



Ohio Department of Natural Resources Floodplain Management Program E-News Bulletin – December 2022

This E-News Bulletin is a communication from Floodplain Management Program to share news and relevant information for communities and Floodplain Managers throughout Ohio about the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), floodplain management, training, and more.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (NFIP) NEWS

- **Elevation Certificate and Dry Floodproofing Certificate Under Review**

FEMA's Elevation Certificate and Dry Floodproofing Certificate for Non-Residential Structures, which were set to expire on November 30, 2022, are under review at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Until the OMB review process is complete, continue using the existing forms, which remain available on FEMA's website. Upon OMB approval, FEMA will issue a memorandum highlighting changes to the forms and update the website for immediate use of the newly approved forms with the new expiration date.

- **[Flood Mitigation: Actions Needed to Improve Use of FEMA Property Acquisitions](#)**

A new report issued by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) examined the benefits and challenges of property acquisition and made recommendations for improvements to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Findings of the GAO include:

"FEMA provides funding for communities to purchase flood-prone properties and convert the land to open space. Such property acquisition can be a beneficial strategy for flood mitigation. However, the acquisition process poses challenges that can discourage homeowner and community participation.

Benefits. Property acquisition permanently eliminates structures at risk of flooding and can lower disaster response costs. Property acquisition can also reduce the federal flood insurance program's fiscal exposure—that is, financial risk to the government.

Challenges. Many stakeholders GAO interviewed said the length of the acquisition process could lead homeowners to refuse to participate or to drop out of projects over time. Also, local governments may lack staff and expertise to manage the complex process, and states may have limited capacity to help them conduct acquisitions. Financial considerations, such as difficulty funding the nonfederal share of project costs, can also pose challenges."

- **Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation (CMRA) Portal**

A new website is now available to help state, local, tribal, and territorial governments understand the real-time climate-related hazards in their area, analyze projected long-term exposure to those hazards, and identify federal funds to support climate resilience projects for their communities.

The **[Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation \(CMRA\) Portal](#)**, is an easily accessible and interactive geospatial website, designed to support communities planning and preparation and share access federal resources to build greater resilience. The Portal also provides tools to help community members understand climate risks in their area and actions they can take to mitigate those risks.

- **Congressional Reauthorization for the National Flood Insurance Program**

Congress must periodically renew the NFIP's statutory authority to operate. On December 23, 2022, the president signed legislation passed by Congress that extends the NFIP's authorization to December 30, 2022. Congress must now reauthorize the NFIP by no later than 11:59 p.m. on December 30, 2022.

FEMA and Congress have never failed to honor the flood insurance contracts in place with NFIP policyholders. Should the NFIP's authorization lapse, FEMA would still have authority to ensure the payment of valid claims with available funds. However, FEMA would stop selling and renewing policies for millions of properties in communities across the nation.

TRAINING MATERIALS & RESOURCES

- **[Local Elected and Appointed Officials Guide: Roles and Resources in Emergency Management](#)**

This guide is an executive-level introduction to emergency management concepts, vocabulary and principles for local senior officials and focuses specifically on their responsibilities. The document's main body provides guidance in plain language, avoiding technical detail and is organized as follows:

Section 1: Overview of the guide

Section 2: Overview of threats and hazards and discusses senior officials' tasks before, during and after disasters

Section 3: Identifies possible sources of assistance

Section 4: Explains the reasoning and procedures for declaring or proclaiming emergencies and disasters by different levels of government

Section 5: Highlights key stakeholder considerations; and

Section 6: Summary of conclusion

- **NFIP 101: Introduction to Floodplain Management Online Course**

Local officials must know the basic requirements of the NFIP for their communities. However, many do not have time to attend an in-person course that lasts four days or more. To help provide easily accessible education, FEMA has launched a new online NFIP 101 course.

This training is hosted in partnership with ASFPM and will help new and experienced floodplain administrators, emergency managers, elected officials, and others learn more about the NFIP and its requirements. New floodplain administrators will also learn how floodplain management decisions affect insurance, health, and public safety.

[NFIP 101: Introduction to Floodplain Management](#) is FREE and does not require ASFPM membership. The course is divided into nine units:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) Course Introduction | 6) Oversight and Compliance |
| 2) Introduction to Floodplain Management | 7) Floodplain Management Pre- & Post-Event |
| 3) Risk Determination – Maps & Studies | 8) Flood Insurance |
| 4) Floodplain Management Regulations Overview | 9) Course Summary |
| 5) Substantial Improvement, Substantial Damage | |

The self-paced course will take about 14-18 hours to complete. There is no time limit, so you can finish the course over days, weeks, or months. The course can be used in two ways: 1) Educate

those new to floodplain management who wish to learn the basics and earn professional credit. (This option concludes with an exam and, if passed, confers 12 continuing education credits from ASFPM.) OR 2) A reference guide for more experienced floodplain administrators who are seeking a refresher on basic floodplain management tools, terms, and concepts. The committee plans to expand the current course with more updates and topics next year.

