



The B.F.E.*

* Base Flood Elevation

OKLAHOMA FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume 9

Spring 2007

Number 2

Recapping OFMA's Spring Technical Workshop *A River Runs Through It — Build Up or Build Out*

If you missed this year's OFMA Spring Conference, then you missed a valuable opportunity to better understand how urban planning and water resources are blending sustainable development with natural esthetics into attractive public resources. The Spring Technical Workshop, "**A River Runs Through It – Build Up or Build Out**" was held in Oklahoma City this year at the Moore-Norman Technology Center. Members of OFMA were treated to several special events including a guided field trip through the newly developed area known as The Oklahoma River and an exclusive luncheon keynote address from Oklahoma Lieutenant Governor Jari Askins. Participants in the Technical Workshop were also offered the chance to hear constructive floodplain related presentations on community development, GIS and Floodplain Administrator activities.



Spring Technical Workshop participants toured several of the new dams along the Oklahoma River in Oklahoma City.



This year's OFMA Spring Technical Workshop was organized to get the most out of the single day session. The morning agenda opened with a greeting from Chair Gilroy and included a Community Assistance Program (CAP) summary discussion from our State NFIP Coordinator Gavin Brady. The morning events also included floodplain management presentations in two tracks to choose from. The first session offered participants a choice between attending a track featuring a Community Development Workshop or Basic GIS for Floodplain

Bill Smith presents Lt. Gov. Jari Askins with a framed print of the 2007 Annual Conference Logo.

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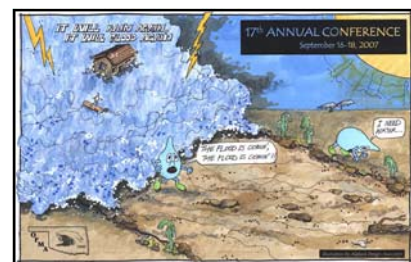
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OFMA's Annual Conference is Nearing!

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association's Annual Conference is gearing up to be quite a special event! This year's conference, entitled "It Will Rain Again, It Will Flood Again" will be held in downtown Tulsa at the Doubletree Hotel on September 17-19. Reduced room rates are available, but the reservations must be made by August 15, 2007 in order to receive the discount.

This year's conference will have four concurrent tracks to choose from. Each is designed to offer something beneficial no matter what your experience level with floodplain management is. Early bird registration for the Conference ends August 15th so get your registration turned in soon. As always, the OFMA Golf Tournament will be held the Sunday before the Conference at the Canyons of Black Jack Ridge in Sand Springs. To view the special Conference Logo and receive more information on registration, visit www.okflood.org.



IT WILL RAIN AGAIN,
IT WILL FLOOD AGAIN!

Comments from the Chair

Greetings –

Those of us in the field of floodplain management know how hard the folks at FEMA work to protect lives and properties from flooding. We know that our friends at FEMA Region VI spent months away from their families in order to assist state and local responses to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. FEMA employees in other regions are equally dedicated public servants, tirelessly working on our behalf for low pay and very little gratitude, if any.

I know what FEMA employees do. That is why it is so hard for me to ignore it when politicians blame FEMA for mistakes made in recent years since 9/11. It is especially difficult when the politician is Senator Joe Lieberman (I-Connecticut) – the man who was largely responsible for taking away FEMA's independent status and shoving the agency into the Department of Homeland Security.



On April 13, the Washington Post published a story about how truckloads of food that FEMA had stockpiled last year in case of another bad hurricane season had rotted in warehouses because FEMA ran out of proper storage space. According to the article, Lieberman said, "I am angry about this senseless waste of taxpayer money and hopeful that the FEMA reorganization that our committee recommended . . . will put an end to screw-ups like this." Well, Senator, your committee still leaves FEMA in the bureaucratic giant known as the Department of Homeland Security and 700 positions remain unfilled at the agency, so how do you expect the screw-ups to end? How is the agency going to find people to work for it when senators who should be providing funds for FEMA, instead blame and criticize the employees every chance they get?

Yes, the spoiled food was a waste of taxpayers' money, but so is paying homeowners millions of dollars to rebuild on parcels below sea level. When the disaster is big enough (meaning a lot of voters are affected) the politicians ignore the expert advice of floodplain managers. Instead of encouraging people to rebuild smarter and, thus, prevent future disasters, our elected leaders act quickly in front of the TV cameras to put people right back in harm's way. That is a much larger screw-up, Senator! Shame on you!

