



## NJ Floodplain News

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### **NJAFM Sponsored Seminar - CRS Saves Lives & Money, A Dynamic CRS Program Means a Safe Community & Can Provide an Annuity to its Citizens**

**When:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 6:30 PM

**Where:** Atlantic City Country Club, 1 Leo Fraser Drive, Northfield, NJ 08225

A 45 minute presentation, discussion with question and answers session will be given by Benny Tafoya to NJAFM and guests. Continuing education credits are pending for this event. (Pending CFM credit 0.5 hours and Pending CEC of 1 hour)

A community that actively participates in the CRS Program and increases its level in CRS can not only help to save lives, it can also lower the cost of Flood Insurance to the people and businesses in that community. The savings to a community continue as long as the community remains compliant with the requirements of the NFIP/CRS Program.

An outstanding example is the city of Margate City, NJ. Margate is a Class 5 Community in CRS and as such Jim Galantino, CFM, Construction Official, saves its citizens, businesses and the city itself \$1,672,144.00 on Insurance Premiums each year.

Margate has been a Class 5 CRS Community since October 1, 2013 with cumulative savings to the community of \$6,688,576 on Flood Insurance Premiums. All of this while Protecting Lives and Property.

Coastal Communities need the NFIP/CRS Program; however, they need to actively participate in the CRS, to increase their levels.

Benny Tafoya is a Certified Floodplain Manager as well as a Certified Manufacturing Engineer, he is a charter member of the American Robotics Society, and a member of the AIDC100 (Automatic Identification Manufactures 100). He is also a long time member of SPIE (Society of Photographic & Optical Instrumentation Engineers). Benny has spent 50 Years in the Computer Industry he is a holder of 12 Domestic and International Patents. He has designed and patented Optical Laser Scanners, Optical Character Readers, Mapping Systems (Map Scanners and Data Base Systems). His

work with the United States Defense Mapping Agency led to a love of Mapping and Geographic Information Systems.

Benny is currently employed by the city of Ocean City as a GIS/CRS Applications Specialist. He is responsible for all of the city's GIS Programs and Systems and also the city's CRS program.

Dinner and dessert will be provided by Atlantic City Country Club. The cost per person is \$40.00

## NJAFM Sponsored Seminar Attended by 40 people

“Expectations for Floodplain Management During a New Federal Administration- Changes to FEMA Initiatives, Influence on 2017 NFIP Reauthorization and Climate Change Adaptation Prioritization” was the title of an NJAFM sponsored seminar on Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at KC Prime Restaurant and Steakhouse in Trenton, NJ. Attendees heard John Miller, PE, CFM, CSM discuss the subject based on his experience as a White House intern and Fellow with U.S. Senator Robert Menendez.

## NJAFM Exhibits at the New Jersey Society of Professional Land Surveyors Conference

Thanks go out to NJAFM members Tom Slowinski, Chris Theodos and Vice Chairperson Maria DiSalvatore who assisted with the NJAFM exhibit at the NJSPLS Conference held on February 1-3, 2017. Our thanks go to NJSPLS Executive Director Mark Husik and Assistant Director Rona Goldberg for allowing us to exhibit at their Conference under our reciprocal agreement with them.



New Jersey Association for Floodplain Management (NJAFM) – NJ Floodplain News –March 2017

## Borough of Keyport Hosts Chinese Officials for Floodplain Management

The Borough of Keyport was host to a visiting delegation from the Water Resources Department of Guangdong Province, China on Friday, February 24. The purpose of the visit was to demonstrate floodplain management in practice at the community level, which is virtually non-existent in China. D. George Guo of Rutgers University deserves a great deal of credit for coordinating this event. He also acted as translator for the visit.

Bob Berlew, Construction Official and Zoning Officer at the Borough of Keyport hosted the visitors at Keyport Borough Hall. Bob invited Cleighton Smith, consultant and floodplain management training instructor, Tom Little and Mike Graham of Smart Vent, and Jason Shea, Robert Vohden, and Christina Rasmussen of the US Army Corps of Engineers. At Borough Hall, Cleighton gave a brief overview of floodplain management, which involves floodplain maps, regulations that apply to mapped floodplains, and associated insurance for properties in the community. Mike and Tom gave a demonstration of products that assist in meeting those regulations – flood vent and flood closure wall. Jason, Chris and Rob gave an overview fo the components of the flood protection project for Union Beach.

