



FACTSHEET

March 2020

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Volume 20 - Number 1

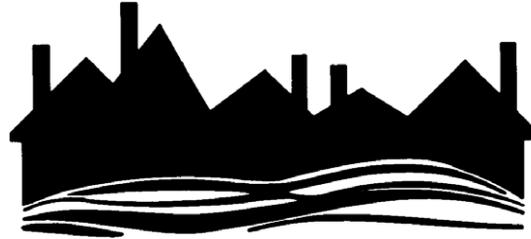
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Government.



NFIP/ CRS Corner



Looking Ahead to the Next CRS Coordinator's Manual

With the next CRS Coordinator's Manual, the CRS will be moving to a new schedule for updating its all-purpose reference and guidance document. Communities will continue to use the current (2017) Coordinator's Manual until the next manual is approved by FEMA. After that, a new edition will be issued every five years on January 1. Note that all communities that join the CRS or have a cycle verification visit during 2020 will use the 2017 *Coordinator's Manual* that shows "FIA-15/2017" on the cover.

This five-year schedule will give communities more time using the same criteria and guidance, correspond more closely with communities' verification cycles, minimize the confusing situation in which CRS communities are operating their programs according to different editions of the Coordinator's Manual, and allow the CRS team to focus on other program improvements between revisions. Finally, using a calendar year cycle simplifies everyone's scheduling and record keeping.

The new five-year schedule is possible in part because the information gathered from communities for administering the CRS has, over the years, been moved from the Coordinator's Manual itself to the separate "community certification" forms. This means the Coordinator's Manual will no longer be tied to the review process it has undergone in the past as part of the forms renewal process of the Paperwork Reduction Act, which occurred on a three-year rotation cycle. Note that the certification forms will still be approved Office of Management and Budget (OMB) forms, and will still be renewed every three years. The next update and renewal of all CRS forms will be April 1, 2020. This change supports a desire to reduce administrative complexities where possible.

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NFIP/CRS Corner (cont...)



Looking Ahead to the Next CRS Coordinator's Manual (cont...)

Suggestions Invited

For the next Coordinator's Manual and beyond, the CRS team will be working, as usual, to simplify and clarify the manual's procedures, descriptions and documentation. Attention will also be given to incorporating emerging technologies; simplifying the credit system; developing new incentives for community resilience and preparedness; and exploring ways to streamline the class rating and award procedures. FEMA and the CRS Task Force welcome written input for the next Coordinator's Manual from communities, CRS Users Groups, regional or state entities involved with the CRS and other stakeholders. All comments will be considered, whether for minor corrections, new credits, or other improvements. Send your corrections, suggestions for clarifications, new ideas and other comments to CRS Task Force Chair Tom Powell at twpgmp0328@gmail.com. = = =

(Taken from NFIP/CRS Update Newsletter, October/November 2019 Edition)

Elevation Certificates: Making sure what you see is what you get.

Elevation certificates are a critical part of the CRS program. To meet the participation prerequisite and earn points in CRS Activity 310, communities must require and maintain final Elevation Certificates for all new construction and substantial improvements in the special flood hazard area. Fortunately, most communities are already requiring them as part of the NFIP and their ongoing floodplain management program. Requiring them and maintaining them, however, are two different things.

The challenge for some communities is a lack of resources, such as time and staff, to go out and check that every Elevation Certificate is accurately reflective of what is being built in the field. In bigger communities or ones with fast track developments, it seems there are simply not enough hours in the day or inspectors on staff to go look at every new structure every time an Elevation Certificate makes its way to the community office. Floodplain managers or inspectors who are not certified floodplain managers may not be equipped to understand the specific criteria that must be included on the form, such as the source of datum used for the base flood elevation. It is much easier to rely on the training and expertise of surveyors/engineers who put their seals on those forms than it is to verify the data themselves. However, *it is ultimately the responsibility of the community to ensure the forms are complete and correct*, not least of all for CRS purposes.