With that off my chest, I wish to thank our Vice Chair Bill Smith and his conference committee for putting on such a great spring workshop in Midwest City March 1. Things are changing fast in the floodplain management arena, but educational opportunities such as the workshop and our annual conference will help you keep up.

It's not too early to start making plans for our annual conference in Tulsa September 16-19. Go to our website www.okflood.org for details. Like the FEMA employees, our Association's volunteers go above and beyond the call of duty. We can all be proud of what we are trying to accomplish. Our mission statement says it best:

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 and reducing property loss from floods are our ultimate goals!

- Laureen Gibson Gilroy, CFM



ASFMP Considers NFIP Reform Strategies and a BIGGER Paradigm Shift

After the catastrophic disasters of Hurricanes Rita and Katrina, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) suffered its first ever financial crisis. The total payouts for that year were greater than the combination of all previous payouts from 1968-2004. Due to the extraordinarily large number of claims, the NFIP, which had previously remained self sustainable in funding, quickly ran through all of its funds. On Nov. 14, 2005, the acting head of the NFIP sent a letter to all FEMA approved WYO insurance providers informing them that they should stop paying all claims on flood policies until further notice. The backlash is still being felt throughout the insurance community. Consider that Allstate and State Farm are no longer writing new home insurance policies in the several coastal states regularly hit by hurricanes and increasing existing rates for fear of future disaster payouts. So has the NFIP failed? It was not originally designed by Congress to cover catastrophic losses, yet is our nation's primary mechanism to counter flood risks.

Today 1/3 of the \$2 billion in premiums collected by the NFIP is going towards repaying the interest on its new debt. The inability of the program's capacity to handle flooding catastrophes like the Gulf Coast in 2005 has instigated an NFIP reform bill within

(Continued on page 4)

Canadian County Recommends Oil and Gas Development Solution

The Floodplain Administrator and Floodplain Board Chair of Canadian County will be meeting with the Corporation Commission to solve a troubling issue facing their floodplain regulation program. The issue has stemmed from oil and gas development occurring in flood hazard areas within the County and the proposed solution may impact this type of development across the State.

The problem boils down to this: development sites for oil and gas often end up in regulatory floodplains without the knowledge of local floodplain administrators. Therefore, counties and communities that regulate oil and gas development in floodplains through a permitting process, such as Canadian County does, are left to find these sites on their own, usually after construction has begun. "Finding out halfway through drilling a site that they are in a floodplain and will need to fulfill special requirements is frustrating to say the least" says Amy Brandley, Floodplain Administrator for Canadian County. That is why she and Floodplain Board Chair Cecil Bearden have co-signed a letter sent to representatives at the Corporation Commission, the governing body overseeing such development.



Oil & Gas development often finds its way into floodplains without the knowledge of local FPAs.

Their request is simple but effective, add a line to the "intent to drill" forms submitted to the Corporation Commission that requests identifying if the particular site is in the 1-Percent Chance (100-Year) Floodplain and to contact the local Floodplain Administrator for verification and questions. "By requiring oil and gas companies to be aware of the floodplain status of their sites, the Corporation Commission will be taking an important step to insure safe and responsible oil and gas production in our vulnerable flood hazard areas." Brandley notes there are additional actions that can help as well. Keeping effective FIRM maps in the County Clerks office and notifying the County Corporation Commission Inspector of flood maps and flood hazard areas may also help Oil & Gas developers with understanding where floodplains are located before

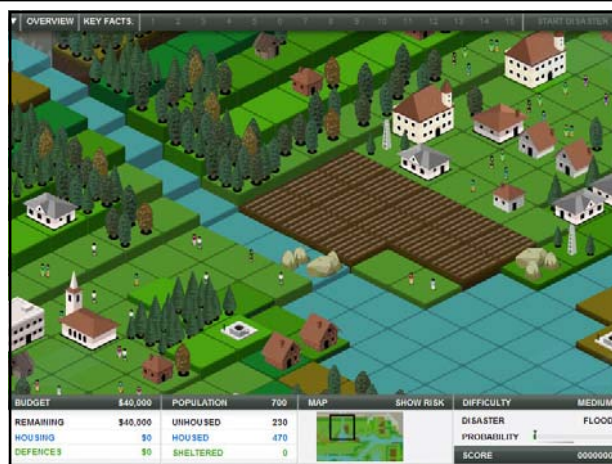
development occurs on leased lands.

