



**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. Ross County has seven High Hazard Potential dams, and nine Significant Hazard Potential dams.



**Drought**

Droughts occur when water levels drop. They can occur anywhere, and they increase the risks of flash floods, wildfires, and landslides. Droughts occurred in 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005, 2002, 2001, and 2000 in Ross 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. Ross County has experienced 93 floods and flash floods since 1995. These events caused approximately \$2.6 million in property and crop damage.



**Invasive Species**

Invasive species are any species within Ross 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 260 events in Ross County since 1995, causing approximately \$10.4 million in property damage.



**Severe Wind and Tornadoes**

Tornadoes usually occur during severe thunderstorm events. Ross County has experienced at least 10 tornadoes since 1995. Tornadoes have caused approximately \$673,000 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 111 events in Ross County since 1995, causing approximately \$1 million in property and crop damage.



### Wildfire

Wildfires are fires that occur in the wilderness or countryside and can spread quickly. Ross County has an average of 19 wildfire events per year between 2018 and 2022.