Bob led a tour of flooded properties near Borough Hall and reconstruction and retrofitting efforts underway. We then went to Union Beach, where Chris discussed the design aspects of the flood control project. A visit to a floodproofed factory in Union Beach had to be cancelled due to time constraints as the delegation need to head to JFK Airport. A group photo was taken on Union Beach.



New Jersey Association for Floodplain Management (NJAFM) – NJ Floodplain News –March 2017

## Calendar of Events

March 15, 2017 – 9:30 a.m. – TNJ Institute: Community Rating Systems Peer Exchange, North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, 1085 Raymond Boulevard (One Newark Center) 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, Newark, NJ 07102

**March 21, 2017 – 6:30 p.m. – NJAFM Sponsored Seminar – CRS Saves Lives & Money, A Dynamic CRS Program Means a Safe Community & Can Provide an Annuity to its Citizens. Atlantic City Country Club, 1 Leo Fraser Drive, Northfield, NJ 08225**

March 22, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. – Raritan & Millstone River Flood Control Commission – Franklin Township Municipal Building, 475 DeMott Lane, Franklin.

April 5, 2017 – 7:30 p.m. – Green Brook Flood Control Commission – North Plainfield Community Center, 614 Greenbrook Road, North Plainfield.

April 5, 2017 – 7:30 p.m. - Kim Stanley Robinson's New York 2140 – Science & Fiction: Envisioning our Region's Future Under Extreme Sea-Level Rise. Public talk, panel Discussion and book signing Rutgers Academic Building, 15 Seminary Place, New Brunswick, NJ 08901.

April 13, 2017 – 10:00 a.m. – Monmouth County CRS User Group – Hall of Records, 1 East Main Street, Freehold, NJ (Second flood in the Planning Board Large Conf. Room)

June 19-22, 2017 – Community Rating System (CRS) Workshop sponsored by NJDEP, FEMA, Insurance Services Office (ISO), Ocean County Office of Planning, NJAFM. This free, 4-day workshop (L-278 NFIP/CRS) starts @ 8:30 on June 19<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 will be held at the Ocean County OEM Office located at Robert J. Miller Airport, Rt. 530 Berkley Township (Bayville), New Jersey 08721. Should you have any questions regarding registration for this workshop, please contact James Watt of this office at (609) 292-2296 or [James.Watt@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:James.Watt@dep.state.nj.us) prior to June 1, 2017.

July 13, 2017 – Monmouth County CRS User Group – Elevation Certificate training by Tom Little of Risk Reduction Plus Group. Time and Location TBD.

**October 24-26, 2017 – NJAFM Annual Conference, Bally's, Atlantic City, NJ.**



2016-2017 NJAFM Officers

Craig Wenger, Past Chair; Andrew Banff, Chair; Maria DiSalvatore, Vice Chair;  
Mark Herrmann, Secretary and Jacob Oldenburger, Treasurer

## **Community Rating System (CRS) Webinar Series**

FEMA is sponsoring a series of webinars on the Community Rating System (CRS). These webinars will cover introduction to CRS, changes in the 2017 CRS Coordinator's Manual, Repetitive Loss Properties and the CRS, Preparing for a Verification Visit, the Role of the Community CRS Coordinator, CRS and Coastal Hazards and Developing Outreach Projects (Activity 330). The schedule for these webinars is posted on the NJAFM Calendar page at <http://www.njafm.org/calendar> For further information on the webinar series go to:

<https://atkinsglobalna.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=atkinsglobalna&service=7> and enter CRS in the search function.

To enter the CRS program, communities must be in good standing with FEMA regulations (no violations) and contact should be made with Jim Watt (609-292-2296 or

[james.watt@dep.nj.gov](mailto:james.watt@dep.nj.gov) ) or Pat Griggs, FEMA Region II (212-680-8523 or [patricia.griggs@dhs.gov](mailto:patricia.griggs@dhs.gov)).

## **Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) Program**

For information on the CFM Program go to:

<http://www.floods.org/index.asp?menuid=426&firstlevelmenuid=180&siteid=1>

New Jersey now has nearly 300 Certified Floodplain Managers!

CFM certifications, awarded by the ASFPM, are effective for a two year period. Every two years, each CFM must submit a renewal application, renewal fee, and proof of 16 Continuing Education Credits (CECs) within the previous 24 months, with a maximum of 12 CECs earned for any one event. Attending the NJAFM annual conference each year satisfies your CEC requirement. See <http://www.floods.org> for further information on CECs and accreditation.

