven to be among the most widely felt natural disasters in the commonwealth,” said Padfield. “When it strikes, the road to recovery has been difficult to navigate, and far too lengthy for many Pennsylvanians. Restore Pennsylvania would fund commonsense investments to prevent or lessen damage, and help communities recover.”

Restore Pennsylvania would provide \$4.5 billion over the next four years in significant, high-impact investments to rebuild Pennsylvania’s infrastructure. The program would also establish a disaster relief trust fund to assist individuals who suffer losses but are not eligible for grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, low-interest loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration, or other existing programs.

Gov. Wolf’s proposal would also provide funding for municipalities to take steps to prevent flooding via streambank restoration, levees or floodwalls, and stream restoration and maintenance. Estimates show that every dollar spent on hazard mitigation efforts saves tax payers seven dollars in response and recovery operation costs.

Restore Pennsylvania is a statewide plan to aggressively address the commonwealth’s vital infrastructure needs. Funded through a commonsense severance tax, Restore Pennsylvania is a bipartisan plan that will help make Pennsylvania a leader in the 21st century. A detailed overview of the plan is available [online](#).

More information about how to prepare for an emergency, including specific information for people with specialized needs such as pets or access and functional needs, is available on the [ReadyPA](#) webpage.

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