- **Emergency Management Institute (EMI)**

Community Floodplain Managers can take the various courses at the Emergency Management Institute (EMI). EMI is located at the National Emergency Training Center (NETC) in Emmitsburg, Maryland and offers training about the NFIP and other relevant topics. Classes are structured to promote interactive learning and are comprised of Floodplain Management professionals from different communities and/or agencies throughout the United States.

There is no cost to attend courses, on campus lodging is provided at no charge, and travel is reimbursable for eligible students. Students must, however, purchase a campus dining hall meal plan for the duration of the course. Continuing Education Credits (CEC) toward CFM certification are also available.

To register for an EMI course, applicants must meet the selection criteria and prerequisites specified for each course. Prospective students must complete and submit the General Admission Application (FEMA Form 119-25-1). Applications must be coordinated, reviewed, and approved by:

- The head of the applicant's sponsoring organization;
- The emergency management office of the applicant's state; and
- The NETC Admissions Office

You can access information about individual courses, application procedures, schedules, etc... in the course catalog [HERE](#). Once accepted into a course, students will receive an acceptance letter with further instructions regarding transportation and other matters.

Floodplain Management-Related Resident Courses:

- E0273 Managing Floodplain Development through the NFIP
- E0194 Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts
- E0282 Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts II
- E0284 Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts III
- E0274 Understanding Floodplain Data through Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- E0278 National Flood Insurance Program/Community Rating System
- E0279 Retrofitting Flood-Prone Residential Buildings
- E0386 Residential Coastal Construction

Floodplain Management-Related Online/Distance Learning Courses:

- IS0273 How to Read a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)
- IS0274 How to Use a Flood Insurance Study (FIS)
- IS0279.A Introduction to Retrofitting Flood-Prone Residential Buildings
- IS0280 Overview of: Engineering Principles and Practices for Retrofitting Flood-Prone Residential Structures, FEMA Publication 259, 3rd Edition
- IS0284.a Using the Substantial Damage Estimator 3.0 Tool
- IS0245 Substantial Damage Estimation for Floodplain Administrators
- IS0287 NFIP Community Enrollment

IS1100.A Increased Cost of Compliance

IS1119 Letters of Map Amendment (LOMAs) & Letters of Map Revision-Based on Fill (LOMR-Fs)

IS1120 Letters of Map Revision (LOMRs)

EDUCATION SCHEDULE

<u>Training Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time (EASTERN)</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Registration Required?</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Link</u>	<u>Contact</u>
New Floodplain Manager Webinar	January 18, 2023	1:00pm – 2:30pm	ODNR-FMP	No	Webinar will provide an overview of floodplain management & NFIP information relevant for those new to the profession.	NEW FP MANAGER	Alicia Silverio, CFM ODNR – FMP 614-265-1006
FEMA Region 5 Ohio Floodplain Management VIRTUAL Office Hours	January 19, 2023	10:00am – 11:30am	FEMA Region 5	No	FEMA Region 5 & ODNR Staff will be available for Virtual Office Hours to answer questions about flood management. Breakout rooms will be available to speak one-on-one for privacy.	NFIP OFFICE HOURS Meeting ID: 160 174 0951 Password: Ohio	Michelle Staff, CFM FEMA R5 202-704-1098 michelle.staff@fema.dhs.gov
Topic #1: No Adverse Impact (NAI)	January 25, 2023	10:00am – 11:00am	FEMA Region 5	YES	NAI floodplain management takes place when the actions of one property owner are not allowed to adversely affect the rights of other property owners. The adverse effects or impacts of unwise community development decisions can be measured by increased flood peaks, increased flood stages, increased flood volumes, higher flood velocities, increased erosion & sedimentation, deterioration of natural floodplain functions, or other impacts to a community's well-being. NAI principles give communities a way to promote responsible development measures through community-based decision making. Under NAI floodplain management, communities identify potential impacts of new development proposals, & implement actions to mitigate those adverse impacts before they occur.	NAI	Brian Killen, CFM FEMA R5 Mobile: 202-803-3757 brian.killen@fema.dhs.gov
Introduction to Substantial Improvement/ Substantial Damage Webinar	January 26, 2023	10:00am – 11:30am	ODNR-FMP	No	Webinar will provide an overview of SD/SI requirements of the NFIP	SD/SI	Alicia Silverio, CFM ODNR – FMP 614-265-1006

