



NJ Floodplain News

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May 2015

NJAFM's 11th Annual Conference, "Back to the Future – Focus on Flood Preparedness" October 20-22, 2015 will be held at Ballys, Atlantic City, NJ (<http://www.njafm.org/page-1860656>)

Are you concerned about poor land use decisions, inadequate flood protection, insurance liability, threats to life and property, and the inability to engage in sound decision-making? Many New Jersey residents do not fully understand flood dynamics and floodplain management, and the actions that they can take to mitigate impacts from flood events. The 2015 NJAFM conference will focus on lessons learned from past flood and storm events in order to highlight the importance of flood preparedness. Flood preparedness – including education, outreach and training on flood hazards and appropriate mitigation action – is one of the most important initiatives to help protect people and property from the adverse impacts of floods.

Certified Floodplain Managers (CFM)

The Certified Floodplain Manager's exam will be offered on the final day at the NJAFM annual conference on Thursday, October 22, 2015 at Bally's, Atlantic City. For more information on the CFM Program go to:

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

Congratulations to the following New Jersey people who have become Certified Floodplain Managers to date in 2015:

Kira McKeown-Adamo
John W. Lilly
Steven D. Kegelman
Robert G. Lynch
Ryan P. Conklin
Steven Booy
Jason E. Dilworth
Stephen C. Martinelli

Edward J. Walberg
Christopher J. Gross
Jason M. Bottcher
Mary B. Tangolics
Gregory J. Westfall
Monica R. Mianecki
Joseph S. Mianecki

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 in any one year. Attending the NJAFM annual conference each year satisfies your CEC requirement. See <http://www.floods.org> for further information on CECs and accreditation.

ASFPM's 39th Annual Conference, "Mitigation on My Mind" May 31 – June 5, 2015 (<http://www.asfpmconference.org/>)

The Association for State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM)'s 39th Annual National Conference, "*Mitigation On My Mind*", will be held at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Atlanta, Georgia. The ASFPM annual conference is recognized as the most important floodplain conference in the United States, year after year. With more than 120 speakers and over 1200 participants, this is the national conference that all community, state and federal floodplain managers plan to attend. And because of that, many of the most important consulting firms and product vendors associated with floodplain management also attend.

NJAFM Hires Administrator



The NJAFM Board recently hired its first administrator, Greg Westfall. Greg is a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM), a founder and former Board member of NJAFM. He is recently retired from USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service where he worked on watershed planning and flood mitigation activities for many years in upstate New York and New Jersey.

His role will be to help expand the work of the Association and not to assume duties or responsibilities of Board Members or Committee Chairs. His duties will include working on a regular newsletter, press releases, policy statements, marketing coordination and outreach, support activities on grant proposals and other activities as assigned by the Board.

Greg is excited to be in this new role and looks forward to working with the Board and members to further our common mission to reduce loss of life and property damage resulting from floods and promoting sound floodplain management. Greg can be reached at:

609-259-6344 or Greg@njafm.org

Committee Update

Joining a Committee is a great way to get involved with NJAFM. The NJAFM Committees and their 2015 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 (David@smartvent.com) and Jim Galantino (galantino_jim@margate-nj.com)

Legislative Committee: Chair – John Miller, CFM, jmiller@princetonhydro.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, Laura.Tessieri@drbc.state.nj.us

News

Monmouth County's CRS Assistance Program Lauded

Monmouth County's Community Rating System (CRS) Assistance Program has been recognized by two national organizations, the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Association of Counties (NACo).

"It is an honor for Monmouth County to be recognized on a national level for a program that stemmed from a way to help our residents recover from a horrible storm," said Freeholder Deputy Director Serena DiMaso, liaison to the County's Office of Emergency Management (OEM). "In the wake of Superstorm Sandy, our towns needed to get fully engaged in flood hazard mitigation and better understand the CRS and how it can help the community and the residents save money."

White House: Construction in Coastal Areas Must Factor in Climate Change



Photo Source: <http://www.njspotlight.com/stories/15/02/01/white-house-calls-for-consideration-of-climate-change-in-coastal-construction/>

On January 30, 2015, the President signed an Executive Order (EO 13690) establishing a flood standard that will reduce the risk and cost of future flood disasters by requiring all Federal investments in and affecting floodplains to meet higher flood risk standards. By requiring that Federally funded buildings, roads and other infrastructure are constructed to better withstand the impacts of flooding, the President's action will support the thousands of communities that have strengthened their local floodplain management codes and standards, and will help ensure Federal projects last as long as intended. The New Jersey Association for Floodplain Management supports EO 13690 and has recently submitted written comments to FEMA. The Executive Order can be viewed at: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/01/30/executive-order-establishing-federal-flood-risk-management-standard-and->

New Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) Announced

In 2013, the President's Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Task Force adopted a higher flood standard for the Sandy-affected region to ensure that Federally funded buildings, roads and other projects were rebuilt stronger to withstand future storms. The strengthened standard is similar to flood risk standards in place in the States of New York and New Jersey. The Sandy Task Force also recommended that the Federal Government create a national flood risk standard for Federally funded projects beyond the Sandy-affected region. The President's Climate Action Plan followed through on this recommendation by directing agencies to update their flood-risk reduction standard to ensure that federally funded projects across the country last as long as they are intended. Over the past year, Federal agencies collaborated on this update.

