



NEW MEXICO HIGH WATERS

A Publication of the New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association

**FIRST QUARTER
FEBRUARY 2009**

**NMFMA SPRING WORKSHOP
MARCH 17 - 20, 2009**

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**Spring Workshop - Albuquerque
March 17 - 20, 2009**



CONFERENCE HOTEL

MCM Elegante
505-884-2511
866-650-4900 Toll free
Fax 505-881-4806
2020 Menaul NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87107



Rates for the conference are: \$75 single/\$95 double

The MCM Elegante is located in the heart of Albuquerque, at the junction of I-25 AND I-40

DIRECTIONS

Westbound I-40 Driving west on I-40 take exit 159-D University Blvd. At first light on University, turn right. Follow University to next intersection University/Menaul. Make a right turn until you see the hotel on the right-hand side.

Eastbound I-40 Driving east on I-40 take exit 160 Carlisle Blvd. Make a left on Carlisle and then left on Menaul. The hotel will be on your left hand side just a few blocks down on the corner of Menaul and University.

Southbound I-25 Driving south on I-25 take exit 227 Comanche, Candelaria, Menaul. Drive straight from exit until intersecting with Menaul. At Menaul take a left-hand turn until you see the hotel on the right-hand side just past the intersection of Menaul and University.

Northbound I - 25 Driving north on I-25 take exit 225 Lomas. Drive north to Menaul Blvd and make a right-hand turn. Watch for the hotel on the right-hand side just past the intersection of Menaul and University.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY TO ENSURE ROOM RATES

The New Mexico High Waters is published through the assistance provided by the Department of Home Land Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) under the Community Assistance Program-State Support Services Element (CAP-SSSE) of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The contents of this Newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Federal Government.

2008- 2009 NMFMA BOARD

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Chair: Kyle Zimmerman, CFM

(505) 662-8150 - kyle.zimmerman@lacnm.us

Vice Chair: Mike Czosnek, CFM

(505) 835-0240 - mczosnek@socorronm.gov

2nd Vice Chair: Wendy Blackwell, CFM

(505) 955-6127—wblackwell@santafenm.gov

Secretary: Kelly Romero, CFM

(505) 867-7651—kellyromero@sandovalcounty.com

Treasurer: Chris Nobes

(505) 894-6673

Executive Office: Vacant

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Region 1: Terry Martin, CFM

(505) 763-9610 - tmartin@cityofclovis.org

Region II: Lynn Krueger, CFM

(505) 334-7605 - lkrueger@aztecm.gov

Region III: Laura Danielson, CFM

(505) 483-2682 - waterdep@zianet.com

Region IV: Irene Galvan

(505) 542-3421

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Certification/Legislative: Grant Pinkerton, CFM

(505) 624-6562 - grant@co-chaves.nm.us

Conference: Mike Czosnek, CFM

(505) 835-0240 - mczosnek@socorrownm.gov

Nomination: Vacant

Training/Education: Les Bond, CFM

(505) 682-1359 - lbond@labond.com

Newsletter Editor: Diane Calhoun, CFM

(940) 783-4123 - dcalhoun@mbakercorp.com

NEW MEXICO

CERTIFIED FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS

Grant Pinkerton, CFM

Chair, Certification Committee

(505) 624-6562

NMFMA has recently started a new web site at <http://nmfma.clubexpress.com> and is making more and more info available there all the time. At present, anyone can access various information and downloads about the CFM program by clicking on the Certification Home link on the main page. The first link on that page is the NMFMA CFM Program Information packet that explains about the Program and can answer many questions that some of you have about how many CECs you must have and when your CFM renewal is due. You can download an application for the CFM exam and there are links to several documents that are recommended as study materials for the exam. Near the bottom of the page is the CFM Renewal Application form.

Soon there will be individual CFM status information on the web as well. We are working with Club Express to create a chart similar to the one I keep that has all the individual CFM records, including the number of CECs each CFM has and which year they were earned, the exact renewal date, and contact information. When this information is available on the web site, it will be the responsibility of each individual CFM to keep track of his/her CECs and renewal status. The status of each CFM will also be automatically tied to his/her membership status, which will determine which renewal fee will be assessed. In order for this to be available, each CFM has to be in the system as a member. Estelle Bond's email to each NMFMA member dated November 5, 2008 (the email would be from pbond@labond.com) advised each member to go to the new web site, logon (with a name and password given in the email), and personalize their membership information. When you do this you will be recognizable as an NMFMA member as you do business with NMFMA on the web site in the future.

