



Missouri Floodplain Management E-Bulletin

September 2024

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State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) Floodplain Management Section

Issue 1 - FY 2024 - Floodplain Management E-Bulletin

It's the first (1st) quarter of Fiscal Year 2024, and time for the first FY24 *Missouri Floodplain Management E-Bulletin!*

Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM)

To meet the State Emergency Management Agency's (SEMA's) education and experience requirements, all SEMA Floodplain Management Section staff must have the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM's) Certified Floodplain Manager's (CFM) designation. This signifies that staff have met certain standards and possess the necessary knowledge to excel in the floodplain management field.

The CFM exam tests the examinee's knowledge of a National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)-participating community's responsibilities under the NFIP and related floodplain management topics. The CFM exam takers must have, at a minimum; at least two years of full-time floodplain management experience OR a degree in a related field OR completion of the four-day, 0273 Managing Floodplain Development through the NFIP course

prior to taking the exam. Exam takers should not expect to have all of the necessary knowledge needed to pass the exam by meeting only the minimum prerequisites, so ASFPM provides a CFM Exam Study Guide to help in preparation. (Exam Guide [here.](#)) The CFM designation is important to everyone at SEMA! The Recovery Division Manager and his deputy recognize the value of CFM Certification and are now both CFMs in good standing. In addition, the Floodplain Engineering & Mapping Section Manager and staff are also CFMs! During ASFPM's Annual Conference, two SEMA employees passed the CFM exam. Congratulations to Floodplain Management Officer Korie Otto and to Floodplain Mapping Technical Assistant Jacob Wornson for taking—and passing—the CFM exam in 2024.



Congratulations to Korie Otto, CFM and Jacob Wornson, CFM!

Please don't miss the opportunity to attend our 2.5 hour-long *NFIP 101 Workshop* which we're bringing to a city near you! You can register for any of the workshops listed below; just click on this link:

<https://sema.dps.mo.gov/programs/floodplain/documents/nfip101-registration-form.pdf>

This workshop was created for Floodplain Administrators who need to know more about the National Flood Insurance Program. We look forward to seeing you at the *NFIP 101 Workshop*!



Missouri
Floodplain
Management
Section
Be Flood Prepared



MfSMA
MO Floodplain & Stormwater Managers Association

NFIP 101 Workshop

We are coming to your area!
Our goals are to make available an in-person training for local Floodplain Administrators to attend closer to home. **This workshop has been approved for 2 Continuing Education Credits (CECs) for Certified Floodplain Managers (CFMs).**

Join us for an introduction into the basics of Floodplain Management. This includes topics related to FIRM Maps, Regulations, Substantial Improvement/Damage, Ordinance Enforcement, Permitting and Basic Flood Insurance Rating.

Registration:
Please contact Lauren Imhoff to register by phone 573-526-6534 or email lauren.imhoff@sema.dps.mo.gov

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Korie Otto, CFM
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Linda Olsen, CFM
Advanced Emergency Management Officer

Workshop Dates & Locations:

Wednesday, November 13, 2024
9:00am – 11:30am
 Jackson Civic Center
 South Meeting Room
 381 E. Deerwood Dr.
 Jackson, MO 63755

Monday, November 18, 2024
9:00am – 11:30am
 Lee's Summit City Hall
 Howard A Conference Room, 2nd floor
 220 SE Green Street
 Lee's Summit, MO 64063

Thursday, November 21, 2024
9:00am – 11:30am
 Hannibal City Hall
 2nd Floor Conference Room
 320 Broadway
 Hannibal, MO 63401

Monday, November 25, 2024
1:00pm – 3:30pm
 Arnold City Hall
 Downstairs Conference Room
 2101 Jeffco Boulevard
 Arnold, MO 63010

Monday, March 10, 2025
9:00am – 11:30am
 Large Conference Room
 4121 South Wilsons Creek Blvd.
 Republic, MO 65738



Jake Farrell, Blue Springs CRS Coordinator and Floodplain Administrator receives a CRS Class 7 plaque from FEMA, presented by Karen McHugh, Missouri State NFIP Coordinator.

Congratulations Jake!

There's a lot of talk about the National Flood Insurance Program – commonly referred to as the NFIP – but not a great deal of understanding. It's a very complicated federal program that actually has several programs under the NFIP umbrella. We thought it would be useful to highlight how Blue Springs, Mo. is utilizing one program within the NFIP – known as the Community Rating System – to reduce flood damage and lower premiums for residents who purchase flood insurance.

The NFIP, which is administered under the Federal Emergency Management Agency, aims to reduce the impact of flooding on private and public structures by providing flood insurance to property owners and encouraging communities to adopt floodplain management regulations.

The Community Rating System (CRS) is a volunteer insurance program that encourages communities to adopt higher NFIP standards than those outlined in the NFIP's minimum requirements. Those that do are then entitled to significant discounts on their flood insurance premiums.

Blue Springs (Jackson County), joined the Community Rating System in October 2018 as a Class 9 participant. Class 9 is the basic level in which most communities enter the CRS program. Those communities are entitled to 5 percent discounts on their flood insurance premiums in Special Flood Hazard Areas. On April 1, 2024, Blue Springs lowered its CRS rating to Class 7, which entitles SFHA property owners to a 15 percent discount on their premiums.

Achieving this rating took a tremendous amount of work, and Blue Springs residents should be proud of this achievement.

