



The B.F.E.*

* Base Flood Elevation

OKLAHOMA FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume 2

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MAY 2000

FLOOD AWARENESS MONTH

Governor's Office, Oklahoma City- Governor Frank Keating issued an official proclamation designating May, 2000 as "Flood Awareness Month" in the State of Oklahoma.

Most severe weather incidents in Oklahoma occur two-weeks before or after May 31. Oklahoma is located in "Tornado Alley", and is especially prone to severe weather damages, primarily from tornadoes and flooding.

Governor Keating has taken the lead in making Oklahomans aware of the hazards and providing them with information to protect their families and their property from weather related damages.

Over the last decade, Oklahoma has received more weather related damages than any other inland state in the nation. Only the coastal states of Florida, California, Texas, and North Carolina rank higher.

Flooding causes numerous deaths and billions of dollars annually in property damages. Flood damages to residences and businesses are not covered by homeowner and business insurance

policies. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), was created by Congress to provide affordable flood insurance to communities in exchange for adoption of minimal reasonable local floodplain regulations.

Over 360 Oklahoma communities currently participate in the NFIP, but sadly, some 79 flood-prone communities have not joined the program and, as a result, have no flood damage prevention ordinances in place to protect property owners and renters from the devastating social and economic impacts of flooding.

There is a critical need to inform the communities, their leaders and citizens of the risks they face from flooding, the importance of NFIP participation, and the numerous benefits of intelligent floodplain management

Public Awareness- The first step in reducing loss of life and property due to flooding is public awareness. Governor Keating has created a series of excellent television public service announcements on various aspects of flooding.

(Continued on Page 2)



Governor Frank Keating signs the official proclamation designating May 2000 as "Flood Awareness Month" in Oklahoma.

Inside

Calendar of Events	2
Floodplain Administrators Workshop	3
Helpful Web Sites	3
FEMA/NFIP Okla. Flood Forum	3
New OFMA Members	4
Membership Directory Changes	4
OFMA Proposed Mandatory Trng	4
FEMA Home Study Course	4
Governor Newest OFMA Member	5
OFMA Membership Invitation	5
Membership Application	5
Public Info & Education Materials	6
OFMA Fall 2000 Conference	6
Profile: Anna Lee, CFM, Vice-Chair	7
Municipal Stormwater Mgt. Course	7
Corporate Partners	7
1999-2000 Board of Directors	8

Flood Awareness Month (cont. from page 1)

Governor Keating, along with the Oklahoma Department of Civil Emergency Management, the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, OFMA, and the Oklahoma Emergency Management Association, has taken the lead in preparing Oklahomans for the upcoming severe weather season. Among the Governor's official proclamations are:

March, 2000 Flood Insurance Awareness Month
Severe Weather Awareness Month

March 5-11 Tornado Preparedness Week

March 12-18 Flash Flood Safety Week

March 19-25 Lightning & Severe Storm Awareness Week

May, 2000 Flood Awareness Month

Local Proclamations and Resolutions- Each local Floodplain Manager should take the lead in promoting Flood Awareness Month in his/her community. A local resolution adopted by the Mayor and/or City Council, and publicized in the local media will go a long way towards

helping inform the citizens of the dangerous weather season ahead. Oklahomans are especially vulnerable, being located in Tornado Alley, and subject to flash flooding.

**DO NOT DRIVE INTO
HIGH WATER**
**More People Die in Automobiles
than any other Flood-Related
Cause**

Coordination with Emergency Managers- Floodplain Managers and local Emergency Managers are partners in community safety, and should have a close working relationship. Especially at this time of year, Floodplain Administrators and Emergency Managers should coordinate their activities

with elected officials and City Managers.

Test Warning Systems- Prior to an actual emergency, April is a good time to test the Emergency Warning Systems. The tests not only confirm that the equipment is in good working order, but also provides an opportunity for the citizens to become familiar with the various siren sequences and their meanings. It is best to test the sirens in cooperation with a local radio program, so that the siren sounds can be explained to the public as they are happening.