Communities that require only one Elevation Certificate at final construction are especially at risk, betting that structures will be built according to regulations throughout the entire development process. All too often, once that final form has been submitted to the office, it's too late to make any real changes to the construction. If the finished floor is even 1 inch below the base flood elevation, the structure is in violation of the community's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance and the owner may pay heavily in flood insurance premiums. For this reason, communities should strongly consider requiring an Elevation Certificate prior to the framing stage to ensure the structure will be built according to ordinance and code. Better yet, requiring three Elevation Certificates (one based on construction drawings, the second before framing, and

[continued on next page]



NFIP/CRS Corner (cont...)



Elevation Certificates: Making sure what you see is what you get. (cont...)

the third on the finished structure) will help communities track the construction process at all three stages of development in order to guarantee that what is required is what is being built. Some communities have also found that requiring the final Elevation Certificate as part of the process to obtain a Certificate of Occupancy gives the floodplain administrator some leverage in making sure the final Elevation Certificate is complete and accurate. Once the Certificate of Occupancy has been issued, community officials have a much more difficult time getting surveyors/engineers to correct any information on the form, especially if it requires going back out in the field. So what can be done to ensure the forms are filled out correctly the first time? The key is for floodplain managers to understand the basics of the form, what kind of information is required and why it's needed, and the importance of these forms' accuracy and correctness.

Without proper training to know how to review an Elevation Certificate and what to look for, errors can sometimes go unseen, which is why it's critical to get a second (or third) pair of eyes to examine these forms. Users groups are helpful in getting other qualified people to review Elevation Certificates since CRS communities are most in-tune with the importance of why they need to be correct. Communities should also take advantage of feedback from ISO on Elevation Certificates submitted for annual recertification. Though any errors found on the forms are not counted against the community in the recertification, they are indicative of changes the community may need to make in order to make their development process more efficient. It may be easier to blame errors on the surveyors/engineers filling out the forms, but that



Floodplain Management Training Calendar

For a nationwide listing of floodplain management-related training opportunities, visit [ASFPM Online Event Calendar](#).

Looking for training opportunities to earn CECs for your CFM? Check out our event calendar that had lots of training opportunities listed for 2019, and more to come for 2020! Search the calendar by state, or use the category drop-down menu to search by event category. The only events without a state listed in the event title are EMI courses, which are listed with their FEMA course number and are all held in Emmitsburg, MD.

(Taken from the ASFPM's The Insider Newsletter, September 2019 Edition)





FEMA Defers the Implementation of Risk Rating 2.0 for a Year

FEMA is focused on building a culture of preparedness by closing the insurance gap so individuals and communities recover faster and more fully after a natural disaster.

Earlier this year, FEMA announced Risk Rating 2.0 as an initiative to deliver flood insurance rates that people trust, value, and are less complex to navigate. Knowing the true risk of one’s property is critical to ensure adequate insurance coverage and claim payments after a flood, and to inform appropriate mitigation measures property owners can take to ultimately reduce their risk. Although the agency initially announced that new rates for all single-family homes would go into effect nationwide October 1, 2020, it announced November 7 that some additional time is required to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the proposed rating structure to protect policyholders and minimize any unintentional negative effects of the transition. **FEMA decided to defer the implementation of Risk Rating 2.0 by one year to October 1, 2021.** This extension allows for all NFIP policies—including, single-family homes, multi-unit and commercial properties—to change over to the new rating system at one time instead of a phased approach, as originally proposed.

Risk Rating 2.0

FEMA released a one-page update on Risk Rating 2.0 in September. It answers “Why risk rating 2.0?” “What is changing?” and “What are the benefits of risk rating 2.0?” View the [RR 2.0 flyer here](#). NOTE: The flyer, which came out before the “delay” announcement, still has October 1, 2020 as the “effective date.”

Over the course of the next year, FEMA will continue to actively engage with Congress and other key stakeholders to ensure transparency and visibility as it works to transform the NFIP. Stay updated on Risk Rating 2.0. = = =

(Taken from the NFIP/CRS UPDATE Newsletter, October/November 2019 Issue)

Information You Should Know

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Publications

In the NFIP/CRS Newsletter dated August/September 2019, we told you about a two-sided postcard the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has for explaining that homeowner’s insurance rarely includes flood insurance. We had overwhelming requests about how to order those postcards. That particular publication is item F061 and can be ordered from the [NFIP Public Awareness Materials Order Form](#). There are also materials for insurance and real estate agents, lenders, and policyholders before, during, and after a flood. Any publication you see with a number on it can be ordered from the [FEMA Publications Warehouse](#). And most are available in English and Spanish.

