



The B.F.E.*

* Base Flood Elevation

OKLAHOMA FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

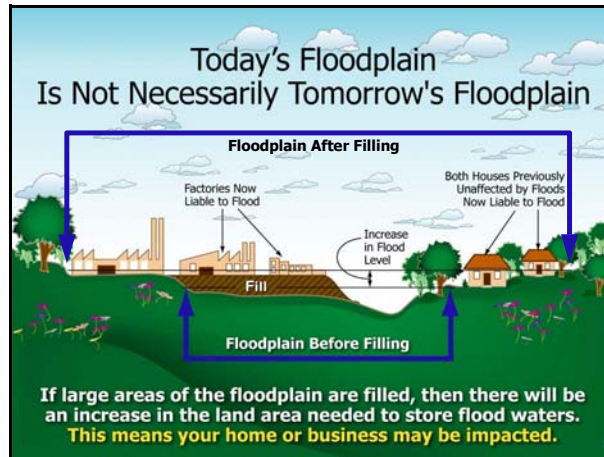
Volume 5

August/September 2003

Number 5

No Adverse Impact - Status of the Policy

Much progress has been made towards education of the public as well as implementation of the *No Adverse Impact* initiative (see article on Page 6) begun by the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM). The slide at the right is part of a PowerPoint presentation available at the ASFPM website (www.floods.org), illustrating the negative effects of the current policy, which encourages development and fill within the floodplain as well as disregarding increased flow rates from future development.



ASFPM is also working with the Public Entity Risk Institute to develop a *NAI Case Studies* publication, with information on what works and what doesn't.

The article also discusses ideas catching on. The June 13th *Houston Chronicle* had an article by Kevin Stanley, President of the Bayou Preservation Association, in which several NAI concepts are supported. These include:

- Watershed Management Plans
- Map all flood hazards, not just

those on the FEMA maps

- Map conditions with full development in place
- Establish a policy of no increased runoff due to development
- Establish a policy of no loss of floodplain storage
- Create floodplain storage banks to make up for small projects that may be permitted without storage requirements.

- For more information, see www.floods.org, www.chron.org or better yet, attend the OFMA Fall Conference and see how NAI affects your community!

The current issue of the ASFPM newsletter, *News & Views*, includes an article detailing those activities. They include preparation of a legal flyer, *Community Liability and Property Rights: Does Your Community Need to Worry*, available on the ASFPM website.

An NAI Toolkit is being developed, called *No Adverse Impact: A Toolkit for Common Sense Floodplain Management*. It will be designed to go in a three-ring binder to accommodate updates, and will be available this fall.

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13th Annual OFMA Fall Conference Sept. 21-24 at the Marriott in OKC

This is your last reminder for the Fall Conference! Don't miss this opportunity to learn about the latest floodplain management techniques and initiatives, get advanced training, and network with fellow professionals. The conference will fulfill your CFM continuing education credits for the year. If you're not a CFM, this is your opportunity to see what that certification will do for you and your community. A conference agenda is included on Page 2.

The OWRB is offering Floodplain 101 on Monday, with additional training opportunities for CTP, Enhanced Dfirm's, MNUSS, Elevation Certificates, CRS, RSDE and "How to Survive a CAV" on Sunday. When the conference begins on Tuesday, attendees will be armed with the knowledge and training received on Sunday and Monday, in order to fully appreciate the conference topics.

Additionally, conference attendees can attend the 7th annual golf tournament on Sunday, as well as the "meet and greet social" Sunday night, and a Vendor's Social at Lake Hefner Monday night. See you there!

For more information contact Carolyn Shultz at (918) 669-4919 or carolyn.schultz@usace.army.mil for conference registration, Gavin Brady at (918) 581-2924 or jjbrady@owrb.state.ok.us for golf tournament registration. Reservations are still available at the Marriott at (800) 228-9290.