Overall, this solution may allow local governments to properly regulate oil and gas companies while raising awareness about potential dangers of production and storage "in vulnerable flood-prone areas." The efforts of Amy Brandley, Cecil Bearden as well as Janelle Wood of Blaine County are to be commended and illustrate how fortunate Oklahoma's floodplain management program is for having such committed and creative problem solvers working towards the goals of flood safety and awareness for the people and property of Oklahoma. Great Job!

"Stop Disasters!" Game Teaches Players Disaster Mitigation Strategies

Disaster education is vital for reducing the future number of those killed or injured by disasters triggered by natural hazards. Teaching the children of today the importance of disaster mitigation will benefit society when they become the architects, mayors, doctors and parents of tomorrow. The on-line game "Stop Disasters!" brought to you by the UN's International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR), aims at teaching children how to build safer villages and cities to protect against disasters. Children learn how the location and the construction materials of houses can make a difference when disasters strike and how early warning systems, evacuation plans and evacuation can save lives.

UN/ISDR produced the online game to engage and teach children, ages 9 to 16, how to protect cities and villages against natural hazards through disaster risk planning and management. The game stems from the 2006-07 World Disaster Reduction Campaign "Disaster Risk Reduction Begins at School". The online game includes five natural hazard scenarios (flooding, tsunami, wildfire, hurricane, and earthquake) with different levels of difficulty that require critical decision-making and strategic planning.



The online game "Stop Disasters!" provides 5 disaster scenarios and 3 levels of difficulty where players can use mitigation techniques to save lives and property before disaster strikes!

To access the game, please visit: www.stopdisastersgame.org and more on the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction can be found here: www.unisdr.org/

(Continued from page 2)

Congress. However, since NFIP officials say the program currently has enough funds and borrowing authority to see it through the end of the year, any urgency about passing the bill this year seems to have been lost. Doing so has pushed various associations including the Association of State Flood Plain Managers (ASFPM) and the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (NAMIC) to make reform recommendations on its behalf.

ASFPM provided bullet-point recommendations to Congress for the Reform Bill, but as Nelson Mandela once spoke: "It is one thing to find fault with an existing system. It is another thing altogether, to replace it with a better approach." ASFPM feels a larger, more substantial paradigm shift is needed, arguing that a change from the top-down model of flood risk management must be revised so that States become the focal point for managing flood risk. The logic is that the methods that will most effectively manage and reduce flood risk rely on authorities that are reserved to the States under our Constitution, namely land use management, building codes, and community planning for development, mitigation and resource protection. It is important to remember that the NFIP is not purely an insurance program but provides for mitigation and significant land use guidance through local flood ordinances. Currently, there are no incentives for states and locals to accept their responsibility to reduce flood risk. Even CRS communities, who go beyond minimum requirements, lack a true incentive; the rewards for their efforts go to individual residents who have flood insurance policies, not to the community or state.

ASFPM argues that programs which have delegated authority for decision making and funding to the States, such as the Clean Water Act and the federal highway programs, are the models for which the NFIP should emulate. Under these models, the state works with federal programs to reach agreement on the state-specific goals of the program, then designs the state program to achieve those goals. The program is not delegated to the state until appropriate state laws and capabilities are in place. Additionally, ASFPM advocates a sliding cost share to reward positive state actions. Disaster assistance payments could use something similar to the 75% federal, 25% state/local payouts, but could see a federal share increase as states undertake actions to reduce their risk to flooding and other natural hazards. For instance, as states invest in important flood risk activities, that amount of money could be "banked" toward the non-federal share of the next disaster. This way state legislators and governors can see the benefit of a "pay now or pay later" scenario, which is just one way to reward communities that do more.

The specific items ASFPM recommends including in the 2007 Reform include: Debt forgiveness, Map Mod extensions, funding increases and technical enhancements, extensions of mandatory insurance purchases in residual risk areas, some premium increases, provision to allow Demolish and Rebuild use under regular FMA, authority to require use of advisory maps for NFIP purposes, increased civil penalties on lending institution violations, FMA funding provisions, total expenditure of available FMA funds, removal or increase of the per State limits on Basic FMA and clarification of Congressional intent of the "direct" portion of repetitive loss programs. For more on the ASFPM recommendations visit

http://www.floods.org/PDF/ASFPM_NFIP_Reform_07_Recommendations_022007.pdf

The National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (NAMIC) and its coalition partners have also come up with common-sense reforms they believe would be a substantial first step in reforming the program. Their list includes: provide funding for Map Modernization; increase annual elasticity band for premium increases to no higher than 15% maximum per year, consider increasing deductibles, increase coverage limits, consider creating a "Deluxe" flood insurance policy, inclusion of business interruption insurance as an option to commercial policies and require the GAO to study mandates and other issues.