(Taken from the NFIP/CRS UPDATE Newsletter, October/November 2019 Issue)



FEMA Building Science and Region IV Release Two Fact Sheets Supporting Risk MAP Efforts

FEMA's Building Science Branch (BSB) and Region IV released two fact sheets that will reduce risk and improve resilience to buildings and their utility systems. The fact sheets explain that, before building in your community, it is important to recognize hazards that may be present, their potential impact, and provides numerous considerations and resources to help mitigate those risks. Effective design, construction, code enforcement and building to or exceeding the latest standard of practice, increases the disaster resilience of structures and their associated utility systems exposed to risk, thereby reducing damage and injuries.



Risk MAP (mapping, assessment, and planning) provides high quality flood mapping products, risk assessment tools, and planned outreach support to enhance a community's understanding of its risk. This, in turn, will help improve risk-informed decision making, enabling various stakeholders to take action in reducing their vulnerabilities to hazards and increasing resilience for themselves and their community's at large.

The "FEMA Building Science Considerations for Risk MAP" fact sheet lists numerous Risk MAP flood risk products. These include depth grids, changes since the last Flood Insurance Rate Map, Flood Risk Assessment, Community Engagement and Outreach, as well as other strategies like building above code, adopting and enforcing more stringent regulations and utilizing FEMA best practices.

The second fact sheet, "FEMA Building Science Resources to Help Reduce Risk and Improve Resilience," provides numerous resources to help foster disaster-resilient communities. Within the framework of Risk MAP, various stakeholders and communities can use building science resources to help better understand their vulnerabilities and risks, along with options available to them for implementing effective mitigation efforts to reduce building and utility damage and down time, and reduce flood insurance premiums.

To do this, there are currently over 200 BSB flood, wind, building code, Mitigation Assessment Team, recovery advisory and other resources available. Ultimately, Building Science Branch resources can enhance Risk MAP product utilization by stakeholders and communities incorporating disaster resilience or best practices into their building and utility planning, code enforcement, design and construction. For additional information on FEMA Building Sciences, visit: <https://www.fema.gov/building-science>. = = =

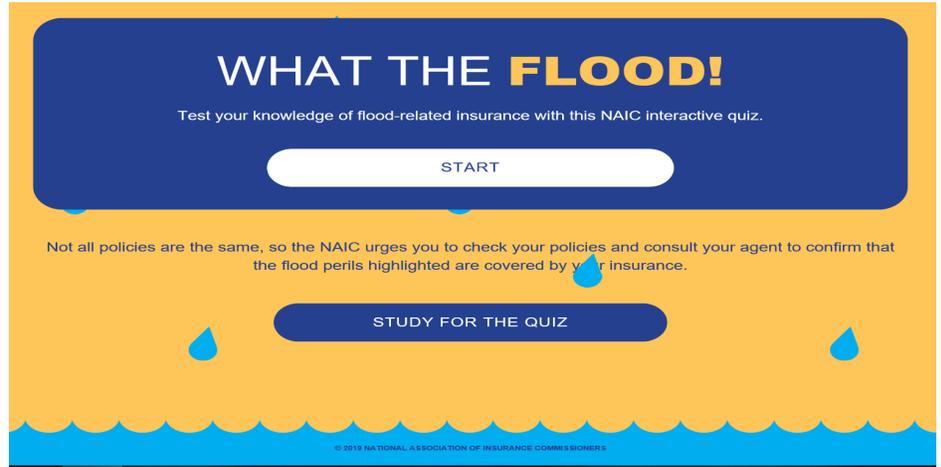
(Taken from ASFP's News& Views Newsletter, April 2019 Edition)



