



The B.F.E.*

* Base Flood Elevation

OKLAHOMA FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

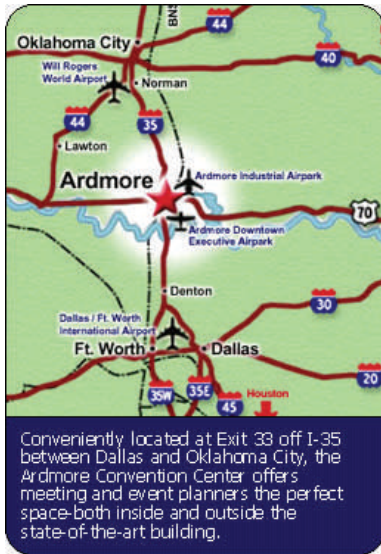
Volume 10

Winter 2008

Number 1

OFMA's 2008 Spring Technical Workshop

"WHAT'S OLD AGAIN IS NEW AGAIN - FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT IN THE 21ST CENTURY"



The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association Spring Technical Workshop is right around the corner! This year's workshop offers a unique chance to learn about current techniques, processes and policies regarding floodplain management; subjects which are of interest to others besides floodplain managers. Elected Officials, City Managers, Building Code Officers, City Staff, Insurance Agents and Private Sector Professionals can all benefit by attending. The workshop will be held Thursday, April 3rd, 2008, at the Ardmore Conference Center in Ardmore, OK. During the workshop the OFMA Board will hold a Special Meeting, in accordance with the constitution, to be held at 10 AM. At that time proposed changes will be voted upon by the OFMA Membership in attendance. Absentee ballots are also available for those who are unable to attend and desire to vote. The late morning and early afternoon training sessions on FEMA's NFIP Program Updates, Basic Training for Floodplain Administrators, Oil and Gas Floodplain Regulation as well as FEMA MAP MOD processes will provide a varied and timely array of subjects. Joe S. Robinson will be the Keynote Speaker addressing the Workshop during the provided lunch. Conference registration is \$65 per member and \$85 per non-member of OFMA. Each Workshop attendee will be awarded 6

Continuing Education Credits to put towards certification requirements. Reduced room rates are available at Marriott's SpringHill Suites for those who need them. For more information or registration materials, visit www.okflood.org and look for Upcoming Events. You may also find registration materials and information regarding the conference on page 3 of this newsletter. Fax your registration before the deadline to (918) 669-7546. The registration deadline is scheduled for February 15th, 2008, so do not delay!

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Talk to your Legislators!



The 11th Annual OFMA Legislative Reception will be held on Wednesday, February 13th, from 11am-2pm in Room 512A of the State Capitol, 2300 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City. All members are encouraged to attend and benefit from the opportunity to visit their state legislators and share their experiences related to floodplain management.

Members are also encouraged to support House Bill 3297, introduced by Representative Wallace Collins, D-Norman, which is intended to improve the Oklahoma Floodplain Management Act, **OS 82 Sections 1601-1618**, as amended, enacted in May 1980. The act requires a community who joins with the NFIP after May 1980 to comply with all Act requirements. Approximately 100 communities have chosen not to join the NFIP because, for one reason, the burdensome requirements within the 1980 Act. The community is compelled to establish a five-member floodplain board consisting of community residents and/or real property owners. Also, this board is required to craft regulations, hold public hearings and adopt the regulations in accordance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act. Once adopted the regulations are required

(Continued on page 5)

Comments from the Chair

Once again Oklahoma has been hit with disasters. The ice storms that left many of us across the state without power for up to a week or more will leave a "scar" on Oklahoma for decades. Last year in the February BFE Chair Laureen Gilroy wrote "Having public officials who have procedures to follow during a potential disaster such as an ice storm or flood will save Oklahoma communities thousands, maybe millions of dollars in Federal disaster aid. Add this benefit to a reduction in loss of life and property. It is clear that educating floodplain managers and keeping them up-to-date on state and national concerns is of vital interest to our citizens." Still, try one year later the same type of event occurred – were we better prepared? As I drive around the state, I see broken limbs and large branches down in the ditches and floodplain areas. I think of the potential flooding hazard when the spring rains begin. Clogging of culverts will cause roads to close, and flooding of residential and commercial structures. The issue is the massive volume of tree limbs to remove and dispose of properly. Need a plan!