## **Committees and Leader Contact Information**

Joining a Committee is a great way to get involved with NJAFM. The NJAFM Committees and their 2016-2017 chairs are as follows:

Annual Conference Committee: Co-chairs – Mark Mauriello, Edgewood Properties, ([mmauriello@gmail.com](mailto:mmauriello@gmail.com) ) and Mike Graham, CFM, SmartVent, Inc. ([mike@smartvent.com](mailto:mike@smartvent.com))

Membership Committee: Chair – Chris Theodos, PE, CFM, Brick Municipal Utilities Authority ([ctheodos@brickmua.com](mailto:ctheodos@brickmua.com))

Outreach & Communications: Chair- Tom Slowinski, CFM, PLS, NJDEP ([tom.slowinski@dep.nj.gov](mailto:tom.slowinski@dep.nj.gov) )

Training Committee: Chair –Jim Galantino, CFM, Margate City ([galantino\\_jim@margate-nj.com](mailto:galantino_jim@margate-nj.com))

Legislative Committee: Chair – John Miller, CFM ([jamiller45@gmail.com](mailto:jamiller45@gmail.com) )

Stormwater Committee: Chair – Benny Tafoya, CFM, CMfgE ([btafoya@ocnj.us](mailto:btafoya@ocnj.us))

Community Rating System (CRS) Committee: Co-Chairs - Jonathan Raser, CFM, TetraTech ([Jonathan.Raser@ttemi.com](mailto:Jonathan.Raser@ttemi.com)) and Jim Watt, CFM, NJDEP ([james.watt@dep.nj.gov](mailto:james.watt@dep.nj.gov) )

Awards Committee: Chair - Laura Tessieri, PE, CFM, North Jersey RC&D ([lauratessieri@gmail.com](mailto:lauratessieri@gmail.com) )

New Jersey Association for Floodplain Management (NJAFM) – NJ Floodplain News –March 2017

## **Career Connections**

NJAFM Job Site (<http://njafm.org/Jobs> ) has the most recently listed opportunities:

- Brick Municipal Utility Authority Engineer
- FEMA Reservist Jobs Announcement

If you would like include information about an employment opportunity at your organization or company in our next newsletter, please send a full description, including how to apply and application deadline.

## **Membership**

Currently there are 245 active members in NJAFM as of 3/13/2017.

Are you enjoying the benefits of an NJAFM membership?

Unlimited networking, scholarship opportunities, educational seminars and training can be available to you by becoming an NJAFM member. Have immediate access to a platform where issues that matter to floodplain professionals are the focus.

An Individual Membership is only \$30 per year and Corporate Membership is only \$240 per year. To join today, visit [www.njafm.org](http://www.njafm.org) to download the membership forms.

## **NJAFM Board Meetings**

Board meetings usually take place on the third Tuesday of each month. See the calendar for more details at: <http://njafm.org/calendar>

## Board of Directors, 2016-2017 (<http://www.njafm.org/contact>)

**Chair:** Andrew Banff, PE, PP, CME,  
CFM, Maser Consulting

Brick Municipal Utilities  
Authority

**Vice Chair:** Maria DiSalvatore  
Municipal Code Enforcement Agency, Inc.

**Outreach & Communications:**  
Tom Slowinski, CFM, PLS, NJDEP

**Secretary:** Mark Herrmann, PE, CFM,  
Adams, Rehmann & Heggan Associates

**Training:** Jim Galantino, CFM  
City of Margate

**Treasurer:** Jacob Oldenburger PE,  
CFM, Langan Engineering &  
Environmental Services

**Legislative:** John Miller, CFM  
University of Pennsylvania

**Immte. Past Chair:** Craig Wenger, CFM  
Michael Baker International

**Stormwater:** Benny Tafoya, CFM, CMfgE,  
Ocean City, NJ

**Annual Conference:** Mike Graham, CFM  
SmartVent, Inc

**Community Rating System (CRS):**  
Jonathan Raser, CFM, Tetra Tech

Mark Mauriello  
Edgewood Properties

Jim Watt, CFM, NJDEP

**Awards & Scholarship:**  
Laura Tessieri, CFM,  
North Jersey Resource Conservation &  
Development

**Membership:** Chris Theodos, CFM

**Administrator:** Greg Westfall, CFM