



FACTSHEET

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SECRETARY

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Training designed to help build your understanding and communication of Base Level Engineering and other flood risk products.

About this event

FEMA Region 6 has developed a suite of monthly trainings to help communities become more flood-resilient by using flood risk data for future development, emergency planning, and risk communications. Our "Virtual Brown Bag" sessions include:

- Using Base Level Engineering (BLE) at the Local Level - Trainings available for Local Officials, Local Planners, Engineering Practitioners, Floodplain Administrators and Insurance Stakeholders
- Live tutorials on pairing local data with FEMA data to develop flood risk assessments;
- Letters of Map Change (LOMCs) for Local Officials
- Base Level Engineering (BLE) and the Community Rating System (CRS)
- Using the Estimated Base Flood Elevation (BFE) Viewer

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FEMA Region 6 Virtual Brown Bag (cont...)

Join us each month for these free interactive, live demonstrations! CECs are available for CFMs. In cases where the attendee would like to use the Virtual Brown Bag towards their Professional Engineering or Surveyor’s License renewals, please be aware that the CEC provided by the Virtual Brown Bag is not equivalent to a Professional Development Hour. This CEC/CEU is equivalent to 0.1 PDH. Instructions on how to receive a certificate of participation provided at each webinar.

We look forward to your attendance and welcome feedback on the trainings as well as future topics of interest for your community.

Register to receive the Adobe Connect link and conference line information for the webinar prior to the monthly session.

Return to the page to register for more than one Virtual Brown Bag session. Additional sessions will be added to this site. Visit regularly!

Select the Virtual Brown Bags of interest to you using the drop down dates:

- September 27, 2022 - **What's new with the est BFE Viewer?**
- October 25, 2022 - **RSC and HECRAS Models**
- November 15, 2022 - **2D BLE Modernization (early webinar for Thanksgiving)**
- December - **Holiday break**
- January 31, 2023 - **Texas Water Development Board, Best Practices in Texas**

Watch for more learning sessions and register to attend! ≡ ≡ ≡



Louisiana Floodplain
Management Association

Fall Workshop
Friday, September 23, 2022
8:00 AM – 12:30 PM
Covington Fuhrmann Auditorium
128 W 23rd Ave., Covington, LA 70433

[Register Here](#)
[2022 Fall Workshop Agenda](#)



Mitigation Minute



Grant Application Period

COMING SOON

Fiscal Year 2022 Grant Opportunities for Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

The fiscal year 2022 (FY 2022) application period for the Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs) for the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant program and the new Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant programs will open on Sept. 30, 2022, and close at 3 p.m. Eastern Time on Jan. 27, 2022.

FEMA’s two competitive mitigation grant programs provide states, local communities, tribes and territories funding to address high-level future risks to natural disasters such as wildfires, drought, hurricanes, earthquakes, extreme heat, and increased flooding to foster greater community resilience and reduce disaster suffering.

Notices of Funding Opportunities Resources

BRIC Resources

[FY22 BRIC Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)

[FY22 BRIC Notice of Funding Opportunity Fact Sheet](#)

BRIC PROGRAM SUPPORT MATERIALS

Find information about various [activities under the new BRIC grant program](#) to support building codes, partnerships, project scoping and more.

BEFORE, WHEN AND AFTER YOU APPLY

Step through tips, guidance and requirements for each stage of the application process: [before you apply](#), [when you apply](#), and [after you apply](#).

FMA Resources

[FY22 FMA Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)

[FY22 FMA Notice of Funding Opportunity Fact Sheet](#)

FMA PROGRAM SUPPORT MATERIALS

Find resources about [project scoping, community flood mitigation projects, geospatial file requirements](#) and more. ≡ ≡ ≡



(Taken from Mitigation Minute, Aug. 17, 2022)



New Webpage Explains Flood Resilience to the Public



FEMA

A new [FEMA webpage](#) is now available as a one-stop-shop to the public about how to protect themselves and their property from the nation's number one disaster, flooding. The webpage includes free resources and information to learn about, understand, and take action to reduce flood risk.