We have additional training being developed as I write this – Spring Technical Workshop in Ardmore on April 3rd, an excellent Annual Conference with a theme about Climate Change on September 21-24, the Annual Conference in Stillwater in 2009 and the 2010 ASFPM National Conference in Oklahoma City. Each time there is an opportunity for educating our floodplain managers, something will be said, something will be seen, someone will meet another floodplain administrator, and lives will be saved and property will not be damaged.



I received a document this week that alarmed me. It is **PRESS RELEASE: SSRC 1-2008** dated January 2, 2008. The first paragraph reads: "Today, the Space and Science Research Center, (SSRC) in Orlando, Florida, announces that it has confirmed the recent web announcement of NASA solar physicists that there are substantial changes occurring in the sun's surface. The SSRC has further researched these changes and has concluded they will bring about the next climate change to one of a long lasting cold era." It is being called a "solar hibernation". This is part of the cyclic nature of weather that has been ongoing since the solar system was created. They predict we have only a few years to prepare before a 20 to 30 year period of lasting and possibly dangerous cold arrives. Our Annual Conference this is year focusing on this very issue and the effects of climate change on our floodplains and the need for proper floodplain management.

The Strategic Planning meeting was excellent. The 2007-2008 Strategic Plan is now posted on the OFMA web site. We also welcome our new Membership Committee Chair, Mr. Omeed Mollaian.

We want to remind all of our OFMA Members that the Legislative Reception will be February 13, 2008, from 11 AM to 2 PM at the State Capital – we have HB 3297 that OFMA is sponsoring which will allow communities to choose if they want a floodplain board. We have many communities that are currently sanctioned because they are not in the NFIP. This bill will help them out of that quandary.

There will be ballots sent to each OFMA member concerning the Special Meeting that was called to resolve discrepancies in the Constitution and Bylaws. You will be receiving a special letter from the Chair on these issues.

There is never enough space to write about all the issues that OFMA is undertaking, so go to YOUR Association web site often.

OFMA Chair
W. B. "Bill" Smith, P.E., CFM

Download World Files And Historic FIRMs In EDDie



The Map Service Center has updated the Express Document Delivery (EDDdie) online tool to add new options that allow users to download world files and historic Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs).

A world file is a small text file associated with a FIRM map containing numbers that describe the location and scale of the map. This information is useful for some customers. World files are not available for all FIRM maps and will only appear when they are available.

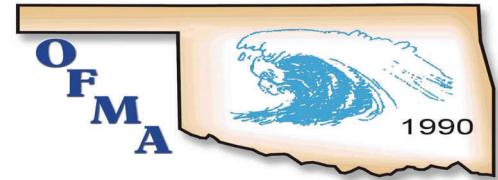
Historic FIRMs are digital raster images of FIRMs that are no longer the most recently issued version.

Contact our Customer Service Center by calling 1-800-358-9616 or email us at FEMA-MSCservice@dhs.gov if you would like more information.

PLEASE JOIN US!

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association

Spring Technical Workshop



“What’s Old Again is New Again - Floodplain Management in the 21st Century”

Thursday, April 3, 2008 – Ardmore Conference Center, 2401 North Rockford Road, Ardmore, OK

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association Spring Workshop offers new educational opportunities, updates and perspectives of Floodplain Management from Local, State and Federal partners. These issues are critical as we adapt to a changing physical and regulatory climate.

Learn how the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association will become more flexible as we grow to meet new and old challenges.

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association business meeting will present discussions and consideration of critical amendments to your Association Bylaws and Constitution.

You don’t want to miss this one!

Come early and join us at the Marriott Springhill Suites.

