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SECRETARY

# LOUISIANA FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT



# FACTSHEET

DEC 11

Issued quarterly by the Louisiana Dept. of Transportation & Development Floodplain Management Section

Volume 11 - Number 4

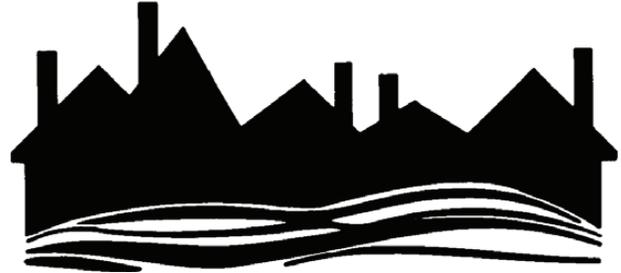
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The LOUISIANA FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT *FACTSHEET* is published through assistance provided by FEMA under the Community Assistance Program State Support Services Element of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The contents do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Federal Government.

## CRS CORNER



### (FLOAT) The Flood Loss Outreach & Awareness Task Force

The Flood Loss Outreach & Awareness Task Force (FLOAT) is an organization consisting of CRS participating communities from the Lake Pontchartrain basin area who come together to share best practices and lessons learned. The purpose of FLOAT is for CRS communities to work together towards more savings to the flood insurance policy holders in their communities while striving towards excellence in floodplain management. For more information, contact Co-Chair Chris Brown at [cbrown@cityofmandeville.com](mailto:cbrown@cityofmandeville.com)

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## Congratulations CRS Communities For Moving up a Class

**The City of Baker has achieved a Class 8**

**East Baton Rouge Parish has achieved a Class 6**

**The City of Gretna has achieved a Class 8**

**The City of Lafayette joined as a Class 8**

**Lafayette Parish joined as a Class 8**

**ST. Tammany Parish has achieved a Class 7**

## **Manufactured Homes + NFIP Compliance + Elevation Certificates, in Louisiana**

Here is a request for each floodplain administrator in Louisiana. Please read your Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance (FDPO). Copied from the NFIP regulations, 44 CFR 60.3 (a)(3); did you find the following?

*(3) Review all permit applications to determine whether proposed building sites will be reasonably safe from flooding.*

*If a proposed building site is in a flood-prone area, all new construction and substantial improvements shall (i) be designed (or modified) and adequately anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, or lateral movement of the structure resulting from hydrodynamic and hydrostatic loads, including the effects of buoyancy, (ii) be constructed with materials resistant to flood damage, (iii) be constructed by methods and practices that minimize flood damages, and (iv) be constructed with electrical, heating, ventilation, plumbing, and air conditioning equipment and other service facilities that are designed and/or located so as to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of flooding.*

Have you overlooked the fact that (a)(3) applies to the placement of manufactured homes (MHs)? Are you requiring that MHs be merely elevated to have the walk-on floor at your community's Design Flood Elevation (DFE)? Are recent MH placements in your community in violation of (a)(3)? (If yes, does your community have liability insurance?)

We haven't all seen it or experienced it, but we should all recognize that once the water gets in between the joists of a MH, it is likely going to be destroyed. Fiberglass insulation and particle board and ducts and wiring are not flood damage resistant. In collaborative consultation, this fact has been recognized by the LA NFIP State Coordinator's office and the LA State Fire Marshall's office and FEMA Region VI.

The model FDPOs now being distributed by your State Coordinator contain the wording, "*... be elevated on a permanent foundation such that the bottom of the longitudinal structural I-beam of the manufactured home is elevated to or above the base flood elevation and be securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse, and lateral movement.*"

A certain FEMA publication calls the I-beam elevation concept a "best practice" in reference to the Lowest Floor Elevation (LFE) requirement. We must not forget the afore-mentioned (a)(3) requirements.

This concept of compliance for MHs in Zone AE is similar to, but not equal to the elevation requirement in Zone VE. (Not all foundation designs have the MH's I-beam being the lowest horizontal member.) Also, we must take care to have ECs completed correctly.

Remember, the EC is first and foremost a document for NFIP policy rating. The entry for item B9 must be the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) as determined from the Flood Insurance Study (FIS). For the Zone A cases of interest here, the entry for item C2a (or C2b as appropriate) is the elevation of the floor one walks on. Entry of the elevation of the bottom of the I-Beam should be in the EC's comment section; this will facilitate the Floodplain Manager's verification of compliance with the FDPO.