13th Annual OFMA Fall Conference - September 21-24, 2003 - Oklahoma City Marriott			
Conference Agenda			
Sunday, September 21, 2003			
9:00-12:00	OFMA Board Meeting		
1:00-5:00	How to Survive a CAV - Diane Calhoun, Diane Calhoun Consulting, ASFPM Region 6 Director (4 CEC's)		
12:00-5:00	5th Annual Golf Tournament, Lake Hefner Golf Course		
6:00-?	Meet and Greet Social at the Marriott		
Monday, September 22, 2003			
BREAKOUT SESSIONS - SPECIAL TRAINING (7 CEC's)			
8:00-10:00	Floodplain 101	Cooperating Tech. Partnerships	Community Rating System (CRS)
10:00-12:00	Floodplain 101, cont.	Enhanced DFIRM Production	Funding Opportunities
1:00-3:00	Floodplain 101, cont.	MNUSS	RSDE
3:00-5:00	Floodplain 101, cont.	Elevation Certificates	RSDE, cont.
6:30-?	Vendor's Social at the Red Rock Canyon Grill at Lake Hefner		
Tuesday, September 23, 2003			
7:00-8:00	Past Chairs Breakfast		
8:00-10:15	Opening Plenary Session (2 CEC's)		
	Welcome and Introduction to OFMA - Janet K. Meshek, PE, CFM, Chair		
	Conference Overview - Ken Morris, OWRB, State Floodplain Manager		
	National Perspective - Diane Calhoun, Diane Calhoun Consulting, ASFPM Region 6 Director		
	FEMA Changes Since 9/11 - Gary Jones, FEMA Region VI Acting Director		
	Role of the OEM in HMGP - Fred Liebe, Deputy Director		
10:15-11:45	Committee Meetings (1.5 CEC's)		
BREAKOUT SESSIONS (4 CEC's)			
	REGULATORY	FLOOD INSURANCE	STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
1:00-1:50	Permits & Standards for New & Existing Buildings	Changes to the NFIP	Master Drainage Planning
1:55-2:45	Higher Regulatory Standards	Answers to Common Questions Floodplain Managers Are Asked	Using the Alert System and GIS in Flood Predictions
3:15-4:05	Enforcement, Variances & Suspensions	How to Rate a Building	NPDES Regulations Update
4:10-5:00	Substantial Improvements and Damages	Things That Lenders, Insurance Agents and Real Estate Agents Need to Know	NPDES Implementation
6:30-?	OFMA Awards Banquet		
Wednesday, September 24, 2003			
BREAKOUT SESSIONS			
	HAZARD MITIGATION TOPICS	FLOODPLAIN MAPPING	PUBLIC INFO. & EDUC.
8:00-8:50	HMG Planning Process: Canadian County Hazard Mitigation Plan; Master Drainage Plans; School Safe Rooms; Structural Projects; NOAA Weather Radios	Letters of Map Revision Topics:	Educating Kids in Floodplain Safety: WET Program and More
8:55-9:45		Letters of Map Revision Topics, continued.	CRS Outreach Requirement
10:15-11:05	Acquisition Projects Panel Discussion	Tulsa County Floodplain Mapping Project	How to Use the Media
11:10-12:00	How to Evaluate Your Flood Ordinance	Floodplain Mapping for the Bartlesville Master Drainage Plan	How to Talk to Your Legislators So They Will Listen
12:00-2:00	OFMA Business Luncheon (2 CEC's)		
	Business Meeting		
	Committee Reports		
	Election of 2003-2004 Officers		
	Luncheon Keynote Address - Jason Donham, Arkansas NFIP Director, ASFPM		
2:30-5:00	Closing Plenary Session (2.5 CEC's)		
	Natural and Beneficial Uses of the Floodplain, Lanny Miller, NRCS		
	Disaster Assistance Efforts During the Tornado Recovery Process, Donnie Blanlot, FEMA DAE		
	OFMA Strategic Plan, Laureen Gibson Gilroy		
	Passing of the Gavel: Floodplain Management 2004 Vision, Andy Kincaid		

Don't Let FEMA Put Your Community on Probation!



In the early 1990's, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, was facing the possibility of being placed on probation (by FEMA) for failing to comply with their obligations under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). City staff attended courses sponsored by the State and FEMA and became knowledgeable about floodplain management and their community's responsibilities under the NFIP. Mount Pleasant is now not only in good standing with the NFIP, but it is an active participant in the Community Rating System, which has reduced the flood insurance premiums in the Town because of its exemplary floodplain management program.

Is your staff prepared for the job?

The best way to know is to encourage them to become a **Certified Floodplain Managers (CFM's)**. Only with adequate training and education to gain knowledge in flood mapping, the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program, building construction in flood hazard areas, administering floodplain management regulations, and related topics, can a person pass the rigorous certification exam. When a person is ready, he or she applies to take the exam, which is offered many times throughout the year at locations around the country, often in conjunction with a state training program or conference that prepares the person for the exam. The exam is two hours long and covers the gamut of topics that a local administrator needs to know. Application forms are available on the OFMA website (www.okflood.org).

What is the Certified Floodplain Manager Program?

The Certified Floodplain Manager Program was established by the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) in 1999. The emphasis of the Program is on knowing the fundamentals of flood mapping, managing floodplain development, national and state standards, and how to apply them to a locally administered program. CFM's have been defined as people *"who know their stuff."*

How does one become a CFM?