Designed for anyone involved with floodplain issues:

- Floodplain Administrators
- Planners
- Engineers
- Insurance Agents
- Lenders
- Real Estate Professionals
- Elected & Appointed Officials
- Local, State & Federal Government Employees
- Interested Citizens
- Dam Owners
- Developers
- Emergency Responders
- Teachers and Students

Workshop provides 6 CECs.

OFMA has reserved rooms at Marriott’s Springhill Suites next door to the Conference Center for the night of April 2nd, with rates \$99 + tax or \$104 + tax. **580-226-7100**

Due to the increase in the Ardmore business park growth and oil field development room availability and reservations are a premium. **Make your reservations as soon as possible.**

REGISTRATION FORM – 2008 OFMA Spring Workshop

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ FAX: _____ E-mail: _____

☐ Check enclosed ☐ Send invoice ☐ I will pay at the conference

**Conference Registration
(Check One)**

☐ OFMA Member \$65*

☐ Non-Member \$85*

*Conference Package includes:

- Workshops
- Lunch

Mail or FAX this form by **February 15, 2008**, to: OFMA, P. O. Box 8101, Tulsa, OK 74101-8101
918 669-7546, Attn: Carolyn Schultz

Oklahoma Winter Ice Storm 2007

Statewide Hazard puts Emergency Operations to Test



On Sunday, December 8, 2007, the State of Oklahoma was impacted by a strong Arctic cold front bringing with it widespread precipitation in the form of freezing rain and sleet. Over the following 48 hours, additional freezing rain continued to fall across the State bringing national headlines on the brutal storm. Ice accumulations covered roadways, shut down schools, canceled flights and affected power supplies across the entire state, which sustained a record power outage of about 600,000 customers at its peak.

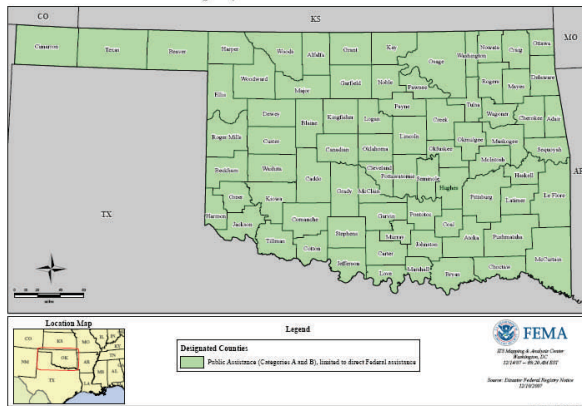
In central Oklahoma, OGE Energy Corporation said that its OG&E utility subsidiary lost power to more than 300,000 customers, a new record outage for the company in a single storm. OG&E employees were assisted by contractors, utility personnel and tree crews

from states including Texas, Arkansas, New Mexico, Louisiana and Indiana.

In the Tulsa area and parts of northeastern Oklahoma, Public Service Company of Oklahoma has reported that approximately 226,000 customers, about half of their customers statewide, were without service. In Tulsa alone 226,500 customers were without service, which is about 78% of their Tulsa customers. The electric system itself had 750 broken distribution poles and 147 downed transmission poles. Thousands of power lines were downed, and the Tulsa urban forest was pretty much leveled in many locations. More than 4,600 restoration workers from across the United States came to help PSO crews bring the lights back on. On average, restoration crews worked 16-hour days logging 73,600 manhours per day in order to complete the restoration efforts.

Designated Counties for Oklahoma Severe Winter Storms

FEMA-3280-EM, Oklahoma
Emergency Declaration as of 12/10/2007



Disaster Summary For FEMA-3280-EM, Oklahoma

Declaration Date: December 10, 2007

Incident Type: Severe Winter Storms

Incident Period: December 8, 2007 - January 3, 2008

Designations and Types of Assistance:

The Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is authorized to provide appropriate assistance for required emergency measures, authorized under Title V of the Stafford Act, to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in the designated areas. Specifically, FEMA is authorized to provide debris removal and emergency pro-

TECTIVE measures (Categories A and B), limited to direct Federal assistance, under the Public Assistance program, at 75 percent Federal funding.