For more on the NAMIC recommendations visit: <http://www.namic.org/pdf/060124NFIPConsensusReforms.pdf>



Comanche County Flash Flood Event Washes Away Roads and Bridges

Spring has unleashed some heavy rains in portions of Oklahoma. With those rains came some unwelcome results. The massive rainfall amounts Comanche County received in late March caused some county roads to be temporarily closed. The widespread damage has taken a toll on county employees and will continue to do so until the damages are fixed.

Staff from the Eastern and Western District barns spent many regular and overtime hours trying to fix roads washed out by the flash flooding. Eastern District County Commissioner Gail Turner says the District has lost a lot of rock and road surface. "We all needed the rain, but we have a lot of damage," says Turner. Comanche County's Eastern District still has three roads temporarily closed because they are impassable including a high-traffic, large concrete bridge. "We are encouraging everyone to slow down, be cautious and pay attention when they are driving. A lot of the roads are in bad condition and may be undermined," adds Turner.

The county's Western District experienced similar conditions as they had to close portions of two roads due to the amount of water flowing across the roadways. Those areas have been re-opened, but Western District foreman Darvin Smith says it will take them a couple weeks to get their roads back to normal. Smith adds they will be sending out crews to put up more permanent "low-water crossing" signs.

"This was just a quick flash flood event! The creeks flooded very quickly, and have receded very quickly too," says Comanche County Floodplain Administrator Chloe Lewis. Lewis also adds there is not much you can do to prepare in the event of a flash flood. She says the best thing people can do to avoid unnecessary damages from flash flood events is keep creek beds cleaned out and free of debris or things that may act like a dam and restrict the natural flow of water.



“IT WILL RAIN AGAIN “ “IT WILL FLOOD AGAIN”

Monday, September 17 – Wednesday September 19, 2007
Downtown Doubletree Hotel - Tulsa, OK

In times of drought, floodplain management is not the top priority in most municipal government, but it is the best time to perform routine maintenance on the creeks, drainage ditches, etc. because it will rain again, and it will flood again!

Our program this year will have four (4) concurrent tracks:

- ❖ Floodplain 101 Workshop – Sponsored and presented by OWRB
- ❖ Track 1 – Basic Training for New Floodplain Administrators/City Council, County Commissioners, Floodplain Board Members
- ❖ Track 2 – Intermediate Training for Experienced Floodplain Administrators, specifically oriented to your daily work efforts – CLOMR, LOMR, LOMA, Elevation Certificate Workshop, Permit Workshop, Development Coordination Workshop
- ❖ Track 3 – Special Issues for Engineering Consultants and Experienced Floodplain Administrators – GIS, HEC HMS, HEC RAS, Stormwater Quality Issues, Legal Issues, Etc.

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

Plan to attend, register early, reserve your hotel room(s), and participate.

Anyone interested in submitting a presentation or technical paper, please contact:



W. B. “Bill” Smith, P.E., CFM, OFMA Vice Chair
918-865-6977 Phone/Fax
hisinc@hotmail.com

or

Philip Beauchamp, Region 4 Representative
City of Altus
(580) 481-2228
engineering@cityofaltus.org

OFMA has reserved rooms at Downtown Doubletree Hotel, 616 W 7th St., Tulsa, Oklahoma. Cost is just \$68 for Single, \$88 for Double plus tax per night.

1-800-838-7914 or <www.tulsadowntown.doubletree.com>

Reservations due no later than August 15, 2007. Mention you are with Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association.

Flood Insurance Policy Providers now Require NFIP Training

The Oklahoma Departments of Insurance is taking various actions to establish NFIP Flood Insurance training requirements as required by the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004. The ODI has posted a special notice in late March concerning the requirement and advises agents on approved NFIP Flood Training Courses. The NFIP encourages states to implement minimum training in NFIP flood insurance as part of their general licensing standards and to assist States in improving their training and testing of agents on flood insurance matters.

Section 207 of the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004 (the "Act") requires all producers selling flood insurance policies under the NFIP to be properly trained and educated about the NFIP to ensure producers may best serve their clients.

