

8 steps for **VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT**

- 1** Characterize your system, including its mission and objectives. Take an inventory to know what you have.
- 2** Identify and prioritize adverse consequences to be avoided.
- 3** Determine critical assets that are vulnerable to damage or loss.
- 4** Assess the likelihood of damage or loss.
- 5** Evaluate existing countermeasures to prevent damage or loss.
- 6** Analyze current risks, and develop a prioritized plan for risk reduction.
- 7** Implement the risk-reduction plan.
- 8** Test, evaluate, and revise the plan at least annually.

Your vulnerability assessment duplicates information found in your **asset management plan**. Save time and effort—use one plan to develop and update the other!



Need assistance with the 8 steps for vulnerability assessment? Contact the Rural Community Assistance Partnership (RCAP) at 800/321-7227, or visit www.rcap.org.