To become a CFM in Oklahoma, a person must take the 40-hour class "Managing Floodplain Development Through the National Flood Insurance Program". Offered annually by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, the course is free of charge. (For more information contact Ken Morris, Oklahoma State NFIP Director at (405) 530-8800.) The 2-hour CFM exam is offered at the end of the class, and at several other times during the year, often in conjunction with a state training program or conference which helps prepare the individual for the exam.

How does one maintain certification?

In order for a Certified Floodplain Manager to continue to effectively serve his or her community, continuing education is necessary. Credits for this continuing education can be obtained by attending training, workshops/technical conferences or by completing graded home study courses. CEC's can also be obtained through web based training courses offered by our Partner, RedVector.com® ASFPM Members receive a discount when they link to RedVector.com through the ASFPM website and use the ASFPM reference code. CFM's must provide verification for completing continuing education during each two-year renewal period, thus demonstrating their continuing competency in handling their community's floodplain program.

What are the benefits of having a CFM in my community?

Today the CFM Program boasts over 1,400 certified professionals nationwide. Employers of these CFM's are now reaping the rewards of having staff that "know their stuff". Some communities have received additional credit under the NFIP Community Rating System. Other communities report they have less trouble with the construction industry because the staff is able to clearly explain the process and requirements of the local floodplain ordinance.

How to Evaluate Your Flood Ordinance

A special tool for evaluating your local Flood Ordinance has been designed by the Hazard Mitigation Committee. The checklist will guide you through the steps to decide what kind of Ordinance is needed in your Community, what items FEMA checks when evaluating a Flood Ordinance, the items you need to include in your Flood Ordinance that are particular to the State of Oklahoma, a list of definitions to consider, and a check list for Higher Regulatory Standards. This Special tool will be available at the Fall Conference. The Mitigation Committee Chairman, Jim Coffey, CFM, suggests that you bring your Local Flood Ordinance to the Fall Conference and use the checklist to evaluate your ordinance.

Web Sites

OFMA www.okflood.org
ASFPM www.floods.org
OWRB www.owrb.state.ok.us
FEMA www.fema.gov
OEMA www.angelfire.com/ok2/oema
OEM www.odcem.state.ok.us
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/forms/forms.htm
EPA NPDES Phase II site:
www.epa.gov/npdes/
SMRC Stormwater Mgr Resource Center: www.stormwatercenter.net
Link to: 44 CFR Ch. I (10-1-02 Edition)
http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/fr/waisidx_02/44cfrv1_02.html
Webmaster: Hank Elling, P.E., CFM
 (580)248-7762 hcelling@owrb.state.ok.us

Calendar of Educational Opportunities

- **OML Annual Conference**, Sept 10-12, 2003: Doubletree Hotel, Tulsa. Contact: *Jim Layman, 1-800-324-6651.*
- **OFMA Annual Fall Conference**, Sept 21-24, 2003: Marriott Hotel, Oklahoma City. Contact: *OFMA, P.O. Box 8101, Tulsa, OK 74101-8101; website: www.okflood.org*
- **OWRB Floodplain 101 Workshop**, Marriott Hotel, Sept 22, 2003, for more information, call 405-530-8800.
- **CRS Training Class**: FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI) in Emmitsburg, MD - September 22-26, 2003; for more information, contact Ken Morris, State NFIP Director, 405-530-8800.
- **OWRB Managing Floodplain Development Through the NFIP**; January 12-16, 2004, Contact: *OWRB, 3800 North Classen Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73118; for more information, call 405-530-8800; website: www.owrb.state.ok.us.*
- **NFIP Agent Training**; January 14, 2004 Moore/Norman Tech. Center, May 11, Tulsa and May 12, Miami; Contact *Dorothy Martinez, (281) 829-6880.*
- **Twenty-Seventh Annual Conference of the Association of State Floodplain Managers**; May 16-21, Beau Rivage Hotel, Gulf Coast, LA Contact: *ASFPM Executive Office, 2809 Fish Hatchery Road, Ste. 204, Madison, WI 53713-3120; (608) 274-0123; fax: (608)274-0696; e-mail: asfpm@floods.org; website: www.floods.org*
- **Floodplain Managers 101 Training**; One day sessions in each Region to be announced later; for more information, call 405-530-8800.
- **NFIP 2004 National Flood Conference**; to be announced.

Notes from the Executive Director - August 28, 2003

The OFMA Board of Directors approved the 2004 Strategic Plan at the August 21st Board meeting. Please take a few minutes to review this plan, which will be in your conference notebooks. Lauren Gilroy, chairperson of OFMA's Public Information and Education Committee, took the lead in developing this plan and did an outstanding job. The framework came from our Vision and Mission Statements. Lauren broke down the mission statement and identified the various tasks necessary for this organization to achieve its mission. For example, to encourage and support flood safe development and flood mitigation, we partnered with the Oklahoma Chapter of APA during our legislative reception this past year. Also, we are partnering with the OEM, FEMA and OWRB to develop a state-enhanced mitigation plan. In order to achieve this enhanced plan, we must have an accurate portfolio of all repetitive loss structures in Oklahoma.

