

**THE APPLICATION OPENING DATE FOR
FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE (FMA) AND PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION
ASSISTANCE (PDM) GRANTS IS MARCH 15, 2016**

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA):

Makes available Federal funds to State, Local, and Tribal Governments to reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings and structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Allowable activities in support of FEMA program objectives include:

- Flood Hazard Planning consistent with 44 CFR Part 201
- Cost-effective and sustainable hazard mitigation projects that conform with FEMA-approved State/Tribal/local mitigation plans:
 - ◊ Property Acquisition and Structure Demolition or Relocation
 - ◊ Structure Elevation
 - ◊ Mitigation Reconstruction
 - ◊ Dry Flood-Proofing
 - ◊ Non-structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings
 - ◊ Minor Localized Flood Reduction
- Applicant and Subapplicant Management Costs for administering and managing grant and subgrant activities
- Technical Assistance (for Applicants who were awarded FMA grants totaling at least \$1,000,000 Federal Share in FY 2015)

Award Amount and Important Dates

Available Funding for the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO):	\$199,000,000
Projected Number of Awards:	200
Period of Performance:	41 months
Application Start Date:	March 15, 2016
Application Submission Deadline:	June 15, 2016 at 3pm Eastern Standard Time
Anticipated Funding Selection Date:	August 30, 2016
Anticipated Award Date:	September 30, 2016

To learn more visit: <http://www.grants.gov/search-grants.html?agencies%3DDHS%7CDepartment%20of%20Homeland%20Security>.

To view the FMA Factsheet: <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/114663>

Have additional questions? Please speak with one of our Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA), Non-Disaster Grant Specialists:

Marty Chester, 940-898-5216, Marty.Chester@fema.dhs.gov - Responsible for AR and TX

Trey Rozelle, 940-898-5412, Trey.Rozelle@fema.dhs.gov - Responsible for LA, NM, and OK

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FMA and PDM Announcement continued from page 2

Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM):

Makes Federal funds available to State, Local and Tribal governments to implement and sustain cost-effective measures designed to reduce the risk to individuals and property from natural hazards, while also reducing reliance on Federal funding from future disasters. PDM program strengthens National Preparedness and Resilience and supports the national preparedness goal of mitigation, as specified in the Presidential Policy Directive (PPD-8).

FEMA's priorities for funding PDM applications are listed below:

1. State/Territory allocation
2. Tribal allocation set aside
3. Planning subapplications consistent with Title 44CFR Part 201 from Applicants that do not have Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) planning funds available
4. Project subapplications from Applicants that do not have HMGP regular project funds available in order as follows:
 - ◇ Climate Resilient Mitigation Activities (CRMA) and pre- or post- wildfire mitigation activities or any mitigation action that utilizes green infrastructure approaches
 - ◇ Non-flood hazard mitigation projects and non-acquisition/elevation/mitigation reconstruction flood mitigation activities
 - ◇ Acquisition, elevation, and mitigation reconstruction projects
 - ◇ Generators for critical facilities as identified in a FEMA-approved Mitigation Plan
5. Planning subapplications from applicants that have HMGP planning funds available
6. Project subapplications from Applicants that have HMGP regular project funds available in the following order:
 - ◇ CRMA and pre- or post- wildfire mitigation activities or any mitigation action that utilizes green infrastructure approaches
 - ◇ Non-flood hazard mitigation projects and non-acquisition/elevation/mitigation reconstruction flood mitigation activities
 - ◇ Acquisition, elevation, and mitigation reconstruction projects
 - ◇ Generators for critical facilities

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To learn more visit: <http://www.grants.gov/search-grants.html?agencies%3DDHS%7CDepartment%20of%20Homeland%20Security> To view the PDM Factsheet: <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/114667>

Have additional questions? Please speak with one of our Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA), Non-Disaster Grant Specialists: Marty Chester, 940-898-5216, Marty.Chester@fema.dhs.gov - Responsible for AR and TX
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Grants Management Modernization (GMM)

FEMA currently manages over 40 active grants using a variety of processes, organizations, policies, and systems. The agency is working to change that through Grants Management Modernization (GMM)—an effort to transition FEMA to a common way of business using a single grants management Information Technology (IT) platform. The GMM initiative seeks to simplify and coordinate business management approaches across all of the agency's grants programs by establishing a common grants life cycle and platform for users.

The objectives of the GMM initiative are to:

- Simplify the grants lifecycle process.
- Improve the timeliness of funding to support survivors and facilitate community resiliency.
- Improve the allocation of grant funds across the emergency management community.
- Streamline and improve business performance by improving business processes and supporting decision-making.
- Improve business intelligence and decision-making by increasing access to data.
- Improve compliance with regulations and statutes.
- Reduce overall sustainment costs by consolidating legacy systems into a single grants management IT platform.

Sounds great, yes? We believe this movement has the potential to improve the customer experience regarding grants; to make the process manageable.

Are we there yet? No. Like anything we have to start small and so Region 6 is actively participating in this process, providing feedback, examples, and possible solutions to simplify grants.

We will keep you posted but wanted to acknowledge your frustration as we share the same frustration and we are working to try to make changes toward modernizing the grant management programs.

2016 State Mitigation Plan Review Guide

Starting March 6, 2016, the State Mitigation Plan Review Guide will be FEMA's official policy on the natural hazard mitigation planning requirements at Title 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 201, and FEMA's interpretation of federal regulations for state hazard mitigation plans, inclusive of the District of Columbia and five U.S. territories.

State mitigation plans are one of the conditions of eligibility for certain FEMA assistance, such as Public Assistance Categories C-G and Hazard Mitigation Assistance mitigation project grants. States are required to update the state mitigation plan every five years.

Highlights from the Guide:

- Clarifies that the probability of future hazard events must include considerations of changing future conditions, including the effects of long-term changes in weather patterns and climate on the identified hazards.
- States must take a holistic approach and include not only emergency management, but also the sectors of economic development, land use and development, housing, health and social services, infrastructure, and natural and cultural resources in their planning process and mitigation program, where practicable.

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2016 State Hazard Mitigation Plan Review Guide Continued from Page 4

- Hazard mitigation plans must be adopted by the highest elected official or designee in the state.
- Sets forth the standard operating procedures for the submittal and review of both the standard and enhanced state mitigation plans.
- Establishes a mitigation program consultation with each state to help institute active, ongoing coordination and communication on mitigation programs.
- Annually, FEMA will validate that enhanced states are maintaining a comprehensive mitigation program, effectively using funding, and remain capable of managing the increased Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding.

