



NJ Floodplain News

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Spring 2016

Register Now for 2016 NJAFM Conference

We will be returning to Bally's in Atlantic City for the NJAFM 12th Annual Conference on October 18-20, 2016. Conference planning is now under way. We are encouraging you to submit your Ideas on features, topics and speakers you would like to see at this year's Conference sending an e-mail to Conference Co-Chairs Mike Graham or Mark Mauriello at their contact information under Committees. Register now at last year's rate and avoid a higher registration fee later this year by going to this weblink: (<http://www.njafm.org/2016-Conference>). A Call for Abstracts has been made for concurrent session presentations which are due August 19th . Submission form is at: <http://www.njafm.org/page-1860661>

Fillable 2015 Elevation Certificate Now Available

A fillable version of the 2015 Elevation Certificate (EC) (FEMA Form 086-0-33) is now available on the FEMA website at <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/160> . The PDF form has been enabled to be filled and saved using Adobe Reader. For insurance purposes, FEMA will continue to accept properly completed and certified elevation information, submitted on a different format than the FEMA EC, through December 31, 2016. After that date, all elevation information must be submitted using the FEMA EC. Note that in the future, no further transition periods will be provided when a new FEMA EC is approved. If you have any questions concerning the form, please contact the NFIP Bureau and Statistical Agent's Underwriting Department at underwriting@nfipiservice.com .
Source: Fillable Elevation Certificate Letter of June 16, 2016

FEMA Annual Report of the Flood Insurance Advocate's Office

FEMA has announced its first Annual Report of the Office of the Flood Insurance Advocate (OFIA) that is now live on FEMA.gov. This report is being released publicly to further the OFIA's goal of transparency and is available on the OFIA webpage. The OFIA identified five trends that present opportunities for program improvement: the lack of actionable data, Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC), the Homeowner Flood

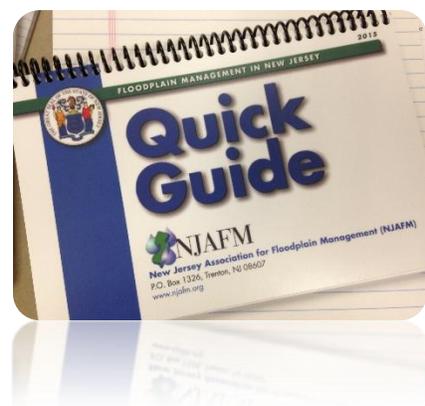
Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 (HFIAA) surcharge, issuance of prior-term refunds, and information related to floodproofing. The trends identified in this report emerged from the inquiries submitted to the Office this past year and represent areas of concern that impact a broad population of National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) customers. The NFIP program areas were provided an opportunity to respond to these findings and responses are included in the report. The OFIA is an independent office within FEMA with direct alignment to the Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration (FIMA) Associate Administrator and the FEMA Administrator. The OFIA will make this report and subsequent reports available via its webpage. The mission of the OFIA is to advocate for the fair treatment of policyholders and property owners by providing education and guidance on all aspects of the NFIP, identifying trends affecting the public, and making recommendations for program improvements to FEMA leadership. The report is at:

<http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1458054571532-6710e9f76574d125e7099242b8e90d8b/FirstAnnualReportoftheOFIA2015FINAL.pdf>
The OFIA can be reached by email at insurance-advocate@fema.dhs.gov

New Jersey Flood Management Quick Guide

NJAFM is proud to announce the recent publication of the Quick Guide for Floodplain Management in New Jersey. The purpose of the Quick Guide is to help the user to understand why and how communities in the State of New Jersey manage development in floodplains to protect people and property. Flood-prone communities adopt ordinances and enforce building codes that detail the rules and requirements. Some of the topics covered in the Quick Guide include:

- Why do we regulate the floodplain?
- What is the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)?
- The NFIP's Community Rating System (CRS)
- FEMA Flood Maps
- Understanding Riverine and Coastal Floodplains
- Understanding the Floodway
- Levee Certification for FEMA Flood Maps
- Flood Map Revisions
- Fundamentals of Flood Resistant Construction
- What is the Elevation Certificate and How is it Used?
- And many other topics



In case of conflict, those codes and ordinances, not the guidance provided in this publication, must be followed. The Quick Guide can be found at:

http://www.njafm.org/resources/Documents/KeyDocs/NJQuickGuide_web.pdf

The Quick Guide is a spiral bound field guide size (5.5" X 8.5"), glossy print, on durable heavy stock paper. Bulk copies of the Quick Guide will be available for sale by NJAFM in the near future.

