

— Overview —

- How often and when has Bloomsburg been flooded?

Thirty floods occurred in Bloomsburg between 1901 and 1996, averaging approximately 5-feet above flood stage. The worst floods were in 1936 (9-feet), 1972 (12-feet), and 1904 (13.7-feet). The flood of 1996 was nearly 8-feet above flood stage, as was the flood resulting from Hurricane Ivan in September, 2004.

- What is the monetary value of flood-related damage in Bloomsburg?

Floods are expensive. The flood in 1972 caused damages in Bloomsburg of \$17,981,000—the equivalent of \$61 million in today's dollars. Damages resulting from the flood of 1996 totaled \$6.7 million in Bloomsburg and \$1.9 million in Hemlock Township.

- Cost figures associated with the proposed flood control project

The proposed flood control project before Town Council will cost \$46 million, of which \$30 million will be provided by the federal government, \$8 million by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and \$8 million by the Town. In order to make up the local share, Council is exploring additional state and federal funds including the Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program.

- What is the overriding question facing the community?

The Town of Bloomsburg must decide whether to pursue a project that will provide a significant measure of protection, or leave itself open to further flood-related deterioration, and the resulting loss of homes, businesses, and jobs.

Bloomsburg Area Flood Control Project