To view the guide and factsheet, respectively, visit: http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1425915308555-aba3a873bc5f1140f7320d1ebabd18c6/State_Mitigation_Plan_Review_Guide_2015.pdf and http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1428593340963-04be109f542645c2837020c4d8d81c8e/State_Mitigation_Plan_Review_Guide_Factsheet.pdf

FEMA Announces Policy Updates to Flood Risk Analysis & Mapping Standards

FEMA announces the revision of nine Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (RiskMAP) standards as part of the semi-annual maintenance process. The changes clarify existing policy on validation procedures for existing flood maps and adjusting elevation data to account for temporary disturbances related to beach nourishment. The changes adopt the latest USGS / 3D Elevation Program specification for lidar and clarify the requirement for all Letters of Map Revision (LOMRs) to update the National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) and to reflect the location for LOMRs in the NFHL.

Finally, a new standard establishes policy for applying the regulatory definitions in the identification of primary frontal dunes. This standard provides clarification for how FEMA will interpret the “continuous or nearly continuous” element of the regulatory definition of a primary frontal dune going forward. This clarification is most likely relevant to property specific requests for revisions to the primary frontal dune designation.

A summary of the changes in the standards and the public review is available at the FEMA library—<http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/72608>

As part of this maintenance cycle, FEMA also issued new guidance documents for RiskMAP and updated the related technical reference documents that define specific requirements for flood risk project deliverables. An overview of RiskMAP standards and guidance and access to all documents is available at <http://www.fema.gov/guidelines-and-standards-flood-risk-analysis-and-mapping>.

In August 2013, a set of standards for the RiskMAP program was issued as the FEMA policy “Standards for Flood Risk Analysis and Mapping.” RiskMAP provides high quality flood maps for communities to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), as well as information and tools to better assess the risk from flooding. The standards enable consistent performance of flood risk projects, processing letters of map change, and related RiskMAP activities.

RiskMAP instituted a semi-annual maintenance process for this policy to provide regular updates and procedures for mapping. Updates to the mapping standards will typically be issued twice yearly.

If you have questions please contact Ms. Diane Howe, Acting RiskMAP Team Leader, 940-898-5171 or Diane.Howe@fema.dhs.gov

New Guidance on Mapping Repetitive Loss Areas

To participate in the Community Rating System, a community with one or more repetitive loss properties are required to take certain actions that address the flood risk those properties face. They must:

Prepare a map of the repetitive loss area(s),
Review and describe their repetitive loss problems,
Prepare a list of the addresses of all properties with insurable buildings in those areas, and
Undertake an annual outreach project to those addresses.

A new 9-page CRS Handout gives step-by-step guidance to help CRS communities meet these requirements, explains how to address Privacy Act considerations in the course of preparing the map and address lists, and presents six different example of ways to use maps and other data to confirm the existence and location of properties subject to repetitive flooding.

Access Mapping Repetitive Loss Areas for CRS at www.CRSresources.org/500.

Fire Management Assistance Grants and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – Is Not Extended

This pilot program designed to support expeditious wildfire recovery through the use of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) has not been extended due to lack of funding.

We will inform you should this program receive an appropriation to continue.

Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) Web Page

We are proud to announce the EHP web page is live!!!

On the page you will find Greensheets for active disasters, fact sheets, guidance on the National Environmental Protection Act and National Historic Preservation Act, and many other useful pieces of information you can use before, during, and after a disaster.

Please visit the web page and see what you think: <https://www.fema.gov/r6-environmental-and-historic-preservation>

Executive Order Establishes a Federal Earthquake Risk Management Standard—<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/02/02/executive-order-establishing-federal-earthquake-risk-management-standard>

On Tuesday, February 2, President Obama signed an Executive Order: Establishing a Federal Earthquake Risk Management Standard, which will improve the capability of federal buildings to function after an earthquake, reducing risks to people, lowering post-quake recovery costs, and making it easier for communities to recover swiftly.

The EO requires that federal agencies responsible for the design and construction of a new building, or an alteration to an existing building, ensure that the building is constructed or altered using the earthquake-resistant design provisions in the most current building codes.

The latest building codes, which encompass the current understanding of the earthquake hazard potential, are one of the best ways to achieve earthquake safety and preserve the lives of the people who live in a building. This Executive Order will also help ensure that federal assets are available to support recovery efforts.

View a fact sheet outlining steps to increase the Nation's resilience to earthquakes here—<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/02/02/fact-sheet-obama-administration-announces-steps-increase-nations>

Partner Profiles

In response to the survey taken last quarter we are adding a the profile of one of our staff so as we get to know you, you get to know us!

Katie Belknap, Earthquake Program Manager for Arkansas

How did you get involved with Mitigation? I have been involved in mitigation for several years. I became interested in mitigation through my education at Arkansas State University. I was in a nursing program and had to take an emergency management course as an elective. Long story short, I fell in love with the ideas behind emergency management and changed my major. I explored other options of emergency management but have just found my niche in mitigation. I think it makes more sense to spend a few extra dollars and a little more time in the beginning, rather than re-do a whole project in the end.



What do you consider the favorite part of your job? My favorite part of my position is working with the local communities. It is very rewarding when you can see the impact of the work you are doing with local jurisdictions. It is also very rewarding to hear individuals after disaster who have success stories because of something you taught them or showed them.



If you had unlimited money, unlimited power, and complete support, what is one thing you would do for the citizens of Arkansas and why? If I had unlimited money, unlimited power, and complete support I would first initiate regulation that requires citizens to participate in preparedness activities. I think that we do very well in Arkansas preparing as a larger group, but we often forget that preparedness starts with individuals. Additionally, I would create an "area" where people could go and practice different type of disaster scenarios. I know these exist in other areas of the United States, but I think it's very important for people to understand the effects of a disaster. Seeing disaster first-hand in a controlled environment certainly has a different impact on how people react as compared to just seeing pictures or hearing other people's stories.

Ross Richardson, Floodplain Management and Insurance Branch Chief, NOTE: Mr. Richardson is set to retire on March 31, 2016 and so we wanted to give him one last hurrah to say his peace! We will miss him!