Pre-Disaster Planning- Every Floodplain Manager should have a well thought out plan of procedures in the event of an emergency. A Pre-Disaster Plan is very important. During a disaster event is not the time to try to figure out what to do. The emotion-laden period immediately following a disaster will place many emergency and crisis response demands upon community officials. Officials, Floodplain and Emergency Managers will have their hands full just trying to respond to the immediate crisis.

Assistance: Floodplain Managers or Public Officials needing assistance in preparing a media strategy, or in obtaining or using Flood and Severe Weather public service spots, may contact:

Ben Frizzell
Oklahoma Civil Emergency Management
Public Information Officer
P.O. Box 53365
Oklahoma City, OK 74152
(405) 521-2481 FAX (405) 521-4053
e-mail: ben.frizzell@dem.stste.ok.us

Calendar of Events

Apr.	20	OFMA Bd. Dir. Mtg., Jamil's/OKC
May	2	OWRB Flood Mgt. Workshop,-OKC
May	4	OWRB Flood Mgt. Workshop, -Tulsa
May	8-10	NFIP National Flood Conf.- Austin, TX
May	11	OFMA Bd. Dir. Mtg., Jamil's/OKC
May	16	OWRB Fld. Mgt. Workshop, -Woodward
May	18	OWRB Fld. Mgt. Workshop, -Lawton
May	24	FEMA/NFIP Okla. Flood Forum-Lawton
June	15	OFMA Bd. Dir. Mtg., Jamil's/OKC
June	19-23	ASFPM National Conf., Austin, TX
July	20	OFMA Bd. Dir. Mtg., Jamil's/OKC
August	17	OFMA Bd. Dir. Mtg., Jamil's/OKC
Sept.	13-15	Okla. Municipal League Conference and Exposition-Tulsa Convention Center
Sept.	24-27	OFMA Fall Conference, Lake Texhoma

Oklahoma Water Resources Board FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATORS' WORKSHOPS

The Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB), will offer its annual one-day Floodplain Administrators' Workshops in four convenient location around the state in the month of May. The workshops are conducted by the State NFIP Coordinator, W. Kenneth Morris, CFM.

Each year the OWRB uses these workshops to kick off the Board's Spring Flood Campaign. Historically, most of Oklahoma's flooding disasters have occurred 11 days either side of Mothers Day.

Workshop

Locations – The workshops are strategically located throughout the state to be within easy traveling distance from any Oklahoma community. Workshops will be held in Norman, Lawton, Woodward, and Tulsa this year.

Agenda - The agenda for the Workshop includes:

- | | |
|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 9:00 | Welcome & Introductions |
| 9:30 | State NFIP Coordinator's Comments |
| 9:45 | Your Flood Ordinance |
| 10:15 | Permit Application Process |
| | Lunch |
| 1:00 | How to Determine the BFE |
| 2:00 | Hazard Mitigation |
| 3:00 | Practical Exercise |
| 4:00 | Adjourn |

Who Should Attend - The workshops are designed to cover basic floodplain management for local Floodplain Administrators. Floodplain Administrators are encouraged to invite other community officials involved in the floodplain management program (mayor, city manager, building code officials, inspectors, planners, engineers, clerks and citizen leaders, etc.).

This year's workshops have been designed to help local Floodplain Administrators administer and enforce the flood

damage prevention ordinance so that any new floodplain development will have a degree of protection against flooding.

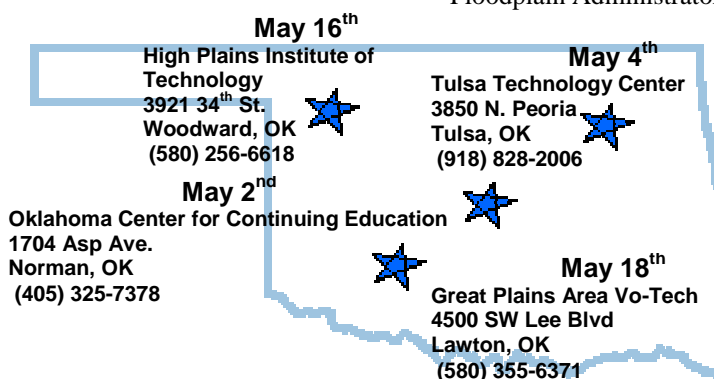
Continuing Education

Credits – OFMA and the OWRB will award 3 Continuing Education Credits (CECs) for attending the workshops and presents an excellent opportunity for part-time Floodplain Administrators to take a one-day refresher course to become updated on the latest issues in

floodplain management and the NFIP.