Genius Outreach Campaign you can Share, Borrow or Imitate

“What the Flood!” Quiz Helps Americans Understand Flood Insurance

The National Association of Insurance Commissioners released a new online quiz, "[What the Flood!](#)" as part of its #YourRiskIsReal campaign, an ongoing effort to educate consumers about flood risks and the need to consider purchasing flood insurance. The campaign educates consumers about flood risks and dispels dangerous misconceptions about flood insurance. The short, interactive quiz presents complicated insurance concepts in easy-to-understand terms. Sample questions include: "Is damage from a busted bathroom pipe and a burst levee covered by the same policy?" and "If a hurricane floods your car, do you file a claim with auto or home?" "There's a lot of confusion out there about insurance coverage for water-related damage. Insurance commissioners want consumers to understand which insurance covers the various flood perils," said Eric Cioppa, NAIC president and superintendent of the Maine Bureau of Insurance. = = =

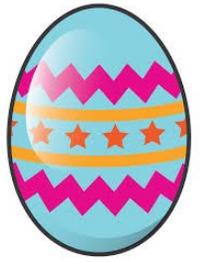


(Taken from ASFPM's News& Views Newsletter, June 2019 Edition)

About the Emergency Management Institute

FEMA's EMI in Emmitsburg, Maryland, offers training on topics related to floodplain management, mitigation, and construction, including the basic CRS course (E0278). These are oriented to local building, zoning, planning, and engineering officials. Tuition is free for state and local government officials, travel stipends are available, and on-campus lodging is free. Free transportation is provided from the airport to the campus and back to the airport. The only out-of-pocket expense is a meal ticket—all-you-can-eat breakfast, lunch and dinner. Go to the Welcome Package on the [EMI website](#) for specific details. The application to attend can be found [on this page on the EMI website](#), or call EMI at (800) 238-3358 or (301) 447-1035. Signed applications should be submitted through the state's Emergency Management Training Officer.

(Taken from NFIP/CRS Update Newsletter, October/November 2019 Edition)



FEMA Flood Risk Communication Toolkit and Videos for Community Officials

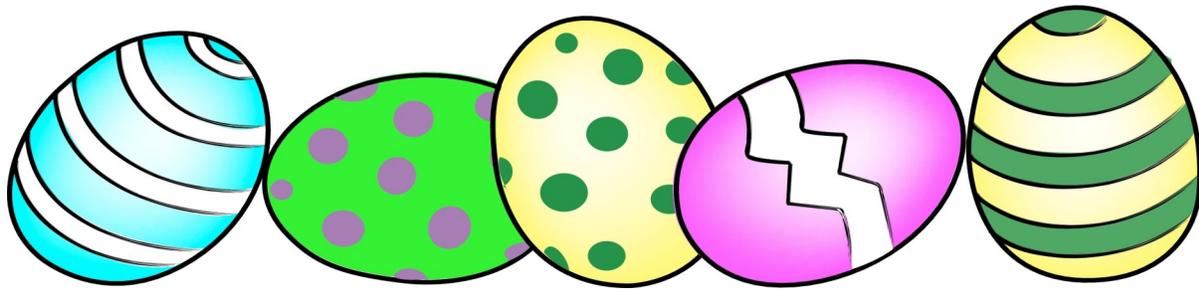
FEMA’s Risk Management Directorate debuted its Flood Risk Communication Toolkit and YouTube video series at ASFPM’s annual national conference in Cleveland. The toolkit and video series are intended to empower community officials to more effectively communicate with the public about flood risk to help residents and other stakeholders become full partners in increasing resilience. The resources showcase benefits of the mapping program and its connection to risk reduction and resilience. The toolkit and videos use plain language, and the information they provide is standardized but not traditional. The series helps FEMA deliver on its promise to provide simpler, more consistent experiences for its customers.

The Flood Risk Communication Toolkit includes several components with tips for discussing complex risk topics in a meaningful way. The YouTube video series includes eight 2- to 5-minute videos that tell personal stories from around the country that communicate technical information in a relatable manner. Both are now available on the [Risk MAP](#) page of FEMA.gov as the fifth featured story in the banner. They can be directly accessed [here](#). Links to the toolkit and videos on FEMA’s YouTube channel are also saved under Publications on ASFPM’s [Risk Communication & Outreach Committee](#) page.