How did you get involved with Mitigation ? A telephone call. I received a call offering me a job with the State of Missouri and its Emergency Management Agency. A family friend who was one of the new Governor's campaign managers was placed in a position with the agency to draft the first State Disaster Plan. He needed a team to complete the 3 year task. I did not hesitate and took the job. First thing I did was to buy a new 1976 Monte Carlo to take to my new home in Jefferson City Missouri. After the plan was finished, I was fortunate to stay on (my friend lost his job when a new Governor was elected) and started working with the National Flood Insurance Program initially studying State owned structures. Eventually, the NFIP moved to the State Department of Natural Resources and I went along and stayed with the program. After working on FEMA State Community Assistance Program grants, I was offered to work with FEMA Region 7 in Kansas City Missouri. That began my federal career and my professional livelihood with the NFIP. The rest is history!!



What do you consider the favorite part of your job? Working in this field, every action we take emphasizes "protecting lives and property" no matter what the mitigation action is and no matter how big or small. The NFIP while protecting new development with local codes and providing federal flood insurance coverage for existing risks could be considered FEMA's first mitigation program.

Partner Profiles continued from Page 7

If you had unlimited money, unlimited power, and complete support, what is one thing you would do for the citizens of Region 6? Purchase everyone (both resident and business) flood insurance coverage regardless of risk plus mitigate all repetitive loss properties by either acquisition, relocation or elevation.

Why? To provide future protection to existing structures, protect the flood insurance fund and to mitigate the “worst of the worst”!!

New Publications**Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program Digest** - <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/95109>

FEMA has produced this digest of HMA program operational terms and references. The HMA Program Digest is intended to be an easy-to-read, easy-to use, brief summary of the basic HMA program elements. While the HMA Program Digest is primarily intended for those unfamiliar with the HMA programs, it also may serve as a reference for employees, applicants, and other stakeholders with many years of experience with the programs. Because the digest is not exhaustive, either in topics or in detail, information should be verified with the FEMA HMA Unified Program Guidance and FEMA HMA program officials before becoming the basis for decision making.

Climate Resilient Mitigation Activities for Hazard Mitigation Assistance - <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/110202>

Climate Resilient Mitigation Activities are eligible under the Hazard Mitigation Assistance programs to support communities in reducing the risks associated with climate change. These activities are:

- Aquifer Storage and Recovery—http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1449243910758-8e7fc3dc22f615f256085b8ad373d0a7/ASR_FactSheet_Sep2015_Dec508.pdf
- Floodplain and Stream Restoration—http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1449244103602-4d8ca503b6f2c7fc343904ce97a0e6aa/FSR_FactSheet_Sep2015_Dec508.pdf
- Flood Diversion and Storage—http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1449243996725-48a9c6c36cba749e86316e3165f6e899/FDS_FactSheet_Sep2015_Dec508.pdf
- Green Infrastructure Methods—http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1449244221588-e054671affe09301e3b819d213a64ce7/GI_FactSheet_Sept2015_Dec508.pdf

Foundation and Anchoring Criteria for Safe Rooms—<http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/112029>

FEMA's Building Science Branch presents the Foundation and Anchoring Criteria for Safe Rooms Fact Sheet. The content in the Fact Sheet intends to help communities and people seek protection from tornadoes through measures they take when securing a safe room. As prefabricated safe rooms become more popular, there are very specific foundation and anchoring requirements that if overlooked, can leave occupants at risk of injury or death during tornadoes.

The purpose of this Fact Sheet is to make homeowners, builders, safe room manufacturers, and design professionals aware of the requirements for safe room foundations and anchoring. This is part of FEMA's ongoing mitigation effort to lessen the impact that disasters have on people and property.

This fact sheet provides graphics and useful information about the foundation and anchoring criteria in [FEMA P-361, Safe Rooms for Tornadoes and Hurricanes: Guidance for Community and Residential Safe Rooms](#), Third Edition, which uses ICC 500, Standard for the Design and Construction of Storm Shelters, as a referenced standard.

Cost Estimating Principles for Hazard Mitigation Assistance Applications—<http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/110217>

This document contains the presentation slides from a Cost Estimating Principles for Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) webinar that was provided in March 2015. The goals of the Cost Estimating Principles webinar were:

- Provide a general understanding of the principles of reviewing cost estimates for HMA projects (throughout the grant lifecycle).
- Provide a process for determining “reasonable costs” as part of grant application review.
- Provide a short discussion of the bidding process / contract types

This webinar did not provide cost estimation for developing mitigation plans.

If you would like a copy of the presentation in PowerPoint format to tailor it for your community’s use, please email FEMA-HMA-GrantsPolicy@fema.dhs.gov to request a PowerPoint copy.

Alternative Mitigation Measures Study Required in Section 26 of the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014—http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1443014398612-a4dfc0f86711bc72434b82c4b100a677/revFEMA_HMA_Grants_4pg_2015_508.pdf

This publication presents a range of flood protection measures available as alternatives to traditional structural elevation for homeowners whose residences meet both of the following conditions:

- 1) The residences are existing buildings. This publication is not intended to address construction of new buildings in floodprone areas as these structures should be sufficiently elevated and built in conformance with NFIP and local floodplain management regulations.
- 2) The residences are not Substantially Damaged or Substantially Improved, meaning that the buildings have not sustained damage or undergone improvement (i.e., reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition) where the cost of the damage or improvement exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the building before the damage occurred or improvement began. As with new construction, Substantially Damaged or Substantially Improved structures must be re-built in conformance with NFIP and local floodplain management regulations.

While all of the measures included in the publication can be effective at reducing flood damage, the current flood insurance rating framework does not provide premium reductions for all of the featured measures at the present time. Even if flood insurance premium reductions are not available, there should still be consideration given to implementing flood mitigation measures in order to reduce damages and financial losses.

The following flood protection measures can be rated under the existing NFIP framework such that implementation of these measures may result in flood insurance premium reductions. The amount of the premium reduction will vary on a case by case basis.

- All Interior Modification/Retrofit Measures (Basement Infill, Abandon Lowest Floor, and Elevate Lowest Interior Floor) and Wet Floodproofing using Flood Openings: These measures can moderately to significantly reduce flood risk, and the flood insurance rating framework is presently in place to allow homeowners to receive flood insurance premiums that reflect any flood damage reduction protection provided by these measures. Use of these measures may result in buildings that meet current NFIP minimum requirements and the local floodplain ordinance, if the lowest floor is elevated to or above the BFE or locally adopted regulatory flood elevation.