FEMA Announces April 2016 Revisions to the NFIP Manual

The revisions to the NFIP Flood Insurance Manual that became effective on April 1, 2016, have been posted for your reference in the FEMA Media Library at:

<http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/115549>

Please contact the iService WYO Support Team at WYO@NFIPiService.com

if you have any questions.

Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) Program

The Certified Floodplain Manager's exam was offered on the final day at the NJAFM annual conference on Thursday, October 22, 2015 at Bally's, Atlantic City. In 2016 NJAFM is currently planning on four training opportunities which will be announced shortly. For more information on the CFM Program go to:

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

New Jersey now has 275 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.

2015 NJAFM Year in Review Report

The 2015 NJAFM Year in Review Report is now available at:

http://www.njafm.org/news_blog/3633621

News

Monmouth County Announces High Water Mark (HWM) Project Launch

The Monmouth County Division of Planning and Monmouth County Office of Emergency Management in cooperation with the participating municipalities has been working with Monmouth University's Urban Coast Institute, community stakeholders and businesses in helping to coordinate FEMA's HWM Program in the county. Fourteen municipalities have passed resolutions of support indicating their interest in being part of this initiative. The HWM Project is an extension of the county's ongoing Community Rating System (CRS) Municipal Assistance Program. FEMA has incentivized participation in the HWM Project by providing communities financial assistance toward the design, development and printing of signs. The project will be launched on June 27th in Middletown. For information regarding this project contact Margaret Murnane Brooks at: mmurnane@mcsnj.org

NJAFM Leaders Change Jobs

Three of the NJAFM Board members have recently changed jobs. John Miller, NJAFM Legislative Committee Chair, is now pursuing his Masters degree in Environmental Studies - Policy at the University of Pennsylvania; he's taking a course in Risk with Howard Kunreuther, PhD who presented at the ASFPM Conference in Atlanta last year (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vjTSQ3bmX4k>). David Sonner, co-chair of the NJAFM Training Committee, has partnered with Brad Saveriano and joined Pro-Active Flood Mitigation. Laura Tessieri, NJAFM Awards Committee Chair, has become the Assistant Township Engineer in Raritan Township. Congratulations to all three who expect to continue in their NJAFM leadership roles.

Sea Isle City's Transformation Shows after Sandy

Over the last two decades, Sea Isle City, New Jersey, has had a complete turnaround in its attitude toward flooding, flood prevention, and floodplain management, according to Neil Byrne, Construction Official. "And more recently, the Community Rating System has raised the flood awareness in this community, the awareness of premium reductions, and the awareness of standards that can reduce flood losses," he explained.

When Mayor Leonard Desiderio first took office in 1993, the community was facing suspension from the National Flood Insurance Program. He and the City Council realized that flood insurance was critical to their resort community, which lies on a barrier island off the New Jersey coast, surrounded by bays and the Atlantic Ocean.

Sea Isle's year-round population is about 2,100, but it swells to 40,000 on summer weekends. And all this is spread over only 2.5 square miles of land that lies almost completely within the Special Flood Hazard Area.

"Well, we've got to work on that," Desiderio said when the deficiencies in local handling of flood hazard management were explained to him.

And work they did. Together, the mayor, city council, and the rest of the city commenced to put their full support behind the community's floodplain management work.

Over 200 summonses were issued to non-compliant structures in order to bring them up to the flood-protection standards of the NFIP. This effort got 100% support from the mayor and city council. No exceptions were given.

Sea Isle didn't stop there, however.

In the years that followed, "it was a lot of hard work and it was a lot of changing of the way we had done things in Sea Isle City previously," Desiderio said. "It was ordinance changes and improving a lot of our construction procedures and standards."

The community took on many strategies that go beyond the minimum requirements of the NFIP.