These new and exciting resources will be featured on the Resilient Nation Partnership Network Lunch and Learn Aug. 14, and the subject of a 2-hour facilitated workshop at the August CTP training at the Emergency Management Institute. Please contact Michelle Madeley at michelle.madeley@fema.dhs.gov for questions.

(Taken from the ASFPM’s The Insider Newsletter, July 2019 Edition)





FEMA Releases Elevation Certificate with New Version Date

FEMA has now posted the 2019 Edition of the Elevation Certificate. The only change from the previous one is the Expiration Date, which is now November 30, 2022. It can be found at www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/160.

Since the website verbiage has not been updated and a Bulletin has not been issued, ASFPM has reached out to FEMA to see if there will be a grace period, and if so, for how long, to allow for the transition over to the new form. ***ISO is requiring the use of the new EC immediately for CRS communities.***

ASFPM participated in FEMA's Elevation Certificate workgroup to identify corrections and changes needed to update the EC. FEMA submitted this EC with recommended changes to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for their review and is waiting to hear back from them.



SAVE THE DATE



Louisiana Floodplain Managers Association
37th Annual Technical & Business Conference

"What's Your Vision?"

April 15 - 17, 2020

Houma, LA

LFMA website: www.lfma.org



What's YOUR Vision?

ONLINE
REGISTRATION

Registration is now open at:
<https://www.lfma.org/registration>

LOUISIANA FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

37th ANNUAL

TECHNICAL & BUSINESS CONFERENCE

April 15, 16, and 17, 2020

Houma, Louisiana

“What’s Your Vision?”

Courtyard by Marriott—142 Library Drive, Houma, LA 70360



Schedule of Events:

TUESDAY – APRIL 14, 2020

6:00 PM Board Meeting (Invitation Only)

WEDNESDAY – APRIL 15, 2020

Technical Tours - (Additional Information on Page 2 of Agenda)

Pre-Registration Required for all tours

7:30 - 12:30 Rodney Smith Memorial Open Spave Tour \$60

7:30 - 12:30 Levee Tour \$-0-

8:00 - 12:00 Basket Weaving Tour \$-0-

10:00 - 3:30 Registration:
Hotel Foyer

SESSION I GRAND BALLROOM

1:30 – 2:00 Welcome, Parish President
Gordon Dove
Toby Fruge, CFM; LFMA Chair
Ted Debaene, CFM; LFMA Executive Director

2:00 – 2:30 Cindy Wirz - FEMA R6
Messaging Strategies for Mitigation

2:30 – 3:30 Jamelyn Austin Trucks, CFM - Atkins
Planning ahead to meet post disaster compliance

3:30 – 3:45 B R E A K – Exhibits Open

3:45 – 4:15 Justin Kozak, CFM - CPEX
“Water You Going to Do?”

4:15 – 4:45 Alexandra Carter - OCD, DRU
Louisiana Watershed Initiative

5:15 Welcome Reception - Hospitality Suite
(Wine, Cheese, and Music)

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

THURSDAY – APRIL 16, 2020

SESSION II GRAND BALLROOM

7:30 – 8:00 Continental Breakfast

8:00 - 12:00 Registration / Exhibit Opens

8:00 Welcome
Kara Moree, CFM; LFMA Vice Chair

8:00 – 9:00 Jim Keith, PE, CFM - Freese and Nicols, Inc.
The problem with ‘Unprecedented’: Mitigating
Misinformation & Improving Risk Communication

9:00 - 9:30 Mason Richardson - LA Tech Student
GIS and Emergency Management

9:30 - 10:00 Susanna Pho, CFM - Forerunner
Elevation Certificate Uses

10:00– 10:15 B R E A K– Exhibits Open

10:15 - 11:15 Brett Parker - Smart Vent
Floodplain Design, Construction and Impacts on
Flood Insurance

11:15 - 11:45 Darrin Dutton - FEMA R6
Higher Standards

12:15 – 1:45 Awards Luncheon - Ballroom
Toby Fruge, CFM– LFMA Chair

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: CHAD BERGINNIS, ASFPM EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR

1:45– 2:15 B R E A K– Exhibits Open

SESSION III GRAND BALLROOM

2:15 Reassemble
Darla Duet, CFM - LFMA Secretary

2:15 - 2:45 Austin Feldbaum, CFM - City of New Orleans
Addressing Extreme Weather Events

2:45 – 3:45 Becca Fricke-Croft, CFM - Atkins



LOUISIANA FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

37th ANNUAL

TECHNICAL & BUSINESS CONFERENCE

“What’s Your Vision?”