Alternative Mitigation Measures Study Required in Section 26 of the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 continued from Page 9

The following flood mitigation measures can be used to decrease flood losses and damages. However, FEMA will need to undertake further analysis to determine whether it is appropriate to offer flood insurance premium discounts for undertaking such measures, and if so, what level of discount is appropriate for each measure.

All other Wet Floodproofing Measures (Elevate Building Utilities, Floodproof Building Utilities, and use of Flood Damage-Resistant Materials): These measures can moderately reduce flood risk and damage to utilities, floors, walls, and other areas subject to flooding.

All Dry Floodproofing Measures (Passive Dry Floodproofing System) and Barrier Measures (Floodwall with Gates and Floodwall without Gates, Levee with Gates and Levee without Gates): These measures can moderately to significantly reduce flood risk in areas subject to shallow flooding.

Best Practice—City of Leon Valley, Texas, Unveiled High Water Mark and Announce an Initiative Targeting Local Flood Risk

In October of 1998, the City of Leon Valley was devastated by flooding. On January 9, 2016, officials unveiled a High Water Mark in that city. They also announced the start of a new initiative reminding residents of the community's flood risks.

The High Water Mark Initiative places a permanent High Water Mark on the Raymond Rimkus Park Walking Path. It encourages local residents and businesses to learn about their flood risks. They are also encouraged to make emergency plans and put together disaster supply kits. The initiative was based on tools and strategies developed by FEMA and eight other Federal agencies.

Floods are the most common and costly natural disaster in the United States. Someone with a 30 year mortgage has a 26 percent chance of flooding. That's more than twice the chance of a fire.

Visit www.leonvalleytexas.gov or call 210-684-1391 to learn more about this initiative and use the "Cost of Flooding" tool at <https://www.FloodSmart.gov> to see how much damage flooding can do to your home, inch by inch.

Best Practice—Fire Resistant Construction and Space Save Home— Edited

September 12, 2015, Ron Steffovitch evacuated his home in Middletown, California home. When the Valley Wildfire jumped State Highway 29 and moved into the houses in his neighborhood, the extra money and time he had spent on a concrete tile roof, cement stucco exterior and fire-resistant landscaping were put to the ultimate test.

Steffovitch landscaped with concrete walkways, concrete pavers, a stone-lined water diversion ditch, and succulent plants. There also were green vegetable beds and flower gardens scattered around his property. Often, following wild-fires, the denuded areas and fire debris allow for flooding and debris flows when the rains come. The diversion ditch that goes around the house, will serve to direct post-fire flood and debris flows away from the house.

The next day, when residents were allowed to return to survey the aftermath, Steffovitch found only minor damage to his home, while the houses on either side of him were destroyed, along with their contents.

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Best Practice—Fire Resistant Construction and Space Save Home— Edited— Continued from Page 10

Steffovitch said he paid \$12,500 extra for the concrete tile roof when his home was built in 2006. The block and stucco exterior had cost about the same as standard frame and siding walls, he said. A next-door neighbor is now rebuilding his destroyed home with a tile roof and stucco walls, Steffovitch said.

The choice of fire-resistant building materials plus the decision to landscape in a way that assured an abundance of open, defensible space around the house protected Steffovitch's home and possessions.

Additional information about protecting your property from wildfire can be found at www.ready.gov/wildfires, www.firewise.org, and www.readyforwildfire.org.

Preparedness News—Between Mitigation & Preparedness we can reduce the impacts of disasters

The National Center for Disaster Preparedness (NCDP) at Columbia University carries out research and develops resources to help the Nation prepare for, respond to, and recover from large-scale disasters. Each month, NCDP publishes a Children & Disasters Bulletin. The bulletin highlights news, tools, and best practices in children's disaster preparedness, response, and recovery for clinicians, public health practitioners, emergency managers, researchers, and educators. To read the latest issue, visit <http://ncdp.columbia.edu/library/children-and-disasters-news-tools-science>.

Other NCDP resources include:

The Resilient Children/Resilient Communities Initiative, developed in partnership with GSK and Save the Children®, which aims to analyze, recommend, and implement procedures, training, and guidance to help communities protect children after disasters.—http://ncdp.columbia.edu/custom-content/uploads/2015/06/Fact-Sheet_FINAL_092515.pdf

Children & Disasters: Top 10 Things to Know, a list of tips for helping children cope with the psychological effects of a disaster before, during, and after a potentially traumatic event occurs—<http://ncdp.columbia.edu/custom-content/uploads/2014/12/top10childrendisasters.pdf>

The Preparedness Wizard online tool, which explains five key steps families can take to better prepare for disasters—<http://ncdp.columbia.edu/library/preparedness-tools/preparedness-wizard/>

Common Stress Reactions Experienced by Children (1–18 Years) after a Disaster, a fact sheet that explains how and why children respond to stress following a traumatic event, as well as how practitioners can help them through their reactions in healthy, positive ways—<http://ncdp.columbia.edu/custom-content/uploads/2015/06/Common-Stress-Reactions-Experienced-by-Children.pdf>

Planning Guides to Help Kids and Communities

Schools, institutions of higher education, and houses of worship can play a key role in taking preventative and protective measures to stop an emergency from occurring or reduce the impact of an incident. To help school officials and congregation leaders plan for emergencies, the U.S. Department of Education, FEMA, and partners offer the following guides:

- Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans for K-12—<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese/oshs/rem-s-k-12-guide.pdf>
- Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans for Institutions of Higher Education—https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/rem_s_ihe_guide_508.pdf
- Guide for Developing High-Quality Emergency Operations Plans for Houses of Worship—<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese/oshs/rem-s-developing-eop-guide.pdf>

Preparedness News—Between Mitigation & Preparedness we can reduce the impacts of disasters continued from Page 11

These guides walk readers through forming a planning team, identifying threats and assessing risks, and developing, reviewing, and implementing a plan. These guides also provide training information and exercises to help readers understand and practice their roles to protect the people around them during a crisis.

2016 FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Award Application Period Now Open

FEMA announces the application period for the 2016 Individual and Community Preparedness Awards is open. The awards highlight innovative local practices and achievements by individuals and organizations that made outstanding contributions toward making their communities safer, better prepared, and more resilient. The categories are:

- Outstanding Citizen Corps Council
- Community Preparedness Champions
- Awareness to Action
- Technological Innovation
- Outstanding Achievement in Youth Preparedness
- Preparing the Whole Community
- Outstanding Inclusive Initiatives in Emergency Management (new category)
- Outstanding Private Sector Initiatives (new category)
- Outstanding Community Emergency Response Team Initiatives
- Outstanding Citizen Corps Partner Program
- America's PrepareAthon! in Action (new category)

Winners will be announced in the fall of 2016 and will be invited as FEMA's honored guests at a recognition ceremony.