The Act directs the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, in cooperation with the insurance industry, state insurance regulators, and other interested parties, to establish minimum training and education requirements for all insurance producers who sell flood insurance policies. OFMA and FEMA are developing courses related to the NFIP that meet the requirements. An insurance producer who sells flood insurance may satisfy the minimum training and education requirements by completing a course related to the NFIP which has been approved for three hours of continuing education credit by the Oklahoma Insurance Department. The failure to comply with this continuing education requirement may jeopardize the producer's authority to write insurance through NFIP.

All Oklahoma licensed resident insurance producers who sell federal flood insurance policies must comply with the minimum training requirements of section 207 of the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004 and basic flood education as outlined within the Act.

Approved NFIP Flood Training Courses are available on the OID website: www.oid.state.ok.us. From the Divisions and Programs section of the menu bar, click "Agent Licensing." Once on the Agents Licensing page, click "Special Notices."



New Flood Maps have tremendous implications for Oklahoma's insurance industry.

(Continued from page 1)

Management. The second session included a track on Basic Training for Floodplain Administrators and an Overview of Development on the North Canadian River from Meridian Road to Lake Overholser or a track on Advanced GIS for Floodplain Management. Discussions between presenters and the audience were very lively and informative within both tracks.



The Oklahoma River was diverted at three locations for construction of low water dams.

The afternoon portion of the Technical Workshop took participants on site visits along the Oklahoma River where river development and public recreation is being undertaken to properly coexist with the natural benefits of the floodplain. After hearing a presentation on the Oklahoma River Project from the OKC Public Works Department, participants of the Spring Technical Session boarded buses and vans to get an up close and personal look at the Lock and Dam system and hear from key staff about details of the project. The Oklahoma River is a 7-mile stretch of the North Canadian River in Oklahoma City that has been transformed into a series of river lakes bordered by landscaped areas, trails and recreational facilities at an estimated cost of \$53.5 million. Dams are located at Eastern, Western and May Avenues to raise the level of the river. Locks are in place at Western and May Avenues to allow boats to navigate the entire 7 mile length of the river project. Trails running the length of the Oklahoma River on the north and south banks are part of the OKC Trails network and are open for runners, walkers, skaters and bikers. Funding for the project came from the Metropolitan Area Projects, or MAPS program; a capital improvement program funded by a one-cent sales tax that was in effect for 66 months. Over \$309 million was collected from the tax and made available for projects like The Oklahoma River and the familiar Bricktown Canal as well as other sporting, recreational, entertainment, cultural and convention facility upgrades.

Congratulations OFMA on providing another fine educational and instructive Spring Technical Workshop!

Lenders Fined over NFIP Violations

Following the revision of flood statutes by the NFIRA in 1994, the NFIP and the FDPA authorized the FDIC and the FRB to impose civil money penalties for violations pertaining to the NFIA. Payments will be made to FEMA and the FIMA for deposit in the NFMF. The act requires that civil money penalties be imposed of up to \$350 for each violation in such cases.

The latest banks involved with the FDIC flood enforcement action and their civil money penalties are the Carroll County Trust Company (Carrollton, MO / \$2,075), Citizens Bank and Trust Company (Chillicothe, MO / \$10,800), and Midwest Community Bank (Plainville, KS / \$6,335). Those facing FRB enforcement actions are the Oregon Pacific Bank (Florence, OR / \$4,950), Pacific Mercantile Bank (Costa Mesa, CA), and Planters Bank and Trust Company (Staunton, VA / \$6,750).