The [FEMA Map Service Center](#) allows visitors to enter a street address to learn more about flood risks their community. Other information includes resources about flood maps, flood zones, flood risk and flood insurance.

In addition to learning about flood hazards, visitors may also explore the [National Risk Index](#). The tool identifies communities nationwide most at risk to 18 natural hazards and shows how certain factors such as social vulnerability, expected annual losses and community resilience affect those risks.

Also, the [Flood Risk and Endangered Species Habitat mapping tool](#) provides the species range and Special Flood Hazard Area data needed to integrate wildlife conservation activities into your community's floodplain management program.

There are also multiple resources about how actions the public can take now to protect their property from hazards.

Learn more about other free resources online to become resilient from natural hazards at [fema.gov](https://www.fema.gov). ≡ ≡ ≡





NFIP/CRS Corner

Recertification Tips for Activities 320 and 360

Public Information Activities 320 (Map Information Service) and 360 (Flood Protection Assistance) both credit services offered to the public by communities. The documentation and publicity requirements for both these activities are very similar, and it can be a challenge to differentiate between the two different activities. Below is some background on these two public information activities and how to streamline efforts to maximize credits. Both activities have annual recertification documentation requirements, and communities often provide too much. Below are tips that can help.

Activity 320 (Map Information Service)

Purpose: To credit specific actions taken by communities that provide inquirers with information about the local flood hazard and flood-prone areas that need special attention/protection.

How it's accomplished: Community staff provide map information from Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and locally-produced maps on seven possible creditable elements such as basic FIRM information, other local flooding problems not shown on the FIRM, flood depth data, historical flood information, etc. (see the [2017 CRS Coordinator's Manual](#) for a full list of creditable elements) to inquirers either over the phone, in person, or from email/hotline requests.

Annual documentation requirements

Publicity: This service must be publicized annually to the community so citizens know it is available and who to contact. Publicity for this service must disclose all elements the community is providing information on (FIRMs, other local flooding areas, flood depth data, etc.) and tell them who to contact for assistance. The publicity must go to either:

1. All residents in the community (i.e., newsletter, utility bill insert);
2. All members of the three common users of this service physically located in the community:
 - a. Lenders (banks, credit unions);
 - b. Insurance Agents; and
 - c. Real Estate Agents; or
3. The audience described as beneficial as part of a Program for Public Information (PPI) as credited in Activity 330.

Documentation of Service: The provision of this service must be documented annually. Examples of how to document the provision of service could include a log of the service, individual letters to inquirers, or print outs from a database that tracks inquiries/complaints/etc. The documentation must note:

1. The date of inquiry;

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2. The address of location of the property in question;
3. The FIRM Zone; and
4. Whether the inquirer advised of the credited element. For example, if the community is using a log to record the service and is being credited for MI6 (historical flood information), the log should contain a column for “historical flooding information” and show when the information was offered.

If using a log, be sure a minimum of all four items under “Documentation of Service” are covered in the log and each element is clearly shown. The log should cover the entire year. The same applies to a print out from an inquiry/complaint database. If using individual letters or “determination” forms, be sure all elements are shown on the template. Only three of these need to be submitted with the recertification each year.

Activity 360 (Flood Protection Assistance)

Purpose: To credit specific action taken by communities that provide one-on-one help to inquirers who are interested in protecting their property from flooding.

How it’s accomplished: Community staff provide assistance to inquirers about flooding and/or drainage concerns on their property either over the phone, in person, or from email/hotline requests. Community staff do not need to actually protect the property, just inform residents what the cause of the problem is and the various solutions that could be employed for flood protection. Community staff can also receive credit for providing advice on the various financial assistance measures available to the property owner.

Annual documentation requirements:

Publicity: This service must be publicized annually to the community so citizens know it is available and who to contact. Publicity for this service must disclose all elements the community is providing information on (property protection from a discussion, property protection from a visit to the property in question, or financial assistance advice), and tell them who to contact for assistance. The publicity must go to either:

1. All residents in the community (i.e., newsletter, utility bill insert);
2. All floodplain residents (usually a direct mailing); or
3. The audience described as beneficial as part of a PPI as credited in Activity 330.