To be considered for this year's awards, all submissions must be received by **March 28, 2016, at 11:59 p.m. EDT** and must feature program activities taking place between January 1, 2015, and March 28, 2016. Applications should be submitted to citizencorps@fema.dhs.gov. More information about the awards is available at ready.gov/preparedness-awards.

***Best Practice—Better Unpaved Roads for Nature and People in Arkansas—
Edited***

In 2013, the Arkansas Association of Counties, the Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts, the Farm Bureau, The Nature Conservancy and a dozen public and private partner organizations joined forces to establish the Arkansas Unpaved Roads Program. Over 85 percent of county roads in Arkansas are unpaved.

Eroding unpaved roads can channel rainfall runoff, increasing erosion, and sediment delivery to streams, rivers, and lakes. This sediment can have negative effects for both people and nature. It can fill in gravel stream beds, causing the loss of in-stream habitat for game and non-gamefish and other aquatic species alike, make freshwater sources more expensive to treat for drinking water, and ultimately contribute to loss of lake capacity.

The program's vision is to establish a proactive, incentive-based unpaved roads management program that results in the utilization of best management practices on rural, unpaved roads to minimize erosion, stretch county dollars further, and maintain and improve the health of priority lakes and rivers.

The partners envision a program that coordinates federal, state, and private funding to implement projects, trainings, and demonstrations. Counties or other road managers will leverage program funding for projects by matching one-to-one with cash or in-kind contributions and will be eligible to apply for funding once they have completed an unpaved roads BMP training workshop. For more information, visit: www.arcountries.org/public/userfiles/ARRoadsBrochure.pdf

Best Practice—Warning System Alerts Residents in San Marcos—Edited

Best Practice—Warning System Alerts Residents in San Marcos—Edited

Unlike hurricanes, which can be tracked prior to landfall, the art of tornado predictions is still in its infancy. Tornadoes can strike with only minutes to prepare and the consequences to life and property can be significant.

Evidence consistently shows that an investment in early warning systems can save lives. With this in mind, the city of San Marcos, Texas, wanted a way to communicate impending dangers if a tornado was spotted. The result was an early warning siren system installed to alert the public, allowing them the opportunity to move indoors quickly.

The warning system consists of 14 outdoor sirens located throughout the city. The sirens can be activated individually, but in most cases they are activated simultaneously for a city-wide emergency. In the event of a tornado, the system sends three to five minute steady signals. The siren tone is similar to fire truck sirens.

“The entire city can hear the sirens when they are activated,” said Kenneth Bell, Emergency Management Coordinator for San Marcos.

The most noticeable feature of the stand-alone unit system is its prominent position on top of poles. Another feature is that the units are connected into electrical grids that have backup power in case the electricity goes out. During a power failure, the sirens automatically switch to rechargeable batteries. The sirens can be remotely activated by radio and the radios are capable of running the sirens through different signals.

Audible siren testing is performed monthly to ensure the system is fully operational. “If the weather is bad or threatening we do not test the system,” said Bell. “This helps to ensure that there is no confusion as to whether it is a test or a real alert.”

The warning system was installed in 2012 and had its first test on Memorial Day weekend, May 25, 2015. During this historic event, the city was severely impacted by record flooding and, at the same time, tornadoes were spotted. The tornado sirens sounded to alert the public to stay indoors and shelter-in-place.

The sophisticated warning system, which often works in conjunction with targeted text messages and announcements, is activated when:

- The National Weather System issues a San Marcos-area tornado warning or severe thunderstorm warning with destructive winds at or above 70 mph.
- Trained storm spotters have reported a tornado with the potential to affect the city of San Marcos.
- Hail of 1.25 inch (half dollar) in diameter is imminent.
- Deemed necessary by the city of San Marcos officials (i.e., in the event of any emergency when officials need to get citizens to move indoors for their safety).

In Other News:

HUD Announces Winners of the National Disaster Resilience Competition

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development today announced nearly \$1 billion in HUD Disaster Recovery funds to the winners of the National Disaster Resilience Competition. The [13] communities selected will use the funding to recover from prior disasters in 2011, 2012 and 2013 by deploying solutions that will improve their ability to withstand and recover more quickly from future disasters, hazards, and shocks. Out of 40 finalists, the winners include states and local communities that will invest in innovative coastal protection and storm water management, relocation assistance for the most distressed communities, and economic development and job creation through adaptation.

- State of Louisiana, \$92,629,249: Louisiana, which has increasingly suffered from extreme weather in coastal communities, will enable a tribal community on the Isle de Jean Charles, which has experienced a 98 per cent loss of land relative to 1955, to relocate to a resilient and historically significant community.

HUD Announces Winners of the National Disaster Resilience Competition Continued from Page 13

- New Orleans, Louisiana, \$141,260,569: Following Hurricane Isaac in 2012, the City of New Orleans identified major gaps in resilience and risks to vulnerable communities. To address these gaps, the city is looking to reduce flood risk by incorporating green infrastructure, investing in reliable energy and water systems, restoring coastal ecosystems, expanding workforce development and create a citywide performance management program.

(excerpted from www.whitehouse.gov)

***Wetland Migration Corridors Study-Gulf of Mexico Alliance
USGS, LCCs, and the UFWFS study wetland movement in urban areas***

The USGS Wetland and Aquatic Research Center published a new study on potential wetland migration. The report is titled, "Incorporating Future Change Into Current Conservation Planning: Evaluating Tidal Saline Wetland Migration Along the U.S. Gulf of Mexico Coast Under Alternative Sea-Level Rise and Urbanization Scenarios."

The study quantified the potential for landward migration of tidal saline wetlands along the U.S. Gulf of Mexico coast. The analyses focused exclusively on tidal saline wetlands. The USGS Wetland and Aquatic Research Center spearheaded a project in combination with the four Gulf Landscape Conservation Cooperatives and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Follow this link to the report, dataset, and a map of the study area: <https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/ds969>

Economic Evaluation of Land Loss in Louisiana

CPRA releases new report quantifying impacts of current and future land loss

On December 16th, the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) released a new report. In it, researchers quantified economic impacts of ongoing and future land loss in Louisiana. They demonstrate a need and justification for Coastal Master Plan project expenditures that can save billions during future storm events that impact the State's infrastructure.

