

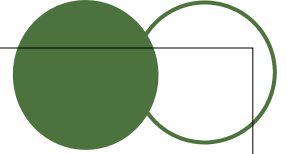


WILLIAM D ANKNER, Ph.D.
SECRETARY

LOUISIANA FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT



FACTSHEET



JUNE 2008

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Volume 23-Number 3

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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.



Gary Zimmerer, DHS/FEMA Region VI

Melissa Becker, CFM, Rapides Parish

&

Mr. Carol Vinning, St. Mary Parish

were each presented the

“Certificate of Appreciation”

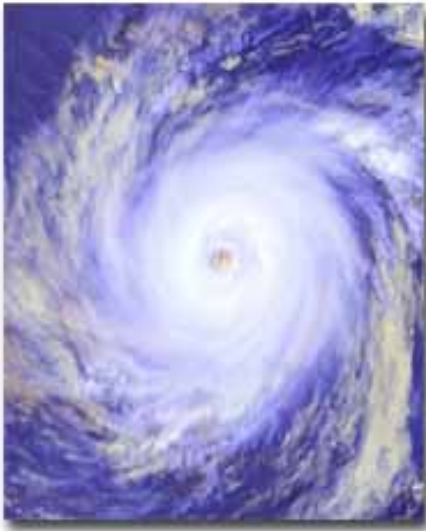
at the 25th Annual LFMA Conference.

This certificate, presented by the Louisiana Dept. of Transportation & Development, is given to a person with outstanding qualities in the field of floodplain management.

We thank them for their dedication and service to the citizens of Louisiana!

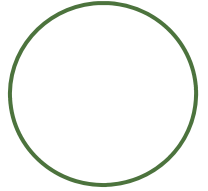
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2008 Hurricane Names

ARTHUR	HANNA	OMAR
BERTHA	IKE	PALOMA
CRISTOBAL	JOSEPHINE	RENE
DOLLY	KYLE	SALLY
EDOUARD	LAURA	TEDDY
FAY	MARCO	VICKY
GUSTAV	NANA	WILFRED



HIGH-RISK STRUCTURES to LOSE CRS DISCOUNT

EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2008

Flood Insurance policies for buildings that are rated as having the lowest floor one foot or below the base flood elevation (bfe) will NO LONGER be eligible for the community's CRS discount.

Some clarifications:

- In most cases, the affected structures are non-compliant, i.e., in violation of the NFIP construction criteria. They may have received a variance from the community. If so, the variance applicant was advised that "the issuance of a variance to construct a structure below the bfe will result in increased premium rates for flood insurance" as required by 44 CFR 60.6(a)(5).
- This new policy only affects elevation-rated buildings. Typically, these are new construction or "post-FIRM" buildings, not older buildings that qualify for the pre-FIRM "subsidized" rates.
- Only buildings in the mapped Special Flood Hazard Area (zone "A") are affected. Buildings in B,C, or X zones are not rated based on the elevation of their lowest floors.
- It does not affect those V-Zone properties that have approved breakaway walls surrounding unfinished enclosures used only for building access, storage, and parking; but that were rated based on the enclosed area's being the lowest floor.

The policy does not affect buildings that were compliant when they were built, but whose bfe has been raised to a level above the lowest floor through the issuance of a new map. These structures can be "grandfathered" so they keep premiums based on the flood zone and/or bfe at the time of construction.

CRS coordinators were sent a list of the properties in their community that are affected.

Policyholders with May or June renewals will receive renewal billing notices in March or April.

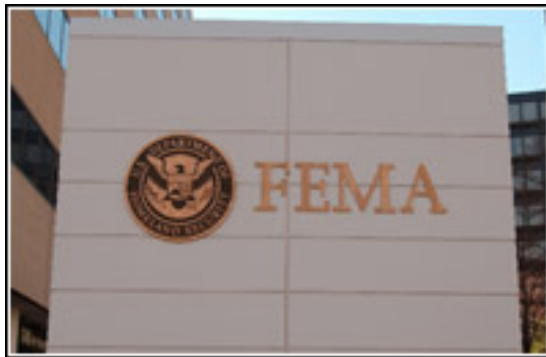
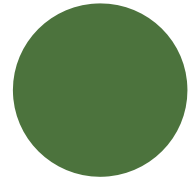
Map Modernization Toolkit for Local Officials

This toolkit is designed to provide elected officials, floodplain managers, and others important information regarding the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) [Map Modernization](#) (Map Mod) process in the five states that make up FEMA Region 6.

Whether your community's current flood maps are being converted to digital maps or new maps are being generated, this site provides important information to help you better understand the process and tools to communicate with your constituents.