This assistance is for the all 77 counties in the State of Oklahoma.

President Declares Major Disaster For Oklahoma

Release Date: December 18, 2007

Release Number: HQ-07-246

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The head of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

(Continued on page 5)

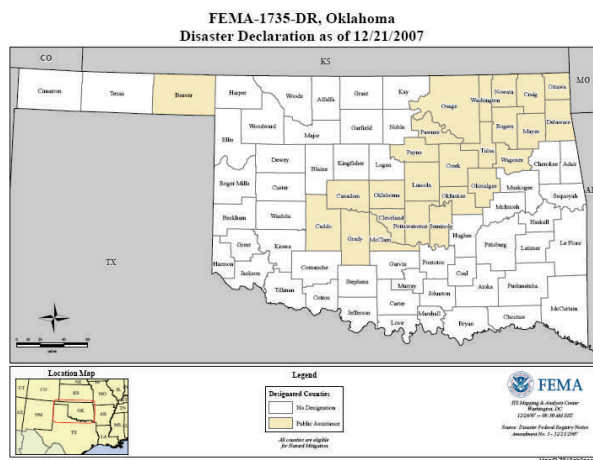
(Continued from page 4) Oklahoma Winter Ice Storm 2007

announced that federal disaster aid has been made available for the state of Oklahoma to supplement state and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe winter storms beginning on December 8, 2007, and continuing.

FEMA Administrator David Paulison said the assistance was authorized under a major disaster declaration issued for the state by President Bush. The President's action makes federal funding available to state and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged by the severe storms, tornadoes, and flooding in Cleveland, Lincoln, Mayes, Oklahoma, Pottawatomie, Tulsa, and Wagoner counties.

Federal funding is also available on a cost-sharing basis for hazard mitigation measures for all counties and tribes within the state.

Paulison named Philip E. Parr as the federal coordinating officer for federal recovery operations in the affected area. Parr said damage surveys have been scheduled and more counties and additional forms of assistance may be designated after the assessments are completed.



FEMA coordinates the federal government's role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror.

Disaster Summary For FEMA-1735-DR, Oklahoma

Declaration Date: December 18, 2007

Incident Type: Severe Winter Storms

Incident Period: December 8, 2007 - January 3, 2008

Individual Assistance

(Assistance to individuals and households): None.

Public Assistance

(Assistance to State and local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations for emergency work and the repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities): Beaver, Cleveland, Caddo, Canadian, Craig, Creek, Delaware, Grady, Lincoln, Mayes, McClain, Nowata, Okfuskee, Oklahoma, Okmulgee, Osage, Ottawa, Pawnee, Payne, Pottawatomie, Rogers, Seminole, Tulsa, Wagoner, and Washington Counties.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

(Assistance to State and local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations for actions taken to prevent or reduce long term risk to life and property from natural hazards): All counties in the State of Oklahoma are eligible to apply for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

Other: Additional designations may be made at a later date after further evaluation.

More information about [Oklahoma Severe Winter Storms](#)

<http://www.fema.gov/femaNews/disasterSearch.do>

(Continued from page 1) 11th Annual OFMA Legislative Reception

to go before the governing entity for approval. If one of these steps is missed an entity may challenge the board and subsequently develop in the floodplain without regard for the existing flood hazard. Due to these detailed steps, the Act is becoming a significant deterrent for some county governments and small towns from NFIP participation and realizing mitigation funds and flood insurance.

HB 3297 gives the community the option to establish a floodplain board or not. In summary, HB 3297 will allow community officials flexibility in the design of its floodplain program. Furthermore, HB 3297 will help small Oklahoma communities obtain mitigation funds and flood insurance benefits and ultimately benefit flood safe, sustainable economic development.