The two-year study was conducted by the LSU Economics and Policy Research Group and the RAND Corporation. Read more about this study and download the report at <http://coastal.la.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/12-16-15-Economic-evaluation-of-land-loss-in-Louisiana.pdf>

Ready for Winter/Spring Flooding? FloodSmart has Tools to Help

Climate experts are warning residents to prepare for what could be the most historic El Niño on record. Years of drought and wildfires coupled with predicted heavy rainfall caused by El Niño could result in devastating floods this winter.

What does that mean for your community? Since there is typically a 30-day waiting period before flood insurance takes effect, now is the time to help property owners better understand their flood risks and the importance of having flood insurance. It only takes one storm or an early [spring thaw](#) to trigger enormous flooding.

Properties directly affected by recent fires and those located downstream of burn areas are at a heightened risk of experiencing a flood. Charred grounds in burn-scarred areas cannot easily absorb water, placing residents at an increased risk for [flash flooding](#) and [mudflows](#). Remind your community that flood risk isn't solely based on flood history—it's also a result of such factors as fires, river flow, topography, and changes due to recent building and development (https://www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/pages/flooding_flood_risks/new_development.jsp).

Ready for Winter Flooding? FloodSmart has Tools to Help Continued from Page 14

To educate members of your community about their flood risk and financial preparedness, FloodSmart—the marketing and education campaign of the National Flood Insurance Program—offers several tools and resources on FloodSmart.gov that you can use:

- The Cost of Flooding tool, which you can embed on your website to illustrate how just a few inches of water can cost tens of thousands of dollars in damage—https://www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/pages/flooding_flood_risks/the_cost_of_flooding.jsp
- The Flood after Fire tool, to simulate how fires can increase flood risk and fact sheet—<https://agents.floodsmart.gov/Agents/flood-after-fire-widget> and https://www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/pages/flooding_flood_risks/flood_after_fire.jsp
- Consumer (<http://files.ctctcdn.com/81af1850201/10e2c78f-bbde-4726-973e-f5170eb9ee5b.pdf>) and business (<http://files.ctctcdn.com/81af1850201/6f4fa5c2-b71c-4503-9d25-dfd2624aeac7.pdf>) checklists to share with residents to prepare before the next disaster strikes.
- [Before](#), [during](#), and [after](#) the flood infographics to outline the actions residents can take to stay safe and file an insurance claim.
- Social media messages that you can share through Facebook and Twitter—https://www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/pages/partner/spread_the_word.jsp

This winter, don't let out of sight mean out of mind. Now is the time to reach out to your community, help residents better understand their flood risk, and encourage them to protect what matters with a flood insurance policy. It's a conversation you won't regret.

CRS Note: If you already have outreach projects in place, review their timing and consider whether your residents are getting the right messages. Remember, research shows that repeated messages from different sources are most effective.

New Aids from ASFPM

Two new guides from the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) can be helpful to CRS communities working on Activity 510 (Floodplain Management Planning) and Activity 330 (Outreach Projects), as well as other planning and public information work.

The No Adverse Impact (NAI) How-To Guide for Planning introduces the concept of managing floodprone areas so that activity on one property has no negative effect on others. Given this background, it goes on to describe—and give case-study examples for—planning tools such as hazard mitigation planning, comprehensive planning, post-disaster planning, risk assessment, and public involvement. Throughout, it incorporates the CRS planning steps into the processes described, and notes when and how CRS credit points figure into the NAI approach. Some of the case studies focus on CRS communities. Download it at http://www.floods.org/NoAdverseImpact/NAI_Planning_How_to_Guide_Final.pdf.

The No Adverse Impact How-To Guide for Education & Outreach begins with the NAI philosophy and goes on to summarize social science research findings on public awareness and outreach. Then it discusses five outreach tools: developing a master program for education and outreach, holding open houses on flooding, educating developers and contractors, portraying flood risk with maps and models, and deploying high-water mark signs. Real-world examples are provided, many from CRS communities. Download it at <http://www.floods.org/ace-files/NAI/EdcOutHowToGuideSept2015.pdf>.

Training***Homeowner's Flood Insurance Affordability Act (HFIAA) Webinars to discuss the changes becoming Effective April 1, 2016***

Sessions will be at 10am on March 8, 10, 15, and 17. Go to <https://april12016hfiaachanges.eventbrite.com> to sign up.

Emergency Management Institute (EMI) - Workshops and Training related to the CRS—All courses are at EMI unless noted

Community Rating System (E278) (field-deployed course is designated as L278) April 18–21, 2016; July 18–21, 2016; September 19–22, 2016

This is the all-purpose training course for the CRS. It is taught at both the Emergency Management Institute (see below) and at sites throughout the country at the request of interested communities, groups, or states, pending available funding. It is based on the 2013 CRS Coordinator's Manual.

Attendees of E278 CRS courses based on previous Coordinator's Manuals may want to repeat this course. Therefore, restrictions on repeat attendance have been waived.

For continuing education credit for Certified Floodplain Managers, the ASFPM will award CECs earned at the E278 CRS course.

-No more than two persons per community may attend at one time.

Prerequisite: To enroll in the CRS course, you must be a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM®), or have completed the National Flood Insurance Program course (E273), or be a full-time floodplain manager with over two years of specific floodplain management experience.

Hazus-MH for Flood (E172)	June 20–23, 2016
Hazus-MH for Floodplain Managers (E176)	December 14–17, 2015
Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts I (E194)	April 11–14, 2016
Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program: Application Review and Evaluation (E213)	January 4–5, 2016
Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program: Project Implementation & Closeout (E214)	January 6–7, 2016
Retrofitting Floodprone Residential Buildings (E279)	May 2–5, 2016
Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts II (E282)	July 11–14, 2016
Managing Floodplain Development through the NFIP (E273)	June 27–30, 2016

September 12–15, 2016

E273 is also field deployed periodically. Contact your State NFIP Coordinator for more information:

www.fema.gov/r6-mitigation-partners

Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts III (E284) August 29—September 1, 2016

Residential Coastal Construction (E386) August 22–25, 2016

<https://cdp.dhs.gov/femasid> - to obtain a student identification number for the Emergency Management Institute

Training Continued from Page 16

Hazard-Resistant Code Provisions and Disaster-Resistant Construction at [International Code Council's 2016 EduCode event!](#)

March 21-25, 2016 - FEMA will present the following courses:

Monday, March 21, 2016

- Session # 94 The Flood Provisions of the International Codes and ASCE 24 (Full Day) - This one-day workshop presents basic information needed to understand the flood provisions of the International Codes and ASCE 24, Flood Resistant Design and Construction, and the importance of coordinating local floodplain management ordinances with building codes.
- Session # 95 Earthquake Resistant Design Concepts (AM Session) - This course provides a readily understandable explanation of the intent and requirements of seismic design in general and the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP) Recommended Seismic Provisions for New Buildings and Other Structures in particular.