- [What is the Map Modernization program?](#)
- [What is the process and how long will it take?](#)
- [How do I keep my community informed about the mapping process?](#)
 - [How do levees affect my community?](#)
 - [How do we adopt the maps?](#)

WEBSITE: www.fema.gov/about/regions/regioinvi/vi_toolkit.shtm



April 1, 2008 marked **FEMA's 29th birthday**. FEMA was created by [Executive Order 12127](#), which became effective on April 1, 1979.

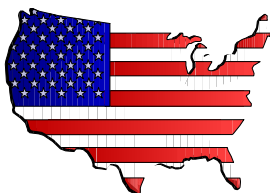
For a brief history of the agency, check out: www.fema.gov/about/history.shtm

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE [EMI]

is pleased to announce a *new service* which will provide the latest information on EMI activities, training announcements, and opportunities through email.

This service can be subscribed to by signing onto the EMI web page: www.training.fema.gov
Click on the "Sign up via our free e-mail subscription service"

HAPPY 4th OF JULY



SORRENTO

is the

BOUCHERIE CAPITOL of the World





**LOUISIANA FLOODPLAIN MGMNT. ASSN.
and
AVOYELLES PARISH POLICE JURY**

SPONSOR

**DHS/FEMA
ELEVATION CERTIFICATE
WORKSHOP**

FRIDAY, JULY 25, 2008
8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**MAKE YOUR OWN
HOTEL RESERVATIONS**

PARAGON CASINO & RESORT
(800) 946-1946 or (318) 253-1946

MARKSVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER
512 N. MAIN ST.
Marksville, LA 71351

AGENDA

- 8:15 a.m. - Coffee & "Best" Cinnamon Rolls
- 8:30 a.m. - **HOW TO READ a FIRM**
Pam Mattingly, CFM, Calcasieu Parish
Assistant Planning Director
- 8:45 a.m. - **WELCOME** by Mickey Romano
President, Avoyelles Parish Police Jury
- 8:50 a.m. - **INTRODUCTION**
Rod Emmer, LFMA
Executive Director
- 9:00 a.m. - **ELEVATION DATUM**
Ted DeBaene, CFM, Owen & White Engr., Inc.
Vice President,
- 9:30 a.m. - **COMMUNITY OFFICIAL**
James Demouchet, CFM, Caddo Parish
Floodplain Administrator
- 10:00 a.m. - Break
- 10:15 a.m. - **OVERVIEW of 2006
ELEVATION CERTIFICATE**
David Hiegel, CFM, DHS/FEMA Region VI
Natural Hazard Program Specialist
- 11:00 a.m. - **QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**
- 11:30 a.m. - Adjourn & Enjoy life !

1:00 p.m. – CFM Exam (Pre-registration required)

For more information on the CFM Exam,
please contact James Demouchet, CFM:
jdemouchet@caddo.org
Phone: (318) 226-6930

This workshop earns 3 CEC Credits

For workshop information contact:
Pam Mattingly, CFM – pmattingly@cppj.net [337] 721-3600

WORKSHOP
FEMA ELEVATION CERTIFICATE

DATE: FRIDAY, JULY 25, 2008

TIME: 8:15 AM – 11:30 AM

LOCATION: 512 N. MAIN ST.
MARKSVILLE, LA 71351

PLEASE FAX, MAIL, or E-MAIL THIS by JULY 22, 2008

to:

CHIP JOHNSON
AVOYELLES PARISH
312 NORTH MAIN ST.
MARKSVILLE LA 71351
chipjohnson@krocket.net
FAX: (318) 253-9218

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

E-MAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

FAX #: _____

CFM Exam will be offered following the workshop at 1:00 pm at the SAME LOCATION

Please register at www.floods.org
click on Certification
**Deadline to register for CFM is
JULY 11, 2008. Walk-ins NOT accepted.**

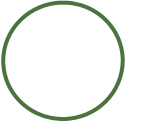
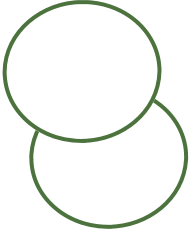


Federal Programs – FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

As the State Coordination Office between the DHS/FEMA Regional Office and the communities of Louisiana that belong to the National Flood Insurance Program [NFIP], it is our job to provide any guidance or assistance needed to our Louisiana communities in order to assure the NFIP regulations are carried out and violations prevented.