It is important that each CFM visit the new website and become familiar with the processes that are now available, especially the membership status. Each NMFMA member has the ability to renew his/her membership and register for NMFMA workshops on line with a credit card, a service not previously available. As time goes on, more and more business will be conducted on line and the amount of snail mail will be reduced. I wanted to make sure that all CFMs knew that the new web site exists since we will be depending on it more and more. You can always contact me at grant@co.chaves.nm.us or call 575-624-6562 during working hours.



In and Around New Mexico with the State NFIP Coordinator

Bill Borthwick, CFM

State NFIP Coordinator

505-476-9617

william.borthwick@state.nm.us

The USGS personnel have begun to visit streamgages in the areas affected by the recent flooding to assess flood peaks and damage to gages. USGS surveyed high water marks from flood peaks in 10 stream reaches, two (2) on the Rio Ruidoso, three (3) on Eagle Creek and one (1) each on Rio Hondo, Tularosa Creek, Rio Bonito, Three Rivers, and Indian Creek.

USGS approach will be computation of Peak-Flood Stages, and Discharges in natural channels will be computed using step-backwater, sloped –area methods as documented in the USGS Techniques of Water Resources Investigations (TWRI).

The benefit of this flood-frequency study should help in the design of roadway bridges, and utility lines in the computations of flood-plains. Communities within the affected areas will be able to incorporate the magnitudes of the flooding events into their current repairs and future planning.

Good news for Lincoln County, New Mexico!

Hazard Mitigation Technical Assistance Program (HMTAP) Task Order HSFEHQ-09-J-0005 Flood Data Analysis DR. 1783-NM was awarded by FEMA Region VI to URS Corporation on December 5, 2008.

The Flood Data Analysis will provide the impacted communities and residents with more accurate flood elevations for mitigation, planning & recovery.

URS will provide a summary of analysis including the Field Survey and Reconnaissance Topographic Data Development Hydrologic Analysis, Hydraulic Analysis and Flood Mapping.

URS point of contact (poc)

Phil Drazek, P.E.

URS Corp, 6501 Parkway NE

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87111

(505) 855-7555

Welcome FEMA's National Flood Insurance Training Contractor!

DHSEM was notified 12-8-08 that H2O Partners, Inc. was awarded a contract for insurance training and lending compliance. The target audience is insurance agents, mortgage bankers, and real estate agents. DHSEM in conjunction is working with our contractor to offer a workshop on Tuesday, March 17, 2008 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Our New Mexico representative is Cathy Meek. Her point of contact (poc)

Cathy Meek, CFM, LRA

Territory Training Manager

National Flood Insurance Program

H2O Partners, Inc., NFIP Training

888.318.5112 toll-free

888.317.4542 fax

512.661.9515 mobile

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 - "Meetings Scheduled"

FROM THE CHAIR

J. Kyle Zimmerman, CFM

Chair, NMFMA

(505) 662-8150

Dear Members,

Over the past couple of years the Association has been running without an Executive Director. The Board of Directors has discussed if an Executive Director is needed. The main need for an Executive Director is the Association would have a consistent point of contact and a central depository of Association records. The Executive Director would also be able to track the deadlines for ASFPM submittals for memberships and other business related activities. I have been on the Board of Directors when there was an Executive Director and these past two years without an Executive Director. The Association ran smoother with the Executive Director.

The last Executive Director was a volunteer. Currently the Association is not in a financial position to offer a salary for the position, but the Board of Directors wanted to know if a member would be interested in the position. If you are interested, please contact the Chair so we can set a time to discuss filling the position.

I want to encourage all to attend this upcoming Spring NMFMA Workshop in Albuquerque. Also you need to mark your calendar and start planning on attending the ASFPM Conference this June 7-12, 2009 in Orlando, FL and the 2010 ASFPM Conference in Oklahoma.

Continued from Page 3 - In and Around NM

Meeting Scheduled —

Community Coordination Meetings Scheduled:

San Juan County, New Mexico	Wednesday, January 21, 2009
Valencia County, New Mexico	Thursday, January 22, 2009
Otero County, New Mexico	Tuesday, February 3, 2009
Eddy County, New Mexico	Wednesday, February 4, 2009
Curry County, New Mexico	Thursday, February 5, 2009

Community Assistance Visits (CAVs) Scheduled

City of Farmington, New Mexico	January 13-14, 2009	conducted
City of Socorro, New Mexico	February 17-18, 2009	scheduled
Socorro County, New Mexico	February 19-20, 2009	scheduled
Village of San Jon, New Mexico	March 23, 2009	scheduled
City of Tucumcari, New Mexico	March 24-25, 2009	scheduled
Quay County, New Mexico	March 26-27, 2009	scheduled

Mitigation

New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management is in the process of hiring a new State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO). NMFMA will be notified once a selection has been made.