Introduction to Letters of Map Change (LOMC) Webinar	February 16, 2023	10:00am – 11:30am	ODNR-FMP	No	Webinar will provide an overview of the various types of LOMCs, use of LOMCs, application processes, & compliance.	LOMCs	Katherine Goepfner, CFM ODNR – FMP 614-265-6709
FEMA Region 5 Ohio Floodplain Management VIRTUAL Office Hours	February 23, 2023	10:00am – 11:30am	FEMA Region 5	No	FEMA Region 5 & ODNR Staff will be available for Virtual Office Hours to answer questions about flood management. Breakout rooms will be available to speak one-on-one for privacy.	NFIP OFFICE HOURS Meeting ID: 160 174 0951 Password: Ohio	Michelle Staff, CFM FEMA R5 202-704-1098 michelle.staff@fema.dhs.gov
Introduction to Coastal Floodplain Management Webinar	March 16, 2023	10:00am – 11:30am	FEMA Region 5	No	Webinar will provide an overview of coastal floodplain management regulations, mapping, & additional considerations.	COASTAL	Alicia Silverio, CFM ODNR – FMP 614-265-1006
FEMA Region 5 Ohio Floodplain Management VIRTUAL Office Hours	March 23, 2023	10:00am – 11:30am	FEMA Region 5	No	FEMA Region 5 & ODNR Staff will be available for Virtual Office Hours to answer questions about flood management. Breakout rooms will be available to speak one-on-one for privacy.	NFIP OFFICE HOURS Meeting ID: 160 174 0951 Password: Ohio	Michelle Staff, CFM FEMA R5 202-704-1098 michelle.staff@fema.dhs.gov
FEMA Region 5 Ohio Floodplain Management VIRTUAL Office Hours	April 20, 2023	10:00am – 11:30am	FEMA Region 5	No	FEMA Region 5 & ODNR Staff will be available for Virtual Office Hours to answer questions about flood management. Breakout rooms will be available to speak one-on-one for privacy.	NFIP OFFICE HOURS Meeting ID: 160 174 0951 Password: Ohio	Michelle Staff, CFM FEMA R5 202-704-1098 michelle.staff@fema.dhs.gov

- **Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) National Conference**
May 7-11, 2023, in Raleigh, NC - visit [ASFPMconference.org](https://www.asfpmconference.org) for more information
- **[CFM EXAM AVAILABLE AT SCANTRON TEST LOCATIONS & ONLINE](#)**
ASFPM has transitioned to a digital CFM® exam where exam candidates can schedule online exams. Moving to an online format provides greater convenience and flexibility to floodplain management professionals to schedule and take the CFM exam. Exam takers will now receive test results immediately upon completion of the exam.

ASFPM has contracted with Scantron, a testing services company, to also make the CFM exam available at its [test center locations](#).

Getting started with the digital CFM exam: Register [HERE](#) for the online CFM exam. You will receive a Notice to Schedule email from Scantron that includes a username/password and instructions to register at a testing center that meets your preferred location and timeframe. You can adjust your location/timeframe search as needed to get more options.

To help you navigate the changes, ASFPM has developed [frequently asked questions](#). Visit the [Getting Certified](#) page to learn more and register for the exam.

NFIP PUBLICATIONS, FORMS, & TOOLS

- [Answers to Question About the NFIP Booklet](#) – March 2022 Version
- [Fast Facts on Floods & Flood Insurance Infographic](#)
- [NFIP Flood Insurance for Renters Brochure](#)

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM INFORMATION

- **NEW STAFF:** The Floodplain Management Program is increasing by three positions, including an engineer (November 2022) and two staffers (January 2023).

Jacob Bench, PE – Natural Resources Engineer

Jacob Bench recently joined ODNR's Floodplain Management Program to provide engineering expertise to the Floodplain Management Program. He previously worked for ODNR's Division of Engineering managing dam, canal, historical, and emergency engineering projects. Prior to coming to ODNR, he worked as a consulting engineer at Michael Baker International.

Jacob is a Structure Specialist on the FEMA Urban Search & Rescue Team (USAR) Ohio Task Force 1 (OH-TF1). He deployed to the 2021 Champlain Towers South Collapse in Surfside, Florida where he provided engineering expertise to fellow rescue personnel on the collapse pile during rescue and recovery operations.

Jacob holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Ohio State University and a Master of Science in Civil Engineering from Ohio University.

- You can access informational resources from the Floodplain Management Program including this E-News Bulletin, educational opportunities, publications, and more at the [Floodplain Management Program's website](#).

- **Need Technical Assistance? Contact ODNR's Floodplain Management Program staff:**

Alicia Silverio, CFM – Program Manager/NFIP State Coordinator

614.265.1006

alicia.silverio@dnr.ohio.gov

Jacob Bench, PE – Natural Resources Engineer

614.265.6758

jacob.bench@dnr.ohio.gov

Katherine Goepfner, CFM – Environmental Specialist 2

614.265.6709

katherine.goepfner@dnr.ohio.gov

Floodplain Management Program

614.265.6750

OdnrFloodplain@dnr.ohio.gov

- Please report any changes in contact information for your community's Floodplain Manager to ODNR's Floodplain Management Program at: 614.265.6750 or OdnrFloodplain@dnr.ohio.gov

Access to E-News