Communities participate in the CRS program, thus lowering their CRS class rating, by engaging in any of 19 creditable activities, organized under four categories:

- Public Information • Mapping and Regulations • Flood Damage Reductions • Warning and Response

Here's how Missouri communities can get started:

- To apply for CRS participation, a community must initially inform the FEMA Region VII Office in Kansas City of its interest in applying to the CRS.
- Submit a CRS application to the Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO) CRS Specialist.
- CRS application information can be obtained from one of the following:

Community Rating Specialists for Region VII:

Todd Tucker

(816) 585-1806 todd.tucker@fema.dhs.gov

or

ISO/CRS Specialist

Jennifer Rachal, CFM

(985) 705-8898 Jennifer.Rachal@verisk.com

For the latest version of the CRS Coordinator's Manual and other related documents:

<https://crsresources.org/manual/>



Gale Cantu,
Platte County
Floodplain Ad-
ministrator,
(retd.)

The Association of State Floodplain Manager's (ASFPM's) Larry R. Johnston (1945-1990) award seeks to recognize outstanding individual efforts and contributions at the local level. The Local Floodplain Manager of the Year award is designed to honor an individual responsible for the development of a distinguished local program or activity, or one local floodplain manager who struggles to implement flood hazard reduction at the local level in the absence of sophisticated programs and support.

The winner of the 2024 Larry R. Johnston Local Floodplain Manager of the Year is ... Gale Cantu, Floodplain Administrator and CRS Coordinator for Platte County, Missouri (now retired.)

For the past 36+ years, Platte County has had a guardian of sorts – her knowledge is like an intricate map of the county's built environment. Every twist and turn of the Missouri River, every potential flood risk, is etched in her memory. New development? Not a chance of it slipping past her watchful eye. If development is in the Special Flood Hazard Area, it is sure to be compliant with NFIP regulations. She knows the importance of adopting higher standards in the county's floodplain management ordinance, and she enforces them all while maintaining a CRS Class 5 rating since 2009.

But perhaps most importantly, she serves with dedication to the people she's called to protect; guiding them, and assisting them, all with a commitment to excellence that shines through in everything she does.

Congratulations Gale! ...If we must lose you as an FPA, we're also more than glad to note that your amazing career was recognized by the prestigious Association of State Floodplain Managers. Your expertise as an FPA and CRS Coordinator will be missed, but we know that you will enjoy your retirement and spending time with those wonderful grandkids!!

MfSMA Annual Conference

Breaking the Build, Flood, Rebuild Cycle

The Missouri Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association (MfSMA) will host its annual conference on October 23rd thru October 25th, 2024, with numerous opportunities to attend workshops and presentations, take the Certified Floodplain Managers exam (you must register to take the CFM Exam with ASFPM at floods.org), and mingle with your fellow floodplain managers.

12 Continuing Education Credits (CECs) have been approved by ASFPM for attending Certified Floodplain Managers (CFMs).

The conference will be held at Margaritaville (aka Tan-Tara) Conference Center: 494 Tan Tar A Drive, Osage Beach, MO.

The 2024 Conference Program Schedule can be found here:

https://mfsma.org/conference_schedule

Register **NOW!** And reserve your room **TODAY!**



3D Flood Simulation Model

We've been busy with the Floodplain Management Section's Floodplain 3D Simulation Model this quarter. Floodplain Management Staff members Lauren Imhoff and Korie Otto demonstrated the model to hundreds of children and adults alike on three different days during the Missouri State Fair, during the SEMA Conference and during the Boone County Ready Fest in Columbia, Missouri. Everyone agreed that the model accurately demonstrated the affects of development in our floodplains. The demonstration also offered the attendees the opportunity to explore the value of wetlands and retention ponds in floodplain management.



Floodplain Management Officer Korie Otto and Deputy State NFIP Coordinator Lauren Imhoff demonstrated the Flood Model at the Missouri State Fair. Pictured: Lauren Imhoff.



Boone County Ready Fest demonstrations by Korie Otto and Lauren Imhoff were a hit during the Ready Fest. Pictured: Lauren Imhoff.



Floodplain Management Officer Korie Otto and Deputy State NFIP Coordinator Lauren Imhoff demonstrated the Flood Model at the State Emergency Management Agency's (SEMA's) Annual Conference.

Missouri Floodplain Management Section
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The Mission Statement of the Floodplain Management Section:
The mission of Missouri's Comprehensive Floodplain Management Program is to make the state and its citizens less vulnerable to the impact of flooding through the effective administration of statewide floodplain management, and to provide local communities with the tools and resources for managing, assessing, and planning for development in flood prone areas; to save lives; and to protect property.

Other Contact Information

National Flood Insurance Program:

Ally Bishop, Region VII Regional Manager

Phone: 913-837-5220

ally.bishop@associates.fema.dhs.gov

Christopher (Chris) Parsons, NFIP Insurance Specialist

Phone: 816-283-7980

christopher.parsons@fema.dhs.gov

Welcome

The Floodplain Management Section is excited to announce the addition of the communities of Jacksonville (Randolph County) and Wellington (Lafayette County) to the Regular Phase of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in 2024. The State of Missouri now has 692 NFIP-participating communities! Welcome, and please allow the State Floodplain Management Section to help with any questions that you have regarding the NFIP!