Source: NFIP/CRS Newsletter

Smith Presses HUD on Needed Federal Aid for Sandy Victims

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) received nearly \$16 billion to help Sandy-affected states through its Community Development Grant Disaster Relief (CDBG-DR) program. To date, New Jersey has received over \$4 billion in HUD assistance.

In 2014, \$1 billion of CDBG-DR funds were set aside for the National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC) – with only 18 percent guaranteed for the Sandy-affected region. This past January, HUD announced the NDRC winners with New Jersey awarded only \$15 million of the \$1 billion set aside. Through five rounds of funding, New Jersey has received only 28 percent of the CDBG-DR funds- despite a need of more than \$31 billion from housing, business and infrastructure damage from Superstorm Sandy.

Congressman Smith petitioned the Administration sending a letter to HUD Secretary Julian Castro requesting a meeting to delve into the information, data and justification for the NDRC decision relative to our State's application with the hope of fostering a

modification or correction. The letter stressed that their initial concerns have been validated that there is still an unmet need in our State. He noted that hundreds of millions of dollars are now being steered away toward projects that will not assist Sandy victims still desperate for support.

Source: Congressman Chris Smith Reports Home

Menendez Meets with Mayors About Flood Control

February 13, 2016

U.S. Sen. Bob Menendez, D-N.J., met with members of the Mayors' Council Rahway River Watershed Flood Control in his Washington, D.C., office to discuss the need of local communities for long-term flood mitigation.

The president's FY2017 budget, delivered to Congress this week, includes an additional \$379,000 for the Army Corps of Engineers to complete a key study needed to finish a flood mitigation project along the Rahway River Basin, which flows through Union, Essex and Middlesex counties.

The federal government has already provided \$2,770,600 since the study was first authorized in 1997.

"I fully understand the urgency to complete this study and you have my full support, as this is my highest priority project for the Army Corps," Menendez told the mayors. "Communities along the Rahway River Basin have been fighting nearly two decades for funding to address severe flooding along the river that has damaged homes, businesses, roads and municipal facilities. It's time to take the next the step to protect the area and restore the River Basin."

The Rahway River watershed is one of the Garden State's oldest urbanized areas, featuring woodlands and wetlands that support over 700 species of plants and animals, some 5,000 acres of county parklands and the source of drinking water for the City of Rahway.

It runs through 24 municipalities: Carteret, Clark, Cranford, Edison, Fanwood, Garwood, Kenilworth, Linden, Maplewood, Metuchen, Millburn, Mountainside, Orange, Plainfield, Rahway, Scotch Plains, Springfield, South Orange, Westfield, West Orange, Winfield Park, Woodbridge, Union and Summit.

"We are grateful for the leadership and steadfast support that Sen. Menendez has shown in working to advance the Rahway River Flood Mitigation project in Congress and before the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers," said Union County Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski on behalf of the group. "We are pleased at the successful dedication of

funds to date, and are committed to working with Sen. Menendez and all our communities and constituents to bring meaningful protection from flooding as expeditiously as possible.”

Among the public officials attending the meeting were: Mayors’ Council Co-Founder and former Cranford Mayor Dan Aschenbach; Union Township Mayor Manuel Figueiredo; Cranford Mayor Andy Kalnins, Deputy Mayor Mary O’Connor and Commissioner Tom Hanna; Maplewood Mayor Victor DeLuca; Springfield Mayor Jerry Fernandez; and Rahway Mayor Samson Steinman.

Source: <http://www.mycentraljersey.com/story/news/local/union-county/2016/02/11/menendez-meets-mayors-flood-control/80223794/>

NJAFM Legislative Committee Happenings

John Miller, Legislative Committee Chair, reports that S-166 has been introduced in the State Senate to form a Hunterdon-Somerset Flood Advisory Task Force whose purpose would be to review past flooding events within Hunterdon and Somerset Counties from flooding of the Delaware and Raritan Rivers and their respective tributaries and recommend measures to reduce future impacts resulting from flooding on residents, businesses and local government units

NJAFM has worked with NJOEM/Governor's Office on dedicating funding for local floodplain manager training. There will be announcement on this in a future issue of the NJ Floodplain News.