Previous receptions have exceeded 300 visitors, so a large turn out is anticipated. As in previous years, Jamil's Steakhouse of Oklahoma City will cater the event providing an additional bonus for legislators and legislative staff to stop by. OFMA Board members will be on hand to greet visitors and introduce themselves as resources for legislators who may want to know more about floodplain management, flood insurance or simple drainage issues related to flooding and drought conditions. OFMA will also have informational pieces to leave with the legislators. For more information on the upcoming event, visit www.okflood.org.

STREAM and RIPARIAN CORRIDOR RESTORATION WORKSHOP

Innovative Approaches to Stream Stabilization and Restoration

This exciting workshop will introduce the methodologies and procedures for initiating, planning, analyzing, and ultimately designing long-term sustainable river and stream stabilization or restoration projects. Innovative, environmentally sensitive, and cost-effective approaches to channel restoration will be discussed. Comprehensive case studies will also be presented. An agenda is available for more details.

DATES: April 8 - 10, 2008

TIME: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

LOCATION: Centennial Park Center
1028 E. 6th Street (Just west of 6th & Peoria)
Tulsa Oklahoma

INSTRUCTOR: Dave Derrick, Research Hydraulic Engineer
Corps of Engineer's Research & Development Center
Coastal & Hydraulics Laboratory (ERDC-CHL)

A full day of field trips to local stream sites is included. Rain gear, waders, and field clothes are recommended for the third day. Each participant will receive a CD of all powerpoint presentations on Day 1.

Workshop Sponsors: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Water Operations Technical Support (WOTS) Program; the Tulsa District Corps of Engineers; and the City of Tulsa, OK.

CFM's will earn 12 CEC's

Register early! Workshop space is limited!

REGISTRATION FORM

Registration Is Free But Must Be Turned In By March 25th.

Name:		Email:	
Affiliation:		Phone:	
Address:		Fax:	
City/Zip:			

Submit Registration Form to Bill Robison by e-mail or fax (not both):

Email: brobison@cityoftulsa.org or Fax 918-596-9708

Federal Flood Program Budget Information Now On Internet

The White House Office of Management and Budget has created an Internet database that can be used to track federal spending. The project was called for by a 2006 law sponsored by U.S. Sen. Tom Coburn, R-Okla. The site includes information about flood related programs.

Go to www.USASpending.gov

Click on Assistance then scroll down to "By Agency" and click on Dept of Homeland Security

You will get a list of all grant programs including FMA and HMGP. After a bit of searching, it appears that the data for FY 2007 has not been loaded. However, for previous years you can find out things such as Top 5 Known Congressional Districts Where recipients are Located, the Top 10 Recipients and how much they got, Assistance Type (Grants and Coop Agreements, Loans, Direct Payments, etc.) and Trends.

The site also includes a glossary and FAQs.

Laureen Gibson Gilroy, CFM, Recycling Coordinator
Field Customer Services, City of Tulsa Public Works



Bush Veto Overridden By Senate

By JIM MYERS World Washington Bureau

11/9/2007

WASHINGTON -- The U.S. Senate easily overrode President Bush's veto Thursday and turned a \$23 billion water resources bill into a law, authorizing millions for Arkansas River development work and dramatically altering the funding source for the buyout at the Tar Creek Superfund site.

Following the House's lead, senators voted 79-14 to hand Bush the first veto defeat of his seven-year presidency.

Oklahoma's senators -- Republicans Jim Inhofe and Tom Coburn -- split on the vote, with Inhofe voting to override the veto and Coburn voting against the effort.

Inhofe hailed the vote as a victory for addressing America's water-resources needs in a fiscally responsible manner.

"I am proud to have led the effort in the Senate to ensure enactment of this critically important national infrastructure bill," he said.

"You can sit around and criticize a lot of things, and call them anything you want, call them projects and earmarks and all that, but we all have different priorities. . . . That's what makes the system work."

For more than two decades, Inhofe said, his priorities have remained defense and infrastructure.

Coburn declined to comment.

Inhofe used his position as the top Republican on the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee to push for provisions in the bill that would affect Oklahoma.

