



Dam/Levee Failure

Occurs when any artificial barrier that impounds or diverts water is suddenly released in an uncontrollable manner, resulting in a flood wave that can damage buildings and infrastructure. Fulton County has five High Hazard Potential dams and four Significant Hazard Potential dams.



Drought and Extreme Heat

Droughts occur when water levels drop. They can occur anywhere, and they increase the risks of flash floods, wildfires, and landslides. Extreme heat events can occur anywhere in Fulton County. Droughts occurred annually 2000 – 2005 and 2007 – 2023 in Fulton County. There has been one heat event in Fulton County.



Earthquake

Earthquakes are sudden and rapid movements caused by the abrupt shifting of Earth's tectonic plates deep beneath the surface. Although earthquakes are very rare, they are unpredictable and can be catastrophic.



Flooding

Floods are typically riverine, coastal, or shallow. Flash floods are floods that occur quickly, even occurring without visible signs of precipitation. Fulton County has experienced 13 floods and flash floods since 1995. These events caused approximately \$1.2 million in property and crop damage.



Invasive Species

Invasive species are any species within Fulton County that are not native to the area. These species can cause ecological or economic damage.



Landslides/Land Subsidence

A landslide occurs when rocks, earth, or other materials move down a slope. Common causes include rain, floods, and development practices along slopes. Land subsidence is when Earth's surface settles or suddenly sinks. These are common with abandoned mines.



Severe Summer Weather

Severe storms include hailstorms, heavy rain, high wind, and thunder/lightning storms. There have been 185 events in Fulton County since 1995, causing approximately \$3.5 million in property and crop damage.



Severe Winter Weather

Winter storms can include extreme cold, freezing rain, ice, snow, high winds, or any combination of these conditions. There have been 72 events in Fulton County since 1995, causing approximately \$71,000 in property and crop damage.



Tornadoes

Tornadoes usually occur during severe thunderstorm events. Fulton County has experienced at least two tornadoes since 1995. Tornadoes have caused approximately \$500,000 in property and crop damage.



Wildfire

Wildfires are fires that occur in the wilderness or countryside and can spread quickly. Fulton County has an average of 8 wildfire events per year between 2018 and 2022.