The new standard gives agencies the flexibility to select one of three approaches for establishing the flood elevation and hazard area they use in siting, design, and construction. They can:

- Use data and methods informed by best-available, actionable climate science;
- Build two feet above the 100-year (1%-annual-chance) flood elevation for standard projects, and three feet above for critical buildings like hospitals and evacuation centers; or
- Build to the 500-year (0.2%-annual-chance) flood elevation.

To protect their homes, businesses and vital infrastructure from disasters, at least 350 communities across the country – ranging from Dallas and Nashville to Denver and Tulsa—and the States of Indiana, Montana, New York and Wisconsin have already adopted standards that either meet or exceed this new Federal standard. The proposed guidelines, when finalized, will provide guidance to agencies on implementing the new standard. Once public input has been considered agencies will implement the Standard through their own rulemaking or other procedures, which also will incorporate input from the public and stakeholders. The new flood standard will apply when Federal funds are used to build, or significantly retrofit or repair, structures and facilities in and around floodplains to ensure that those structures are resilient, safer, and long - lasting. It will not affect the standards or rates of the National Flood Insurance Program. Each agency will carefully consider how to appropriately apply this standard, and consider robust public input before deciding how to implement it. The proposed standard is at:

http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1422649643416-c0ff9e51d11442790ab18bae8dc5df4b/Federal_Flood_Risk_Management_Standard.pdf

Calendar of Events

2015 New Jersey Sustainability Summit, June 10, 2015, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at TCNJ, Ewing, New Jersey 08618 (<http://www.sustainablejersey.com/events-trainings/2015-new-jersey-sustainability-summit/registration/>)

FEMA Risk Map Appeal Period Dates

	Appeal Period Start Date	Appeal Period End Date
New Jersey Communities		
Atlantic County	4/3/2015	7/1/2015
Bergen County	3/31/2015	6/28/2015
Burlington County	4/2/2015	6/30/2015
Cape May County	4/1/2015	6/29/2015
Cities of Millville and Vineland in Cumberland County	3/31/2015	6/28/2015
Cumberland County (except for the Cities of Millville and Vineland)	4/24/2015	7/22/2015
Essex County	4/2/2015	6/30/2015
Hudson County	4/2/2015	6/30/2015
Borough of Middlesex and the Township of Piscataway in Middlesex County	TBD	TBD
Middlesex County (except for the Borough of Middlesex and the Township of Piscataway)	4/2/2015	6/30/2015
Monmouth County (except for Boroughs of Atlantic Highlands, Keyport, Red Bank, Shrewsbury, Union Beach, Highlands, Rumson and Township of Middletown)	4/2/2015	6/30/2015
Boroughs of Atlantic Highlands, Keyport, Red Bank, Shrewsbury, Union Beach, Highlands, Rumson and Township of Middletown in Monmouth County	4/3/2015	7/1/2015
Ocean County (except for Borough of Point Pleasant Beach, Bay Head, Point Pleasant)	4/2/2015	6/30/2015
Boroughs of Point Pleasant Beach, Bay Head, Point Pleasant in Ocean County	4/3/2015	7/1/2015
Salem County	3/31/2015	6/28/2015
Union County	4/2/2015	6/30/2015

NJAFM Board Meetings

Tuesday, June 16, 2015 – Conference call – (760-569-6000 Pin – 730856)

Tuesday, July 21, 2015 – In-person meeting at location TBA

Career Connections

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

- Green Infrastructure Specialist
- NJDEP Civil Engineer
- Staff Engineer (Water Resources)
- Water Resource Engineer
- Green Infrastructure Manager – (<http://www.njfuture.org/about-njf/staff-contact/employment-rfps/>)

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.

Membership

Currently there are 303 active members in NJAFM.

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.

Board of Directors, 2015

Chair: Craig Wenger, CFM
Michael Baker International

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

Secretary: Richard Franks, CFM
AECOM

Treasurer: Andrew Banff, PE, PP, CME, CFM
Maser Consulting

Past Chair: Heidi Hoppe
USGS, NJ Water Science Center

Annual Conference: Mike Graham
SmartVent, Inc

Mark Mauriello
Edgewood Properties

Membership: Chris Theodos
Maser Consulting

Outreach & Communications: Tom Slowinski
NJDEP

Training: David Sonner
SmartVent Inc.

Jim Galantino
City of Margate

Legislative: John Miller
Princeton Hydro

Stormwater: Vacant

Community Rating System: Jonathan Raser
Tetra Tech

Jim Watt
NJDEP

Awards & Scholarship: Laura Tessieri - DRBC