They would authorize \$50 million for ecosystem restoration, recreation and flood damage reduction components of the Arkansas River Corridor Master Plan in coordination with Tulsa County, surrounding communities and the Indian Nations Council of Governments.

During the debate over the veto, Inhofe repeatedly responded to critics that it was an authorization bill, not a spending bill.

Funding for any of the projects in the measure must come later in appropriations bills, he said.

Under a scenario that Inhofe laid out Thursday, it will be at least fiscal year 2009 before any of the \$50 million for the river work would be requested.

"That's right. Because it would be premature," he said.

Inhofe remains optimistic that development can still occur on the Arkansas River despite the recent failure of a sales-tax proposal designed to help fund it. But he said several steps need to be completed before federal funds should be tapped.

The Water Resources Development Act also authorizes an additional \$30 million for the Tar Creek buyout.

Inhofe said another important provision would authorize the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to expand its activities at the Superfund site.

A Senate aide, who spoke only on background, explained that the language allows the EPA for the first time to include relocation and resident assistance in its proposed plans for Tar Creek.

He said that could mean the EPA could pay for the buyout of houses.

"Now, this language gives EPA authority to go back and consider relocation in that plan and come out with a plan that everyone favors -- the senator, state and residents," he said.

"Everybody can finally be on the same page."

He added that the new approach even could end the need for future appropriations. Another provision in the bill is designed to free immediately up to \$3.5 million in funds already approved for the buyout.

(Continued on page 10)



Question: Why should a community adopt a freeboard requirement for building homes or businesses in the regulatory floodplain?

Answer: FEMA models the floodplain and allows a one foot rise in the BFE. So if you only require buildings to be constructed to the BFE, then as more development goes into the floodplain the flood elevation increases and will displace flood water into the existing structures.

Question: Which zone in the State of Oklahoma accounts for the highest percentage of flood claims?

Answer: Zone X accounts for over 33% of all flood claims.

Web Sites

OFMA www.okflood.org

ASFPM www.floods.org

OWRB www.owrb.state.ok.us

FEMA www.fema.gov

OEM www.ok.gov/oem

Corps of Engineers (USACE)

www.swt.usace.army.mil

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

ok.water.usgs.gov

Advanced Study Institute

web.uccs.edu/geogenvs/natoasi

CLOMR/LOMR Forms:

www.fema.gov/fhm/frm_form.shtm

EPA NPDES Phase II site:

www.epa.gov/npdes/

SMRC Stormwater Mgr Resource Center:

www.stormwatercenter.net

FEMA Official NFIP Site:

www.floodsmart.gov

Link to: 44 CFR Ch. I (10-1-02 Edition)

http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/fr/waisidx_02/44cfrv1_02.html

Webmaster: Tinna Song-Wallis

stsong@cox.net

Calendar of Educational Opportunities

- 2008 Floodplain Management 101 or Map Modernization; the Map Adoption Process, & Advanced Floodplain Management**
 Floodplain Management Class Schedule. Apply online or Contact Cathy Poage (580) 256-1014
 February 20, 2008 - Norman OCCC
 March 4-Woodward - High Plains Institute of Technology
 March 6 McAlester - Eastern Oklahoma State College
 March 11 Bartlesville - Tri County Technology Center
 March 13 Lawton - Fairfield Inn And Suites
 March 19, 2008 - Norman OCCC
 April 9, 2008 - Norman OCCC
 May 6, 2008 - Norman OCCC
 May 8, 2008 - Norman OCCC
- OFMA Annual Spring Conference:** April 3, 2008, Ardmore Convention Center, Ardmore, OK, 73402. Contact: *OFMA, P.O. Box 8101, Tulsa, OK 74101-8101*; website: www.okflood.org.
- ASFPM 32nd Annual Conference:** May 18-23, 2008; Reno, NV. www.floods.org
- FEMA's Annual National Flood Conference:** May 20-23, 2008; Chicago, IL. Sponsored by the NFIP; website: www.fema.gov/business/nfip/natl_fldconf.shtm
- 2008 National Hydraulic Engineering Conference:** August 26-29, 2008, Holiday Inn by the Bay, Portland, ME, 04101. Sponsored by the FHWA, MDOT and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Cold Research Laboratory; website: www.maine.gov/mdot/workshops-conferences-events/workshops-events.php
- OFMA 18th Annual Conference:** September 21-24, 2008, Sheraton Midwest City Hotel at the Reed Conference Center, Midwest City, OK, 73110. Contact: *OFMA, P.O. Box 8101, Tulsa, OK 74101-8101*; website: www.okflood.org.
- 2010 ASFPM National Conference:** June 13th-19th, 2010, Oklahoma City OK. Local Host *OFMA*; website: www.okflood.org.