Acronyms Used in the Lender Penalties Story

NFIRA = National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994

NFIP = National Flood Insurance Program

FDPA = Flood Disaster Protection Act

FDIC = Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

FRB = Federal Reserve Board

NFIA = National Flood Insurance Act

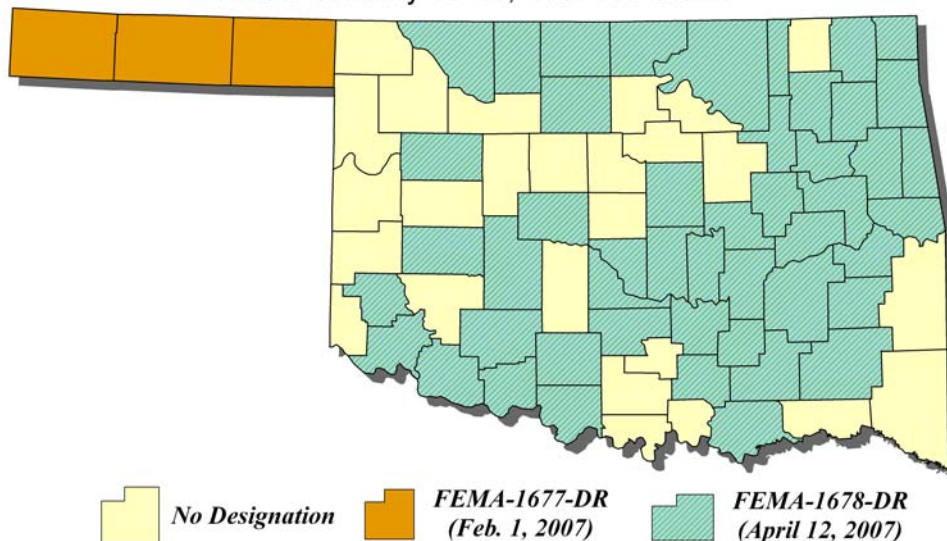
FEMA = Federal Emergency Management Agency

FIMA = Flood Insurance and Mitigation Administration

NFMF = National Flood Mitigation Fund

Public Assistance Counties

from the January 12-26, 2007 Ice Storm



Ice damages took their toll across the State in January 2007. Storm debris removal is still ongoing in many of the affected areas.



Question: I am a rancher who wants to build a small berm near a creek on my property. The County that my ranch is in participates in the NFIP. Do I need a floodplain development permit if the creek is in a Zone A floodplain?

Answer: Your County has adopted floodplain regulations in order to manage development within 100-year floodplains. These regulations are intended to prevent increased flooding and minimize future flood damages. Floodway and Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) published by the Federal Emergency

Management Agency (FEMA) are used to delineate the 100-year floodplain and identify regulated land. If the area you intend to build a berm on is in a 100-year floodplain, including 'Zone A' areas designated on a FIRM map, then a development permit must be applied for and approved before construction can commence. You may also be required to obtain a 404 Permit from the Corps of Engineers or a stormwater management permit from the ODEQ depending on other variables associated with the location and size of the berm.

Web Sites

OFMA www.okflood.org
ASFPF 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

- **Floodplain 101**; University of Oklahoma Contact Rhonda Bowers (405) 530-8800
- **FEMA's Annual National Flood Conference**; April 29—May 3, 2007; Denver, Colorado. Sponsored by the NFIP; website: www.fema.gov/business/nfip/natl_fldconf.shtm
- **APWAOK & OWEA Technical Conference**; May 7—9, 2007; Biltmore Hotel in Oklahoma City, OK. Contact Rita Cavanaugh at 800.772.4678 or rita.cavanaugh@okstate.edu
- **2007 World Environmental and Water Resources Congress: Focus on Habitat Restoration**; May 15-19 2007; Tampa, Florida; Sponsor: ASCE: <http://content.asce.org/conferences>
- **ASFPF 31st Annual Conference**; June 3-7, 2007; Norfolk, VA. www.floods.org
- **7th Conference and Exposition of the National Hydrological Warning Council**; June 11-14, 2007; Savannah, GA. <http://nhwc.udfd.org>
- **Hazards in Water Resources**; July 24-26, 2007; Boise, Idaho. Sponsors: UCWR & NIWR; www.ucowr.siu.edu
- **OML/MESO Annual Conference**; September 11-13, 2007; Tulsa - www.oml.org
- **OFMA 17th Annual Conference**; September 16-19, 2007, Double Tree Hotel Downtown, Tulsa, OK. Contact: *OFMA, P.O. Box 8101, Tulsa, OK 74101-8101*; website: www.okflood.org.
- **Stronger Together: Annual Conference on Property Loss Reduction**; Nov. 8-9, 2007 Sponsor: Institute for Business and Home Safety website www.ibhs.org/congress
- **ASFPF 32nd Annual Conference**; May 18-23, 2008; Reno, NV. www.floods.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.