In summary, in following the above, your community will obtain: NFIP compliance, lower NFIP premiums for the MH owners and residents, reduced flood damages, and a resilient community. Excellence deserving of a championship! By David Hiegel, FEMA Region VI

# GETTING ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

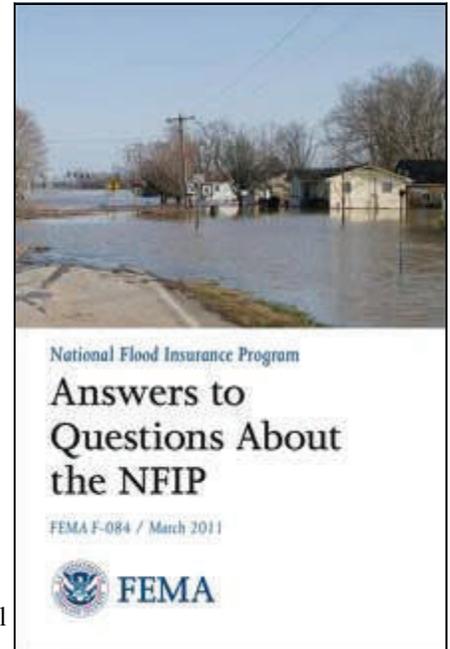
Do you use the *Answers to Questions about the NFIP* booklet for your customers and for your own information? This publication has been recently updated. *Answers to Questions about the NFIP* is intended to acquaint the public with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Despite the highly technical nature of the Program, there has been a deliberate effort to minimize the use of technical terms. This publication is designed for readers who do not need a detailed history or refined technical or legal explanations, but who do need a basic understanding of the Program and the answers to some frequently asked questions. Readers who need legal definitions should refer to the Standard Flood Insurance policy and to NFIP and related regulations.

You can order this booklet and other items from the FEMA Distribution Center by calling 1-800-480-2520.

The new pamphlet can be found in the FEMA online library at <http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=1404>.

The FEMA Publications page with links to electronic versions of the documents can be found at <http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/libfacts.shtm>.

Article taken from [http://www.nfipiservice.com/wetermark/getting answers to questions. html](http://www.nfipiservice.com/wetermark/getting%20answers%20to%20questions.html)



The **Louisiana State Coordinators Office of the National Flood Insurance Program** has moved to a new location. Please make note of the new address, phone number and fax number.

**Louisiana Dept. of Transportation and Development  
Floodplain Management Section, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor– East Wing  
1201 Capitol Access Road  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802**

or  
P.O. Box 94245  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-94245

MAIN TELEPHONE NO.: 225-379-3005  
FAX NO. 225-379-3002

Contact information for  
Floodplain Managers for  
Base Flood Elevations in  
unnumbered A Zones:

**New Orleans Corps of  
Engineers**

David Bradley  
504-862-2906  
david.z.bradley@usace.army

**Vicksburg Corps of  
Engineers**

Brian LaBarre  
601-631-5437

The Louisiana Floodplain Management Association conducted its Fall Workshop on October 7, 2011 at the Water Life Museum at 7910 Park Avenue in Houma, LA



## Annual ASFPM 2012 National Conference



The San Antonio Marriott River Center is now accepting hotel reservations for the conference and a limited number of government per diem rooms are still available. Please note that this block is for government employees only and you will be asked to show identification upon check-in to confirm your employment status. The hotel has set up a direct link to their reservation system, which is available at <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/ASFPM2012> Both per diem and group rate rooms can be reserved using this link.

The U.S. Senate approved an extension to the National Flood Insurance Program, sending legislation to the U.S. House of Representatives that would keep the program from expiring on Dec. 16.

By Jeff Jeffrey

A.M. Best Company, Inc.

The legislation was introduced by Sen. David Vitter, R-La., and was passed by unanimous consent. The extension will allow the program to operate until May 31.

The NFIP has been one of the most closely watched insurance issues on Capitol Hill this year. Congress has passed several short-term extensions, allowing its expiration deadline to be extended while lawmakers debate how and whether the program should be extended on a more long-term basis. That question has been complicated by the fact that the NFIP owes the U.S. Treasury approximately \$18 billion.

Matt Gannon, assistant vice president of federal affairs at the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies, told Best's News Service his organization has been working with lawmakers to develop a long-term solution for the program. Gannon said he has been working with Vitter and Sen. John Tester, D-Mont., to get senators to sign onto a letter urging the chamber's leadership to pass a long-term extension that makes reforms to the program that would put it on better financial footing.