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

- Session # 96 Using FEMA Guidance to Administer the NFIP Substantial Improvement/Damage Requirements (AM Session) - This workshop covers the basics of administering the Substantial Improvement/Substantial Damage requirements, which are required by the International Codes, and focuses on using the Substantial Improvement/Substantial Damage Desk Reference (FEMA P-758).
- Session # 97 Coastal Construction Workshop for Home Builders (PM Session) - This workshop provides a practical learning experience about best practices to prevent damages to coastal area homes and locate information as needed in FEMA's Home Builder's Guide to Coastal Construction fact sheets (P-499).

Get educated at EduCode! To sign up for these courses, contact Jessica Franklin at jfranklin@iccsafe.org and visit: <http://www.iccsafe.org/education-certification/education/educode/>. Courses will be held at the Orleans Hotel in Las Vegas.

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Training for Agents, Adjusters, Surveyors and All Audiences

FEMA has issued [Bulletin w-16005 – Authorized NFIP Adjusters and 2016 NFIP Claim Presentations](#) to provide important guidance on current requirements, including training requirements, for claims adjusters seeking to obtain or renew status as an authorized NFIP adjuster. The bulletin also addresses some changes in terminology and procedures.

Use the following links to access the NFIP online courses for adjusters that are referred to in the bulletin:

[IS-1104 – NFIP Claims Review for Adjusters](#)

[IS-1107 – Adjuster Customer Service](#)

[IS-1109 – Understanding Basement Coverage](#)

[IS-1111 – Introduction to Commercial Claims](#)

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Training for Agents, Adjusters, Surveyors and All Audiences Continued from Page 17

Agent Courses

[Basic Agent Tutorial](#)

With the introduction of the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 and the Homeowner Affordability Act of 2014, it is critical for agents to refresh their knowledge of the NFIP. The Basic Agent Tutorial presents the fundamentals, including zones, coverage, loss settlement, and underwriting rating concepts such as the FEMA Elevation Certificate. The course covers all training topics mandated by the Flood Insurance Reform Act (FIRA) of 2004.

[Theory of Elevation Rating](#)

This specialized course is appropriate for those with a basic understanding of the FEMA Elevation Certificate and who are ready to tackle advanced topics in elevation rating for A and V zones. Important rating considerations in high-risk zones are discussed and demonstrated including the Lowest Floor Elevation, machinery and equipment, and whether the building is with or without obstruction.

[Insuring Condominiums](#)

With a growing number of condominium developments throughout the US, particularly in the most flood-prone states, insurance agents can expand their book of condominium business by writing coverage through the NFIP. Insuring Condominiums provides a broad overview of the different ways that condominiums can be insured through the Program. Short video segments guide insurance agents through the key elements they need to know to effectively write condominium exposures.

[Writing Commercial Exposures](#)

Insurance agents regularly view the NFIP as an outlet to write personal lines exposures for their clients, but they may not be aware of additional opportunities to cover their policyholders' commercial exposures. Writing Commercial Exposures provides practical insights designed to assist agents with identifying, targeting, and writing commercial risks through the National Flood Insurance Program.

[Coastal Barrier Resources Act](#)

In an effort to minimize loss of human life and future flood damage as well as protect our nation's natural resources, the Coastal Barrier Resources Act restricts development in the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) and Otherwise Protected Areas (OPAs) by prohibiting all federal expenditures and financial assistance, including flood insurance, for residential and commercial development in the identified areas. The Coastal Barrier Resources Act course takes insurance agents through identifying protected areas on the Flood Insurance Rate Map and reviews the significance of the CBRS designation date and the building's date of construction or improvement. Understanding these important elements will assist agents in determining eligibility for flood insurance.

Adjuster Courses

[NFIP Claims Review for Adjusters](#)

New and experienced adjusters seeking the necessary knowledge and skill to adjust claims for the NFIP will find NFIP Claims Review for Adjusters, formerly a 7-hour classroom presentation, essential for adjusting NFIP claims. This course defines the role, standards, and necessary requirements to adjust claims within the NFIP. In addition, it offers an overview of the Standard Flood Insurance Policy through a step-by-step outline of the similarities and contrasts found in the Dwelling Form, General Property Form, and the Residential Condominium Building Association Policy. With a focus on providing excellent customer service, this course also identifies common errors and adjustment issues where special attention is needed to ensure a high level of quality in the claims settlement process.

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Training for Agents, Adjusters, Surveyors and All Audiences Continued from Page 18

[Adjuster Customer Service](#)

Adjusters are among the first responders to interact with policyholders after a flood and therefore play a critical role in representing the NFIP. Due to the traumatic nature of a flooding event, adjusters must create and maintain a customer-centric focus during each interaction with the policyholder. Adjuster Customer Service provides guidance on using empathy, sincerity, friendliness, and other skills to communicate effectively with policyholders. The course reviews the attributes of excellent customer service and aids the adjuster in building positive rapport with each policyholder.

[Introduction to Flood Claims](#)

NFIP flood losses and loss settlements are particularly specialized. To adjust NFIP claims, a flood adjuster must be qualified and must complete the process of becoming an NFIP certified adjuster. NFIP adjusters achieve levels of authority based on flood adjusting experience and knowledge of the Program. Introduction to Flood Claims provides an overview of adjusting NFIP claims and reviews the NFIP Standard Flood Insurance Policy.

[Understanding Basement Coverage](#)

Due to coverage limitations, adjusting claims in buildings with basements can be challenging. Understanding Basement Coverage reviews key characteristics of basement buildings and discusses covered and non-covered building and personal property items located in basement buildings. The course concludes with a review of special adjustment issues.

[Introduction to Commercial Claims](#)

Introduction to Commercial Claims reviews the General Property Form as it relates to both small and large commercial claims, and provides a review of certification requirements, adjuster authority, documentation requirements, and adjustment standards and requirements. Knowledge in each of these areas is fundamental to meeting Program requirements for flood adjusters. The course presents two case studies that reflect real world flood adjusting experiences and challenge the learner to apply flood adjusting concepts involving policy limits, reserve estimating, and coverage restrictions.