Documentation of Service: The provision of this service must be documented annually. Examples of how to document include a log of the service, individual letters to inquirers, memos to the file, or print outs from a database that tracks inquiries/complaints/etc. The documentation must note:

1. The date of assistance given;
2. The type of assistance given;
3. The details of the findings; and

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4. Recommendations given to the inquirer

If using a log, be sure a minimum of all four items under “Documentation of Service” are covered in the log and each is clearly shown. The log should cover the entire year. This also applies a print out from an inquiry/complaint database. If using only three of these, they need to be submitted with the recertification each year.

Main Points for both Activities

1. Please check the publicity requirements (audiences) for both activities. Publicity for both these activities can be sent to all residents. However, if that is not a viable option for a community, then the alternative publicity options must be used. Please understand the differences and conduct the outreach appropriately.
2. A community can use the same log or same letter template to serve the documentation requirement for both activities; however, both activities’ required elements must be clearly identified on the document so that both can easily be verified. ≡ ≡ ≡

(Taken from NFIP/CRS Update, Dec. 2021/Jan. 2022)



CRS Webinars

The CRS Webinar Series provides both live and on-demand training to communities that are not yet participating in the Community Rating System, local government staff who are new to the CRS, and those with experience in the program. The Series includes basic introductory sessions and more advanced topics, most averaging about an hour in length. These webinars help communities understand and meet their CRS requirements. Many will be recorded, so they can be accessed later. Registration is free but required, as space is limited. [Click here](#) and type “CRS” in the search field to view webinars that are now open for registration. Some courses provide continuing education credits for certified floodplain managers (CFMs). All webinars begin at 12 pm Central time.

- September 20Annual CRS Requirements
- September 21FEMA’s Elevation Certificate
- October 18.....FEMA’s Elevation Certificate
- October 19..... CRS & Coastal Hazards
- November 15.....FEMA’s Elevation Certificate
- November 16.....CRS & Floodplain Species Assessment

If you would like to have a webinar on a particular CRS activity, contact your ISO/CRS Specialist. For more on the CRS webinars, go to the Training tab of the [CRS Resources website](#). If you have questions about or suggestions for the CRS Webinar Series, contact Becca.Croft@atkinsglobal.com. ≡ ≡ ≡



FEMA NEWS



New National Flood Insurance Program Training Now Available Online



FEMA and ASFPM team up to offer NFIP 101: Introduction to Floodplain Management

Local officials must know the basic requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) for their communities. However, many do not have time to attend an in-person course that lasts four days or more. Therefore, FEMA's Floodplain Management Training, Education, and Development Committee 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
2. Introduction to Floodplain Management
3. Risk Determination – Maps and Studies
4. Floodplain Management Regulations Overview
5. Substantial Improvement, Substantial Damage
6. Oversight and Compliance
7. Floodplain Management Pre- and Post-Event
8. Flood Insurance
9. Course Summary

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. The first way is for 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. The course is also useful as 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.

Access the new NFIP 101 training [here](#).

(Taken from The News & Views, June 2022)



FEMA NEWS (continued)



Outreach Materials for Hurricane Season



As another hurricane season is underway, understanding the real and rising risks of flooding in your area and how to protect yourselves from flood damages are incredibly important. Forty percent of all flood insurance claims are filed outside of high-risk flood zones, and 99% of all U.S. counties have been impacted by a flooding event since 1996.

We can't control the weather, but we can prepare for it. Flood insurance helps lower the out of pocket damage costs, allowing you to rebuild your life and community faster.