While Gannon said extending the program through May was a positive step, in practical terms the extension may not be as long as it seems. "It's not as simple as notifying people that the next day they can't sell flood coverage any more, you need to put the process in place about 10 days earlier. So really, every time you have a one-month extension, it's really like a 20-day extension," Gannon said.

Gannon said implementing reforms to the NFIP that address its financial standing would actually save taxpayers money. "The No. 1 buzz word these days is debt. If we had a flood program that was set up correctly, it could save taxpayers money and reduce their overall exposure in the case of a major flooding event," Gannon said.

The NFIP had a chance for major reforms during the recent negotiations among members of the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction on how to reduce the nation's debt load. In separate letters to the "supercommittee" chairmen, Committee Chairman Spencer Bachus, R-Ala., and ranking Democrat Barney Frank, D-Mass., urged it to integrate into budget-cutting recommendations reforms the Obama administration projects could generate a net gain of \$4.2 billion in new revenues for the NFIP.

Sen  
Pass

# THE LOUISIANA FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

The Louisiana State Floodplain Managers Association will hold its 2012 Annual Conference on April 18th through the 20th of 2012 at the Lod Cook Alumni Center in Baton Rouge, LA. Some of the proposed highlights for Wednesday, April 18, 2012 are the Open Space Tour, the Louisiana House Exhibit Tour, and the Substantial Damage Estimator Class. Watch for additional details as they become available at: [www.lfma.org](http://www.lfma.org).

## The LA House

By Pat Skinner with the LSU AG Center

**LaHouse – Home and Landscape Resource Center** is a one-stop *showcase of solutions* and educational initiative -- for all the comfort and benefits desired in a home while using less energy and water, producing less pollution and waste, and reducing damage and loss.

*LaHouse* exhibits *Fortified for Safer Living* (wind and flood resistance), *Building America* (systems building science), *ENERGY STAR* (energy-efficiency), and *National Green Building Standard/LEED for Homes* program guidelines in addition to healthy home principles. It demonstrates four different building and foundation systems, three space conditioning systems, five attic treatments and a wide variety of materials, products and technologies with “green”, healthy, hazard-resistant and low-maintenance characteristics. The layout and interiors exhibit universal design and family-friendly features that accommodate diverse and changing needs and abilities.

*LaHouse* was designed specifically for the Gulf Region and displays hundreds of *high-performance* building and home improvement features, seven acres of sustainable landscape exhibits, an Exhibit Room with resource library, Teaching Center meeting space, feature signage and a wide array of informative publications.

Dr. Claudette Reichel, LaHouse Resource Center Director, and Pat Skinner, Disaster Recovery and Mitigation Specialist, will be on site the morning of April 18 to address questions from conference attendees.



## Opportunities for NFIP and CRS Training Courses at the Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, MD

FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI) conducts courses on floodplain Management and CRS-related topics. Tuition is free for state and local government officials and travel stipends are available. Call the training office of your state emergency management agency, see <http://training.fema.gov/>, or call EMI at 1-800-238-3358 or (301) 447-1035.

Here's the schedule for EMI's week-long classes of interest. For more information on these courses, see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMICourses/EMICourse.asp>.

### Managing Floodplain Development through the NFIP (E273)

This course is designed to provide an organized training opportunity for local officials responsible for administering their local floodplain management ordinance. The course will focus on the NFIP and concepts of floodplain management, maps and studies, ordinance administration, and the relationship between floodplain management and flood insurance. Course dates are: **March 19-22, 2012, April 23-26, 2012, June 11-14, 2012, September 24-27, 2012**

Note: E273 is also field deployed periodically.

### The Community Rating System (E278)

This course covers the CRS, a nationwide initiative of FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program. It describes activities eligible for credit under CRS, how a community applies, and how a community modifies an application to improve its classification. Course dates are : **August 6-9, 2012, September 17-20, 2012**

### Advanced Floodplain Management Classes

These courses are designed to provide advanced training for local officials responsible for administering their local floodplain management ordinance. Courses and dates are:

**Advanced Floodplain Management I , E194 August 27-30, 2012**

**Advanced Floodplain Management II, E282 None listed at this time**

**Advanced Floodplain Management III, E284 March 5 - 8, 2012**

We wish you a

**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
&  
HAPPY NEW YEAR**



**Cindy, Pam, Susan**



Our goal is flood loss reduction . .

If you or someone you know would like to receive future copies of this newsletter please contact our office:

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WEBSITE: <http://floods.dotd.la.gov>

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