Registration – The OWRB Floodplain Administrators' Workshops are free, but pre-conference registration is requested for facilities planning purposes. You may register by phone by contacting Rhonda Kouba, OWRB at (405) 530-8800.

Funding – Funding for the Workshops is provided, in part, by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).



Helpful Web Sites

OFMA	www.okflood.org
ASFPM	www.floods.org
OWRB	www.state.ok.us/~owrb
FEMA	www.fema.gov
Corps of Engineers	www.swt.usace.army.mil
EMI Independent Study	www.fema.gov/home/emi/ishome.htm
Advanced Study Institute	http://web.uccs.edu/geogenvs/NATOASI

FEMA/NFIP OKLAHOMA FLOOD FORUM

Public Officials, Insurance Agents,
Real Estate Agents, Lenders,
Floodplain Managers

One-Day Workshop for Southwestern Oklahoma
Area Professionals
May 24, 2000
Great Plains Area Vo-Tech Center
4500 West Lee Blvd., Lawton, OK
Information: NFIP Region VI (281) 829-6880

Membership Directory Changes

Y.S. Ramachandra
28012 Marquerite, Apt. D
Mission Viejo, CA 92692

New OFMA Members

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association congratulates and welcomes its newest members:

Mr. Alvin L. Hong, Svc. Hydrol.
National Weather Service
10159 E. 11th St., Suite 300
Tulsa, OK 74128
(918) 832-4115 Fax: 832-4101
e-mail: al.hong@naaa.gov

Mr. Greg Skinner
Cornerstone Surveying
2278 Industrial Blvd., Suite 103
Norman, OK 73069
(405) 364-0380

OFMA to Propose Mandatory Training of Floodplain Administrators

OFMA is considering recommending to ASFPM and FEMA that all Floodplain Administrators be required to complete the basic Floodplain Management course. We are soliciting your thoughts and opinions on the subject, for it may be controversial.

Presently there are no training requirements for Floodplain Administrators of NFIP communities.

NFIP communities are required to construct new buildings so they are reasonably safe from flooding. NFIP communities must adopt very detailed and complex regulations that make reference to many different official documents, including the CFR, Clean Water Act, wetlands regulations, and state laws. Many people who have been involved in floodplain management for many years, and have completed many courses, still find it difficult and challenging to administer the program at the local level and keep abreast of the program changes.

OFMA, the OWRB and FEMA make every effort to afford opportunities for the training of Floodplain Administrators, yet many communities' floodplain administrators have never attended any training. It is little wonder that there are so many compliance issues across the nation.

Unless the membership feels differently, OFMA has every intention of moving this issue to the top of the national agenda.

You may express your opinion by writing or calling:

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association

P.O. Box 8101

Tulsa Ok 74101-8101

Oklahoma Among Nation's Top Disaster Aid Recipients

Due to a record number of declared disasters last year, FEMA's obligations to the states for assistance after a declared disaster topped \$1.15 billion in calendar 1999.

North Carolina, which took the brunt of Hurricane Floyd last fall, was the largest beneficiary of federal disaster aid, totaling some \$319 million.

Oklahoma got the second largest amount of FEMA aid last year, \$102 million, as a result of tornadoes, flooding and severe storms last May. Funding included \$41 million in public assistance, \$34 million in mission assignments and \$10 million in hazard mitigation grants. The hazard mitigation grants went primarily to cost-share with homeowners in building FEMA approved "Safe Rooms."

NEXT ISSUE:

**All about the new required
FEMA Elevation Certificate**

FEMA HOME STUDY COURSE AVAILABLE

Many local Floodplain Administrators find it difficult to be away from their community responsibilities for the 5 days required to take the "Managing Floodplain Development Through the National Flood Insurance Program" course.