Proposed Rule: Establishing a Deductible for FEMA's Public Assistance Program – Comment Period ended on March 21, 2016

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is considering the establishment of a disaster deductible, requiring a predetermined level of financial or other commitment from a Recipient (Grantee), generally the State, Tribal, or Territorial government, before FEMA will provide assistance under the Public Assistance Program when authorized by a Presidential major disaster declaration. FEMA believes the deductible model would incentivize Recipients to make meaningful improvements in disaster planning, fiscal capacity for disaster response and recovery, and risk mitigation, while contributing to more effective stewardship of taxpayer dollars. For example, Recipients could potentially receive credit toward their deductible requirement through proactive pre-event actions such as adopting enhanced building codes, establishing and maintaining a disaster relief fund or self-insurance plan, or adoption of other measures that reduce the Recipient's risk from disaster events. The

deductible model would increase stakeholder investment and participation in disaster recovery and building for future risk, thereby strengthening our nation's resilience to disaster events and reducing the cost of disasters long term. FEMA seeks comment on all aspects of the deductible concept. Comments must be identified by docket ID FEMA-2016-0003 and may be submitted by one of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier: Regulatory Affairs Division, Office of Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 8NE, 500 C Street SW., Washington, DC 20472-3100.

Source: <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2016/01/20/2016-00997/establishing-a-deductible-for-femas-public-assistance-program>

Community Rating System Update

The National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. As a result, flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from the community actions meeting the three goals of the CRS:

1. Reduce flood damage to insurable property;
2. Strengthen and support the insurance aspects of the NFIP, and
3. Encourage a comprehensive approach to floodplain management.

According to NJAFM CRS Committee Co-Chair Jim Watt, currently a total of 71 New Jersey municipalities are already receiving CRS discounts. Two (2) additional municipalities will be receiving CRS discounts as of October 1, 2015:

Little Ferry	Class 7	\$ 331,988.00 / year in savings
Roselle Park	Class 8	\$ 4,746.00 / year in savings

The following five communities have improved their class rating:

Aberdeen
Brigantine
Oceanport
Point Pleasant Beach
Point Pleasant Borough

For more information on the CRS Program go to:

<https://www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program-community-rating-system>

Committees and Leader Contact Information

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

Annual Conference Committee: Co-chairs – Mark Mauriello (mmauriello@gmail.com) and Mike Graham (mike@smartvent.com)

Membership Committee: Chair – Chris Theodos (ctheodos@maserconsulting.com)

Outreach & Communications: Chair- Tom Slowinski (tom.slowinski@dep.nj.state.us)

Training Committee: Co-Chairs – David Sonner (dmsonner@yahoo.com) and Jim Galantino (galantino_jim@margate-nj.com)

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

Stormwater Committee: Chair – Vacant

Community Rating System (CRS) Committee: Chair - Jonathan Raser, CFM, Jonathan.Raser@ttemi.com and Jim Watt, james.watt@dep.state.nj.us

Awards Committee: Chair - Laura Tessieri, CFM, lauratessieri@gmail.com

Calendar of Events

June 16, 2016 – Ocean County CRS Users Group Meeting at 10:30 a.m. at Ocean County Sheriff's OEM.

June 27, 2016 – Monmouth County High Water Mark (HWM) Project Launch, 10 a.m. at Belford Ferry Terminal, 10 Harbor Way, Belford section of Middletown, NJ

August 19, 2016 – Curve Number Rainfall-Runoff: Professional Applications Course , The College of New Jersey (TCNJ), Ewing, NJ. For further information and registration contact: Dr. Michael Horst at horst@tcnj.edu by August 12th.

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>

Career Connections

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

Entry Level Water Resources Engineer – Dewberry, Parsippany, NJ
<https://careers-dewberry.icims.com/jobs/4054/entry-level-water-resources-engineer/job?mode=job&iis=Indeed&iisn=Indeed.com&mobile=false&width=673&height=500&bga=true&needsRedirect=false&jan1offset=-300&jun1offset=-240>

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.

Board of Directors, 2015-2016 (<http://www.njafm.org/contact>)

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University of Pennsylvania

Stormwater: Vacant

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

Jim Watt, CFM, NJDEP

Awards & Scholarship:
Laura Tessieri, CFM,
Raritan Township

Membership

Currently there are 297 active members in NJAFM as of 6/19/2016.

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 to download the membership forms.