Courtyard by Marriott—142 Library Drive, Houma, LA 70360

Schedule of Events: (cont...)

Turning the Ship: How Shady Cove Survived Probation

3:45 – 4:15 **Grant Besse, PE - Blue Wing Consulting, LLC**
Sulphur LA, Modeling Case Study

SESSION III **GRAND BALLROOM (cont...)**

5:00 **LFMA Party Time - Marriott Pool Area**
(Food, Spirits, Music, Fun, and Friends)

FRIDAY – APRIL 17, 2020

SESSION IV **GRAND BALLROOM**

8:00 – 8:30 **Continental Breakfast**

8:30 **Welcome**
Melissa Becker, CFM - LFMA Treasurer

8:30 – 9:15 **Lisa Jennings - FEMA R6**
Map Adoption Workshop

9:15 - 9:45 **Susan Veillon, CFM LADOTD & Jerri Daniels, CFM - Deweberry**
Louisiana CTP Risk MAP Update

9:45 - 10:00 **B R E A K**

10:00 - 10:30 **Rebecca Dake & Gilbert Giron - FEMA R6**
Closing the Insurance Gap

10:30 - 11:00 **Mechelle Olivier, CFM & Melissa James, CFM - ISO**
Elevation Certificate Common Errors

11:00 - 11:30 **Gary O’Neal, CFM & Kim Ryals, CFM Quality Engineering & Surveying**
BLE Viewer uses in HMA Grant Programs

11:30 - 11:45 **General Business Meeting & Election Results**
Ted Debaene, CFM, Executive Chair

11:45 – 12:00 **2020 Conference End Wrap Up**
Toby Fruge, CFM– LFMA Chair
Lisa Ledet, CFM - Conference Chair

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:30 – 4:30 **CFM Exam - Ballroom**
Pre-registered applicants only
(Pre-register with ASFPM at least two (2) weeks prior to the conference and receive confirmation)

TECHNICAL INFORMATION:

7:30 — 12:30 **Rodney Smith Memorial Open Space Tour: \$60**
Meet at:
LaTour Golf Club 300 LaTour Blvd, Mathews, LA 70375

Located deep in the serenity of bayou country and is nestled amid beautifully landscaped greens, spacious home sites, boulevards, and peaceful lakes. Featuring an 18-hole golf course. The private 72-par course sits on 597 acres of beautiful rolling grasslands and lakes that add to the beauty and splendor of LaTour.
Questions contact: Colin Sternhell csternhell@solutient.com

7:30 — 12:30 **Levee Tour: \$-0-**
(Includes Transportation - Meet in Marriott Lobby at 7:15 am.)
A bus tour of Terrebonne Parish levees will be on Wednesday morning. Bus will leave Marriott at 7:30 am. There is no charge, however, seating is limited. Once all spaces are filled, the option to join will not be available with online registration.
Questions contact: Lisa Ledet (985) 873-6567

8:00 — 12:00 **Basket Weaving Class: \$-0-**
(Includes Transportation - Meet in Marriott Lobby at 7:15 am.)
Wednesday morning a basket weaving class is being held at Terrebonne Cultural Folklife Museum. There is no charge, however, space is limited to 25. Once all spaces are filled, the option to join will not be



What's YOUR Vision?

available with online registration.
Questions contact: Lisa Ledet (985) 873-6567



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT

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:

LA DOTD
Floodplain Management Section
1201 Capitol Access Road
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

PHONE: 225-379-3005
FAX: 225-379-3002
E-MAIL: pam.lightfoot@la.gov
WEBSITE: <http://floods.dotd.la.gov>