OFMA General Store

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association gifts are now available. The attractive OFMA articles are of the highest quality. You will be proud to wear and display them.

To Order: OFMA

P.O. Box 8101

Tulsa, OK 74101

Or call Carolyn Schultz

(918) 669-4919



OFMA Golf Shirt	
(S, M, L, X-L)	35.00
Briefcase	25.00
Baseball Cap	
(One size fits all)	15.00
Insulated Mug	10.00
Umbrella	20.00
Portfolio	25.00
Lapel Pin	3.00
CFM Lapel Pin	5.00

Shipping and handling \$4.95 per order.

2010 ASFPM National Conference

June 13th—19th, 2010, Renaissance Hotel & Conference Center, Oklahoma City, OK



The week of June 13th—19th, 2010, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) will convene the world's principal floodplain management conference. The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association (OFMA) is the local host for this exciting event. At this once-in-a-life-time opportunity local, state, and federal officials, as well as consultants, industry leaders and additional interested parties will be gathered together attending sessions relevant to a single theme.

During the week industry experts will organize plenary and concurrent sessions and share progressive information in techniques, programs, and resources to accomplish flood mitigation, watershed management, and other community goals.

Please plan now to join with participants from across the nation at this electrifying event. Look to upcoming issues from the *BFE* or ask *OFMA, P.O. Box 8101, Tulsa, OK 74101-8101*; website: www.okflood.org for more detailed information as we draw closer to this occasion.



Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association

Vision

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association advocates the protection of the natural functions of the floodplain through education, training, and service to Oklahomans.

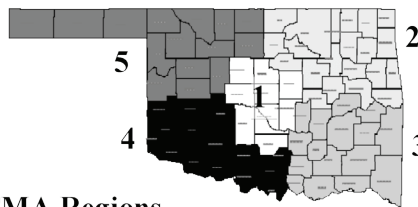
Mission

We encourage and support, with our partners, flood-safe development and flood mitigation. We promote sound floodplain management practices and the natural and cultural benefits of the floodplain. We support the floodplain management profession through education and certification.

Saving lives from floods and reducing property loss from floods are paramount to us.

An Invitation

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association is a non-profit organization primarily dedicated to providing information and education to the public about reduction of loss of life and property due to flooding.



OFMA Regions

to Join

The best investment that \$30.00 can buy in the future of your state is a membership in the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association.

OFMA Membership Application

Name: _____

Fax: _____

Title: _____

Company/Organization: _____

Work Phone: _____

Address: _____

Detach and Mail to:
OFMA
P.O. Box 8101
Tulsa, OK 74101-8101

New Member: ☐ Renewal: ☐

Region (see map): 1 2 3 4 5

Committees:

- ___ Mitigation
- ___ Mapping and Engineering
- ___ Education/Legislative
- ___ Certification
- ___ Conference
- ___ Research

Dues Schedule:

First-Year dues for joining OFMA are listed below. The fiscal year for membership starts October 1st and ends September 30th.

Full Membership	\$ 30.00
Student Membership	15.00
Associate Membership	20.00
Agency Membership	50.00
(Plus \$10.00 per employee designated by the Agency)	
Corporate Sponsor	100.00



Notes from the State NFIP Coordinator

Gavin Brady, Oklahoma Water Resources Board, NFIP State Coordinator

Why Bother?