Surveyor Course

[Elevation Certificate for Surveyors](#)

The FEMA Elevation Certificate is an administrative tool of the NFIP which is used to provide elevation information necessary to ensure compliance with community floodplain management ordinances, to determine the proper insurance premium rate, or support a request for a Letter of Map Amendment. Elevation Certificate for Surveyors provides necessary information and resources for surveyors, engineers, architects, and community officials to understand how to properly complete the Elevation Certificate. In addition to a fundamental overview, this course offers advanced topics such as Engineered Flood Openings, Floodproofing, and V Zone Design Certificates.

All Audiences

[Increased Cost of Compliance](#)

After severe flooding, local communities must assess a building's damage to assure compliance with local floodplain management ordinance provisions. Before building repair or reconstruction is permitted, it may be necessary to require certain measures to reduce future flood damage. Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC) coverage is available under the NFIP Standard Flood Insurance Policy to assist policyholders with the cost to comply with these requirements. The Increased Cost of Compliance course provides an overview of ICC coverage and eligibility and takes the learner through the claims process to gain a better understanding of this important coverage benefit.

[EC Made Easy: Elevation Certificate Overview](#)

Do you know when the FEMA Elevation Certificate is required, optional, or not needed to rate NFIP flood insurance premiums? EC Made Easy: Elevation Certificate Overview will guide you through the purpose of the Elevation Certificate, aid you in locating a certifying professional, and provide details on properly completing and interpreting the Elevation Certificate. This course assists insurance agents and other professionals in learning the basics of the Elevation Certificate and identifying the impact flood risk has on flood insurance costs.

State Specific Training Opportunities:**Arkansas**

- April 28-29, 2016 - 2016 Spring Workshop presented by the Arkansas Floodplain Management Association - Jacksonville Community Center, Jacksonville, AR - to learn more and register visit: <https://www.arkansasfloods.org/afma/>
- March 14, 2016 Managing Floodplain Development through the NFIP Conway

To learn more about the courses below contact Ms. Katie Belknap, Earthquake Program Manager, 501-683-6700, Katie.Belknap@adem.arkansas.gov

- March 18, 2016 ATC 20—Post Earthquake Safety Evaluation of Bldgs Little Rock
- April 22, 2016 ATC 20—Post Earthquake Safety Evaluation of Bldgs Fayetteville

Louisiana

- April 13-15, 2016 - “Recipe for Reducing Floods” - 3rd Annual Technical and Business Conference presented by the Louisiana Floodplain Management Association - Embassy Suites, Baton Rouge, LA - to learn more and register visit: <http://lfma.org/>

New Mexico

- April 12-15, 2016 - Spring 2016 Workshop presented by the New Mexico Floodplain Management Association - Hilton Santa Fe at Buffalo Thunder, Santa Fe, NM - to learn more and register visit: www.nmfma.org

Oklahoma

To Register for one of the following classes visit: http://www.owrb.ok.gov/hazard/fp/fp_workshops.php

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|------------------|--|--------------|
| • March 8, 2016 | FPM 101 / OFMA Advanced | Clinton |
| • March 10, 2016 | FPM 101 / OFMA Advanced | Bartlesville |
| • March 29, 2016 | FPM 202 LOMC / Flood Mapping Disaster Exercise | Muskogee |
| • March 31, 2016 | FPM 101 / OFMA Advanced | McAlester |
| • April 14, 2016 | FPM 101 / OFMA Advanced | Del City |
| • April 21, 2016 | OFMA Advanced Only | Langley |
| • April 21, 2016 | FPM 202 LOMC / Flood Mapping Disaster Exercise | Enid |
| • May 12, 2016 | FPM 101 / OFMA Advanced | Del City |
| • June 15, 2016 | FPM 202 LOMC / Flood Mapping Disaster Exercise | Ardmore |
| • June 28, 2016 | FPM 101 / OFMA Advanced | Del City |

Texas

- March 8-11, 2016 - 28th Annual Spring Conference presented by the Texas Floodplain Management Association - Omni Galleria, Houston, TX
- April 11, 2016 Managing Floodplain Develop through NFIP Cedar Park
- August 1, 2016 Advanced Floodplain Management San Antonio

To learn more about the above courses or to register visit: <http://www.tfma.org/>

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Training for Agents, Adjusters, Surveyors and All Audiences Continued from Page 19

[FEMA Mapping Changes](#)

All NFIP stakeholders will benefit from this course, which provides a practical look at how changes to FEMA flood maps affect property owners, insurance agents, lending institutions, and others. FEMA Mapping Changes explores the impact of map changes through a series of self-guided interactive exercises designed to assist learners with navigating through mapping changes as they occur.

Useful Web Pages:

Region 6 Mitigation Division: <http://www.fema.gov/region-vi-mitigation-division>

Region 6 Mitigation Partners: <http://www.fema.gov/region-vi-mitigation-partners>

Region 6 Mitigation Contacts: <http://www.fema.gov/who-can-we-contact-region-vi-about-mitigation-programs>

Region 6 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP): <http://www.fema.gov/region-vi-hazard-mitigation-grant-program-hmgp>

Risk MAP for Region 6: <http://riskmap6.com/> or <http://maps.riskmap6.com>

FEMA Map Service Center: <http://msc.fema.gov/portal>

Texas CHART: <http://txchart.com/>

Homeowner's Flood Insurance Affordability Act (HFIAA) Updates: <http://www.fema.gov/flood-insurance-reform>

FloodSmart: www.floodsmart.gov

Preparedness Information: www.ready.gov

ShakeOut - Earthquake Information - www.shakeout.org

Disaster Web Pages:

Arkansas:

- <http://www.fema.gov/disaster/4254>
- <http://www.fema.gov/disaster/4226>
- <http://www.fema.gov/arkansas-disaster-mitigation>

Oklahoma:

- <http://www.fema.gov/disaster/4222>
- <https://www.fema.gov/oklahoma-disaster-mitigation>

Texas:

- <https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4245>
- <http://www.fema.gov/disaster/4223>
- <http://www.fema.gov/texas-disaster-mitigation>

We welcome your thoughts, stories, and ideas for ways to make "Keeping Current" a useful tool for you! Please forward your feedback to R6-Mitigation-Outreach@fema.dhs.gov.