FEMA has developed a Home Study Course that covers the same material as the 5 day class. Continuing Education Credits are awarded to those completing the class.

Contact:

**Mary Leslie
Emergency Management
Institute
Emmitsburg, MD
(301) 447-1475**

Governor is Newest OFMA Member

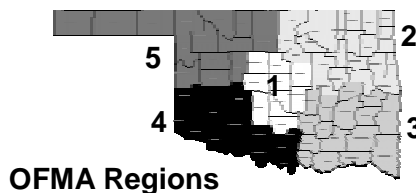


Oklahoma Governor Frank Keating is presented with his OFMA membership certificate by OFMA Chair, Ron Flanagan. Others attending the ceremony in the Governor's Office were, l to r, Dorothy Martinez, NFIP, Lonnie Ward, FEMA, Joe Remondini, USACE, Albert Ashwood, Director, ODCM, Carolyn Schultz, USACE, and Ken Morris, OWRB.

Governor's Office, Oklahoma City- Governor Frank Keating, was recently recognized for his outstanding service in promoting floodplain management awareness. He was made a member of the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association. Governor Keating has brought flood and severe weather awareness to the public's attention by issuing several proclamations: the month of March as **Flood Insurance** and **Severe Weather Awareness Month**, March 5-11 as **Tornado Preparedness Week**, March 12-18 as **Flash Flood Safety Week**, March 19-25 as **Lightning and Severe Storm Awareness Week**, and the month of May, 2000 as **Flood Awareness Month**.

An Invitation to Join OFMA

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

The best investment that \$20.00 can buy in the future of your state is a membership in the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association.

OFMA Membership Application

Name: _____ Company/Organization: _____

Title: _____ Address: _____

Work Phone: _____ City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Detach and Mail To:

OFMA

P.O. Box 8101

Tulsa, OK 74101-8101

Category Affiliation(s): _____

New Member: ☐ Renewal: ☐

Region (see map): 1 2 3 4 5

Categories:

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| A. Mitigation | B. Floodplain Regulations |
| C. Flood Insurance | D. Mapping & Engineering |
| E. Flood Proofing | F. Stormwater Management |
| G. Research | |

Dues Schedule

First-Year dues are prorated depending on the quarter during which you join. Fiscal year is October 1 – September 30.

	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
Full Membership	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$5.00
Student Membership	10.00	7.50	5.00	2.50
Associate Membership	15.00	11.25	7.50	3.75
Agency Membership	50.00	37.50	25.00	12.50
(Plus \$10.00 per employee designated by the Agency)				
Corporate Sponsor	100.00	75.00	50.00	25.00



National Flood Insurance Program PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION MATERIALS FOR FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), have a wealth of free informational materials on all aspects of Floodplain Management and Flood Insurance. These are materials that every Oklahoma Floodplain Manager should have a supply of for citizens and to hand out at public meetings. Some communities have set up publications display stands at City Hall, libraries, and other public facilities. **To order contact the FEMA Distribution Center: P.O. Box 2012, Jessup, MD 20794-2012 Phone: 1 (800) 480-2520 Fax: (301) 362-5335**

STUFFERS

- F-006 I Never Thought It Could Happen To Me
- F-061 Your Homeowner's Insurance Doesn't Cover Floods.
- F-078 Worst Guest List of 1999
- F-090 Notice: This Policy Does Not Cover Flood Loss.
- F-110 Attention: Lenders and Servicers
- F-216 Benefits of Flood Insurance vs. Disaster Assistance.
- F-318 You Can't Prevent a Flood
- F-319 Weather Patterns Are Changing
- F-423 Never Saw It Coming

BROCHURES

- F-029 Condominium Coverage
- F-073 The Choice Is Yours
- F-080 Nothing Could Dampen the Joy of Home Ownership.
- F-207 Who is At Risk for Flooding?
- F-208 Things You Should Know About Flood Insurance.
- F-208 Flood: Are You Protected from the Next Disaster?
- F-300 How You Can Benefit from the New Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC) Endorsement.