Tulsa Home and Garden Show

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association was represented at the Tulsa Home and Garden Show for the third year in a row through the sponsorship of HISINC, L.L.C. The OFMA representation at the show is a Mitigation Committee project for floodplain awareness education directed towards the general public. The show was held from March 8 to March 11, 2007 at the Tulsa County Expo Square in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Many people stopped by the booth to learn about floodplain management from OFMA volunteers. The Corps of Engineers Riverine Flood Model provided a good visual interpretation for educational discussions with the general public. Our thanks to the OFMA volunteers who helped run the booth - Bill Smith - Vice Chair, Joe Remondini - PDCC Chair, Gavin Brady OWRB NFIP State Coordinator, Teresa Painter - Tulsa County, Phillip Beauchamp - Region 4 Rep, Harry Creech - OFMA Mitigation Chair, Paul Zachary - City of Tulsa, Barend Meiling - OFMA/ASFPM Training Liaison, and Jeff Bigby - Region 2 Rep. Also, a very special thank you to Joe Remondini of the USACE, Tulsa District for loaning the Corps Riverine Flood Model for this event and the assistance from USACE staff members Ron Kerr, Russ Wyckoff and Rick Thomas with its assembly and set-up. The flood model makes it very easy to sell our views to the public.



OFMA was represented at Tulsa's 2007 Home & Garden Show

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.

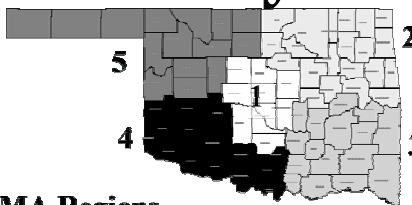
Mission

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 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 \$30.00 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: _____
 Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____

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

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



The first 6 months in my new position have been spent mostly on the road. Floodplain Management 101 classes continue each month in Norman at the OU campus. In February, Laureen Gilroy, Bill Smith, Ken Morris and I spent a few days in Denton, Texas with other States and Associations from Region VI. Topics discussed included Map Modernization, States budgeting, Repetitive loss buyouts and of course Katrina and Rita updates.

We kicked off March with the Spring Conference in Moore. Our Keynote Speaker was Lt. Governor Jari Askins who presented OFMA and the OWRB the Governors Proclamation declaring March as "Flood Insurance Month". As most of you know, FEMA requires a 30-day waiting period before a flood insurance policy can take affect. Historically, most of Oklahoma's floods have occurred 11 days either side of Mother's Day, thus May is annually declared through Proclamation as "Flood Awareness Month".

March continued with the OWRB conducting 5 Floodplain Management 101 classes throughout the State in McAlester, Bartlesville, Norman, Lawton and Woodward. Joe Remondini and the Corps of Engineers conducted 4 Floodplain Management 202 classes in McAlester, Oklahoma City, Lawton and Woodward. Each were well attended and accounted for the 6 continuing education credits needed to comply with the State requirement that each Community Floodplain Administer be accredited.

April began with signs of Map Modernization in full swing. Part of the Map Mod process is to conduct a Pre-Scoping meeting in each County where new maps are to be produced. Mapping contractor, Watershed Concepts, along with FEMA coordinated the countywide effort in Wagoner, Rogers, Ottawa, Muskogee, Cherokee, Pittsburg and Pottawatomie Counties. Each community within that County was invited to attend and voice any needs and concerns the contractor should know before beginning the process. Ken Morris and I attended all of these meetings to address the map adoption process that will take place 12-16 months after the scooping meeting. Map adoption is a critical step to assure each community is compliant with their floodplain management ordinances and regulations. New maps need to be properly adopted prior to the effective date of the new FIRM. FEMA and the OWRB will be assisting communities to assure this timeframe is met. Kansas City recently failed to adopt the new FIRM before the effective date and was temporarily suspended from the NFIP. Help us help you to assure this doesn't happen in Oklahoma.

April concluded with Governor Brad Henry and Insurance Commissioner Kim Holland presenting the OWRB and OFMA the proclamation declaring May as "Flood Awareness Month". We are excited to have the support we've received from our elected officials. Ms. Holland is aware that less than 12% of homes located in the floodplain have flood insurance. This number is close to the national average but a number we should improve on in Oklahoma.

OFMA Membership Drive Update

We're past the halfway mark on the membership drive contest, but time is running out. Let's get some more entries in! Remember: 4 points for corporate member, 3 points for agency member, 2 points for full member, and 1 point for speaking to a group about joining OFMA.

WINNER gets a 2 NIGHTS STAY at an Oklahoma State LODGE or RESORT !!!

All applications must be postmarked by JULY 31. (Remember to have the new member put YOUR NAME on their application.) For more on contest rules, go to the OFMA website. www.okflood.org



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