This hurricane season, FEMA has rolled out a social media outreach campaign to promote the value of flood insurance across throughout the Coastal-Atlantic United States. This year's campaign is centered on following your instincts to protect your nest, your home, and the life you have built. Reaching your communities where they are on social media can help encourage them to purchase an extra layer of protection this hurricane season, and beyond. **We are asking you to please support the campaign and share these messages on your community's Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, or other social media accounts!**

Social media assets are available online at [Agents.FloodSmart.gov/hurricanesession-LL](https://agents.floodsmart.gov/hurricanesession-LL). Each message has a custom graphic and a message tailored to each platform's content limits, encouraging the reader to act now, protect their nests, and learn more about what flood insurance policy is right for them.

Here are the FEMA YouTube links to the video ads:

- [Follow Your Instincts This Hurricane Season](#) – YouTube (15 seconds English)
- [Follow Your Instincts This Hurricane Season](#) – YouTube (30 seconds, English)
- [Follow Your Instincts This Hurricane Season](#) – YouTube (15 seconds, Spanish)
- [Follow Your Instincts This Hurricane Season](#) – YouTube (30 seconds, Spanish)

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Outreach Materials for Hurricane Season (cont.)



Please join the conversation by using #HurricaneSeason. Visit [Floodsmart.gov/hurricane-season/get-flood-insurance](https://www.floodsmart.gov/hurricane-season/get-flood-insurance) to learn more about this year's campaign and how flood insurance can help protect your communities this hurricane season. Homeowners, renters, and business owners can all benefit from this extra layer of protection.

Reduce Flood Risk

As you work with property owners looking to make informed decisions around the actions they can take to lower their risk of flooding, Reduce Flood Risk can help. Developed by ASFPM with financial support from FEMA, this interactive website empowers people to protect themselves and their most valuable asset.

To get started, people can go to [ReduceFloodRisk.org](https://www.reducefloodrisk.org), answer a series of five simple questions, and receive a detailed list of mitigation options recommended to reduce flood risk for their specific property type. The curated results can be filtered and sorted by key attributes, such as cost, complexity, and level of required maintenance.

In addition to its decision-support engine, [ReduceFloodRisk.org](https://www.reducefloodrisk.org) features a variety of resources to help property owners and renters better understand flood risk, flood insurance, financial assistance options, and who to contact with any questions they have about flood mitigation. The site is completely free and users do not need to create an account to gain access to the resources.

As flooding and hurricane season ramps up, consider making [ReduceFloodRisk](https://www.reducefloodrisk.org) a part of your efforts to raise awareness of flood mitigation options in your community.

(Taken from News & Views, July 2022)



Information Sharing Access Agreement (ISAA)

Why does a community need one?

Before FEMA can provide NFIP data (Policy, Claim & RL/SRL) to a community, there must be an approved NFIP Information Sharing Access Agreement (ISAA) in place. The ISAA is a written form that must be fully executed before FEMA may release NFIP data to a community. The purpose of the ISAA is to enable FEMA to share personally identifiable information (PII) that is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974 (Privacy Act), as amended, 5 U.S.C. § 552a, with the community. NFIP data can be used to enhance a community's floodplain management and CRS programs. It can also be used to identify high risk flood areas and target potential hazard mitigation activities. A fully executed ISAA is valid for one to three years, depending on how they are written and approved, and multiple data requests may be made under the ISAA. Updated NFIP data can be requested anytime as long as the NFIP ISAA has not expired. A separate agreement would not be needed to receive disaster related NFIP data but an additional ISAA may be needed to receive information related to Individual Assistance (IA) inspections or other disaster related data. The following information is needed for FEMA Region 6 to draft a NFIP ISAA:

- 1.) Name of Community
- 2.) Explanation of how the NFIP data will be used
- 3.) Name and title of the person with authority to sign sharing agreement for the community
- 4.) The following information for at least one point of contact, but no more than five:
 - Name
 - Title
 - Phone
 - Email

Send the above information to Mr. John Bowman, FEMA Region 6, at johne.bowman@fema.dhs.gov in order for him to draft the document.





Our goal is flood loss reduction . . .

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT

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>



Thanksgiving Wishes

With Thanksgiving being just around the corner, we would like to say...

*We hope you all have a safe
and happy Thanksgiving
Holiday!!*

From: Cindy, Pam, Susan