A major component of our mission is to support the floodplain management profession through education and certification. A key component of this very important goal is mandated training, which will require support from the Oklahoma Municipal League. At OML's recommendation, last spring OWRB, FEMA and OEM staff developed a training tool, such as the OWRB's Floodplain Management 101 course, that allows local floodplain managers to earn continuing education credits without even leaving the office.

Other goals include fostering local and individual responsibility for flood protection, establishing and maintaining OFMA as the non-government authority on floodplain management in Oklahoma, and nurturing partnerships with the Oklahoma Insurance Department and Oklahoma Association of Insurance Agents. Again, training and education are key to these tasks and represent the cornerstone of OFMA.

Again, take a moment to review your 2004 Strategic Plan and consider how you can help OFMA achieve its Mission. We can accomplish our goals and objectives if we work together.



Muskogee County Floodplain Violation

A local businessman in Muskogee County applied for a permit to build a warehouse south of Muskogee near Coody Creek. According to Dave Davis, Chairman of the Muskogee County Floodplain Board, after building the first warehouse, the businessman proceeded to build another structure. This second structure, which was not approved as part of the permit, was built in the floodway of Coody Creek.

In March of 2002, after receiving a complaint from a local resident, representatives from FEMA, OWRB, and the Corps of Engineers performed a Community Assistance Contact visit with Muskogee County. During this visit, County officials agreed to pursue enforcement action to remedy the floodway violation. In the Spring of 2003, the matter was heard by District Judge Jim Edmondson. Judge Edmondson gave the businessman one year to rectify the situation by either removing the warehouse building or submitting documentation for a flood map revision.

In general, for fill material to be placed in a designated floodway, an applicant must prove, through appropriate hydrologic and hydraulic modeling, that the development will cause no increase in the base flood elevation (BFE). If the model shows any increase in the BFE, then a request for map revision is required.

As of this date, the warehouse is still there, and the deadline for compliance is the Spring of 2004.

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association

Vision

Floodplains are for floodwaters, habitat, water quality enhancement and recreation.

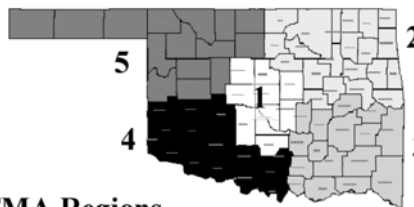
Mission

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 are prorated depending on the quarter during which you join. The fiscal year start October 1st and ends September 30th.

	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
Full Membership	\$ 30.00	\$ 22.50	\$ 15.00	\$ 7.50
Student Membership	15.00	11.25	7.50	3.75
Associate Membership	20.00	15.00	10.00	5.00
Agency Membership (Plus \$10.00 per employee designated by the Agency)	50.00	37.50	25.00	12.50
Corporate Sponsor	100.00	75.00	50.00	25.00



What is NAI?

The ASFPM believes that rising flood losses can best be remedied by adopting a broad guiding principle of "no adverse impact" (or NAI) floodplain management. Under an NAI framework, the action of one property owner within a watershed is not allowed to adversely affect the flood risks for other properties, as measured by flood stages, flood velocities, flood flows, and the potential for erosion or sedimentation, unless community-approved mitigation occurs.

The ASFPM has a stated vision of NAI floodplain management, goals adopted pursuant to that vision, and a strategic plan that calls for specific actions to work towards those goals.

A Vision of No Adverse Impact Floodplain Management in the United States

"Communities with comprehensive planning approaches to flood loss reduction have incorporated no adverse impact (NAI) principles into the broader community fabric of economic, environmental, and social concerns; and into their planning and development management programs and policies. The rest of the nation's communities have adopted and adequately enforced national flood loss standards and programs, which have been revised to incorporate basic principles that account for the adverse impacts of development."

Goal I. Achieve flood loss reduction.

Vision: *The adverse flood impacts of all current and future development in the nation's watersheds are prevented or fully mitigated.*

Goal II: Empower state programs and local communities.

Vision: *Communities and states accept the responsibility to account for all adverse impacts of all current and future development in their watersheds.*

Goal III: Effect change in programs and standards

Vision: *Minimum national standards and programs are upgraded to prevent or mitigate the adverse impacts of development in the nation's watersheds. Those programs provide responsibility and control to communities and states through appropriate delegation and oversight.*

> > > Learn more about the concept of NAI and how it is being applied across the United States by checking the ASFPM's website at <http://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 at
(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.



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405 521-6655

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