The word "regulatory" has never been popular when used by any form of Government whether it is Federal, State or municipal in nature. A majority of Oklahomans feels less Government, or less "regulation", benefits our State. While I tend to agree, the regulations required to enforce floodplain management development are essential to protect property and the public safety of our citizens.

It became evident in the early 1960's that the private sector could not provide the means to insure the public a safe and reliable way to protect their home and contents from flood damage. It proved too costly for independent insurers to cover cost's associated with a major flood.

In 1968 the Federal Government under the direction of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) implemented the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The NFIP provided government subsidized flood insurance to individuals who lived in communities participating in the NFIP. Almost 4 years into the program, the NFIP was tested on a major scale for the first time. Hurricane Agnes found its way along the East coast and caused major damage. With only 100,000 flood insurance policies in force the Federal Government, as it had hoped to avoid, had to come in and provide millions of dollars to individual assistance. HUD quickly realized changes needed to take place and through the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 required any federally backed mortgage in the floodplain to have flood insurance in place. The United States went from 100,000 policies in 1972 to over 2,000,000 policies in 1979...the year FEMA was established. Today there are over 4.5 million flood insurance policies with over 19,000 participating communities. Those numbers sound staggering yet only 12% of all structures located in the floodplain currently have a flood insurance policy. While most people have fire covered under their homeowner's policy they are more likely to flood than lose a structure to fire if located in the floodplain. FEMA has a website www.floodsmart.com filled with valuable information for the person considering flood insurance. Please check it out.

The OWRB and OFMA always promote open space in the floodplain however realize the landowner has the right to develop on his/her property. So, when the FEMA, the OWRB and ultimately the local Floodplain Administrator informs you the structure being placed in the floodplain will need to be elevated, please remember although regulating the local official is doing their job which is to protect you and your property and minimize any damages due to flooding. Why bother.... it's the right thing to do.



(Continued from page 7)

Bush Veto Overridden By Senate

Bush vetoed the bill last week, criticizing its cost. He said the bill fails to set priorities and makes promises that Congress has a history of not keeping.

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The act's Oklahoma impact

In Oklahoma, the Water Resources Development Act would:

- Authorize \$30 million to continue funding resident buyouts in the Tar Creek Superfund site.
- Authorize \$50 million for ecosystem restoration, recreation and flood-damage reduction in the Arkansas River corridor.
- Forgive about \$10 million in debt the Corps of Engineers claims the city of Edmond owes for water from Arcadia Lake.
- Create a demonstration project on Corps of Engineers lakes in Oklahoma to encourage public-private partnerships for recreational development.
- Authorize money for municipal water-improvement projects, including \$16 million, Guymon; \$10 million, Norman; \$5 million, Lugert-Altus; \$3.3 million, Durant; \$3.325 million, Mustang; \$2.5 million, Bartlesville; \$2.5 million, Disney and Langley; \$2 million, Midwest City; \$1.9 million, Ardmore; \$1.7 million, Ada; \$1.5 million, Bethany; \$1.5 million, Woodward; \$1 million, Eastern State University, Wilburton, and several other smaller projects.
- Authorize \$6.5 million to the Oklahoma Water Resources Board to update the state's comprehensive water plan.

Authorization vs. appropriation

According to the U.S. Senate Web site, the formal federal spending process consists of two sequential steps: authorization and then appropriation.

An authorization is a statutory provision that obligates funding for a program or an agency, the Web site states, while an appropriation provides funds through payments made by federal agencies out of the U.S. Treasury for specific purposes.

By JIM MYERS World Washington Bureau

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Managing Floodplain Development Through The NFIP 2008 Class

Mr. Joe Remondini, PE, CFM, presenting to the 34 Students that recently completed the FEMA weeklong floodplain management course held at the OCCC in Norman, OK. Most of these students joined OFMA and took the CFM exam on Friday, January 11, 2008. Mr. Remondini spoke about the various floodplain management programs available through the US Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District Office.



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