In order to better serve you, please take a moment to tell us how we're doing and how we could improve. Thank you,

Cindy O'Neal, CFM – Sandra Batten, CFM – Pam Miller, CFM – Susan Veillon



CUSTOMER SERVICE SURVEY

Have you had contact with our office within the last 6 months? YES NO
if yes, please check one: Email Phone Meeting

(please circle a number)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Staff was friendly and courteous	5	4	3	2	1
I was treated with respect	5	4	3	2	1
Staff was knowledgeable	5	4	3	2	1
My questions & concerns were addressed in a timely manner	5	4	3	2	1
The staff provided me with useful information	5	4	3	2	1
I had an overall positive experience dealing with the staff of Floodplain Management	5	4	3	2	1

How could we improve our services?

PLEASE MAIL completed survey to:
LADOTD
Floodplain Management
8900 Jimmy Wedell Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70807

25th ANNUAL LFMA CONFERENCE

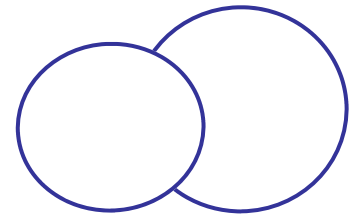


Gary Beadle (Berwick)
Pam Miller, CFM (LADOTD)
Darla Duet, CFM (Lafourche Parish)

Lisa Jennings, CFM (DHS/FEMA)
Dorothy Martinez, CFM (CSC)
Frank Pagano (DHS/FEMA)



Tammy Roberts, CFM (Scott) Bonnie Anderson, CFM (Carencro) Linda Duhon, CFM (Vermilion Parish)



Gary Zimmerer (DHS/FEMA)
Brad Duhon, CFM (Carla Cormier & Assoc.)
Larry Voice, CFM (DHS/FEMA)

VERTICAL DATUM

NEW MAPPING STUDIES *CONVERT TO UPDATED VERTICAL DATUM*

HOW DOES FEMA'S USE of NAVD88 AFFECT YOU?

The most frequent users of vertical datum include *floodplain managers*, surveyors, engineers, builders, and insurance companies. Historically, the most common vertical datum used by FEMA has been NGVD29. Many existing documents (e.g., Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), Elevation Certificates, Flood Insurance Studies (FISs)) provide elevation values based on the old values based on the old datum.

When working with these documents, elevation values based on different vertical datums cannot be used together directly. All the information being used (elevation value on FIRMs, Elevation Certificates, other maps and documents) must be reviewed to ensure they are all based on the same datum,

- Determine what datums are used on the documents.
- If the datums are the same, continue to use the maps and the other information together.
- If the datums are different, stop and convert all the elevation numbers to the same datum before using the information.

Every user of elevation data on FEMA's products needs to be aware of the datums on which their elevation values are based, differences in datums among the different data sources they are using, the required datum conversion, and how to apply it. Particular care must be taken when comparing elevation data on a new FIRM panel using NAVD88 with data from a previous FIRM panel that was produced using NGVD29. The user must be sure to convert elevation values to one common vertical datum. For example, insurance agents and companies must be especially careful about using elevations based on similar vertical datums when using the NFIP's "grandfathering rule" for rating. They must avoid using a Base Flood Elevation (BFE) value from a FIRM based on NGVD29 with a building's lowest floor elevation (LFE) from an Elevation Certificate based on NAVD88. The error could be significant if they are not first converted to the same vertical datum. Similarly, when calculating a new premium with a BFE based on NAVD88 and the building's LFE based on NGVD29 from an older Elevation Certificate, the elevations should be converted to the same vertical datum. The datum change does not change the relationship of the ground heights to the water surface. It does change the value assigned to those heights that are printed on the maps and other documents or encoded in digital data.

NEW MAPPING STUDIES CONVERT TO UPDATED VERTICAL DATUM

STAY INFORMED ABOUT THE CHANGE

Flood maps are changing and so is the vertical datum being used. Floodplain managers, surveyors, engineers, builders, insurance agents and companies, and other users of elevation data from multiple sources (e.g., a FIRM and Elevation Certificate) must take care that the elevation values they use are based on the same vertical datum. If they are not the same, the values must be converted to the same datum before they are used. Failure to do so can result in improper design (e.g., buildings at the wrong elevation) or misrating the insurance premium. The property owners' risk is not affected by a vertical datum change because all elevations in the local area are changed by the same amount.



Our goal is flood loss reduction . . .

We are here to provide any guidance needed to assure that NFIP regulations are carried out and violations prevented.

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

LA DOTD
Floodplain Management Section
8900 Jimmy Wedell Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70807

PHONE: 225 – 274-4354
FAX: -4351
E-MAIL: sandrabatten@dotd.la.gov
WEBSITE: <http://floods.dotd.la.gov>

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FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT – SECTION 64
PO BOX 94245
BATON ROUGE LA 70804-9245