INFORMATION SHEETS

- F-001 What You Need to Know About Federal Disaster Assistance and Federal Flood Insurance.
- F-002 Myths and Facts About the NFIP
- F-025 How the NFIP Works
- F-068 Top 10 Facts Every Agent Needs to Know About the NFIP.

- F-217 Here's What to Tell Your Clients About Flood Insurance.
- F-301 Top 10 Facts Every Consumer Needs to Know About the NFIP.

SAMPLE PACKAGES OF:

- F-026 Posters
- F-027 Cover America Ad Slicks
- F-028 Counter Cards
- F-425 VISA Artwork

BOOKLETS

- F-084 Answers to Questions About the NFIP.
- F-108 Guide to Flood Maps
- F-0323 Weather Patterns Are Changing, and So Are Your Chances of Being Flooded.

POST-FLOOD MATERIALS

- F-206 Coping With A Flood—Before, During and After.
- F-210 Tips on Handling Your Flood Insurance Claim.

LENDER MATERIALS

- F-058 Notice: This Loan Requires Flood Insurance (Sticker).
- F-083 Mandatory Purchase of Flood Insurance Guidelines (Booklet).
- F-141 Resources for Lenders, Servicers & Examiners (Brochure).
- F-215 Top 10 Facts Every Lender Needs to Know About the National Flood Insurance Program.

Note: Some materials are also available in Spanish.

Profile: OFMA Vice-Chair: ANNA WAGGONER

Code Enforcement, Woodward

Anna Marie Waggoner, CFM, is the 1999-2000 Vice-Chair and Member of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association.

If you don't recognize the name of Anna Waggoner, it's because our (former) Anna Lee, loyal OFMA worker, was married on April 14, to Tommy Waggoner in a private ceremony in Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

Anna Waggoner has worked for the City of Woodward since 1995, serving as Floodplain Administrator, GIS Manager, and secretary to Code Enforcement. She has been active with the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association and has served on the OFMA Board of Directors since 1996 as the Region 5 (Northwest Oklahoma) Representative. Anna is a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM), and was elected OFMA Vice-Chair in 1999.

Anna will be living in Woodward with her new husband, who is the Foreman of the South Water Field for the City of Woodward.



OFMA's Fall Conference to offer MUNICIPAL STORMWATER MANAGEMENT TRACK

OFMA's Fall Conference, Sept. 25-28, 2000, to be held at Lake Texoma, will feature a new concurrent track for Municipal Stormwater Management, in addition to Floodplain Management, Geographic Information Systems, and Flood Hazard Mitigation. With these four courses, Oklahoma Floodplain Managers should have the necessary skills, education and training to face the difficult job of local Floodplain Administrator.

The Municipal Stormwater Management Course will cover Principles of Stormwater Management; Floodplain Management History and Watercourse Law; The Planning Process; Comprehensive Planning; Master Drainage Planning; Structural and Non-Structural Approaches; Stormwater Detention Ponds; Multi-Objective Planning; Greenways and Trails; Stormwater Utility Fee; and CRS: Beyond the NFIP Minimum Standards.



OFMA'S CORPORATE PARTNERS



HNTB ARCHITECTS ENGINEERS PLANNERS
The HNTB Companies

4500 South Garnett
Suite 110
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74116
(918) 485-6262
FAX (918) 485-6000

Construction Services

Smith-Roberts, Inc.
Mathew Smith, CEO

2212 NW 50th St., Ste. 246
Oklahoma City, OK 73112
(405) 840-7094

Meshek & Associates, Inc.

Consulting Engineers
Janet K. Meshek, P.E., CFM, President

20 W. 2nd St., Ste 200 (918) 241-2803
Sand Springs, OK 74063 Fax: (918) 241-9245
meshekengr@aol.com

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6 East 5th Street • Suite 205 • Tulsa, OK 74103

Mark S. Swift, P.E.
President

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Right Of Way and Land Acquisition

Terry Young
Director of Personnel
(918) 743-0082
(918) 743-0087 FAX

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Tulsa, OK 74105-6621
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