SPRING 2009 NMFMA WORKSHOP

ALBUQUERQUE, NM March 17 – 20, 2009

INSTRUCTIONS: Please fill out form completely and either register at the website: <https://nmfma.clubexpress.com/> or send with payment to the NMFMA Executive Office (address below). All fees are payable in U.S. dollars. Make check payable to New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association, or NMFMA. (Federal ID # is 85-0433576). Please call the Executive Office at (505) 862-1359 with any questions.

NAME: _____ BADGE NAME _____

POSITION/TITLE _____

ORGANIZATION _____

OFFICE ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

DAY TIME PHONE () _____ FAX () _____

EMAIL _____

REGISTRATION FEES (NOTE: Speakers are expected to pay the registration fee)

Workshop Registration	By 3/2/09	After 3/2/09	_____
NMFMA Member	\$ 125.00	\$ 135.00	_____
Non_NMFMA Member	\$ 165.00	\$ 175.00	_____
Full-Time Student	\$ 50.00	\$ 85.00	_____
(must show current ID)			

Optional Training and Events

Training 8-Hour Workshop NFIP Refresher Workshop, March 17, 2009: \$ 50.00 _____

NOTE: If you are planning to take the CFM Exam, you must register via instructions from the NMFMA web site:

<http://www.nmfma.org/CERTMENU.HTM>

You may register by emailing or mailing this form without payment. If you register without payment and do not attend, you will be billed for the amount due according to your registration, subject to the cancellation policy printed on this form. Early registration must be emailed or postmarked by March 2, 2009.

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations received by March 2, 2009, will receive a full refund. Cancellations received after March 2, 2009, will receive 50% refund. You may email your cancellation to lbond@labond.com, or call (505) 682-1359.

Online Registration: <https://nmfma.clubexpress.com/>

Email Registration Form: lbond@labond.com

Mailing Registration Form: **Mail completed form and payment to:**

NMFMA

P. O. Box 531

High Rolls, New Mexico 88325

AMOUNT PAID: _____

2009 Nominations for Officers & Regional Directors

The NMFMA Nominating Committee has solicited nominations for Officers and Regional Directors to serve the Association during the coming year. Elections will be held during the membership meeting to be held during the spring workshop/conference in Albuquerque March 18 – 20, 2009. Additional nominations will be accepted during the meeting **The candidates are:**

Chair: Paul Dugie, PE, CFM (Two-year term*)

Paul is the Director of the Dona Ana County Flood Commission. He has been a member of NMFMA since 1986 and has been a CFM since 2001. He has previously served NMFMA as Vice Chair and Chair.

Vice Chair: Terry Martin (One-year term*)

Terry is a building inspector with the City of Clovis. He was a charter member of the NMFMA (1994), and served as its first Chair. He is currently completing one term as Regional Director.

Second Vice Chair: Rigel Rucker, PE, CFM (Two-year term*)

Rigel has been an engineer with URS Corporation in Albuquerque for four years, after working a year with the City of Las Cruces. He has been a CFM since 2004. If elected, this would be his first term on the NMFMA Board of Directors.

Secretary: Kelly Romero, CFM (One-year term*)

Kelly Romero is Support Coordinator with Sandoval County, where she has worked for 9 years. She has been a CFM since 2004 and has served one term as Secretary of NMFMA.

Treasurer: Mike Czosnek, CFM (Two-year term*)

Mike is the Building Inspector for the City of Socorro. He was a charter member of NMFMA (1994) and has been a CFM since 2003. He has served on the NMFMA Board of Directors continuously since 1996, serving as Regional Director, Treasurer, Vice Chair and Chair.

Region 1: Curtis Cherne, PE, CFM (Bernalillo County) (Two-year term**)

Curtis is a senior engineer with the City of Albuquerque Planning Department. He became a CFM in 2008. If elected, this would be his first term on the NMFMA Board of Directors.

Region 2: Irene Galvin (Chaves, Eddy, Lea, Lincoln, Otero, Dona Ana, Hidalgo and Luna Counties) (One-year term**)

Irene is City Clerk with Hidalgo County. She has served as Regional Director for one term.

Region 3: Laura Danielson, CFM (Curry, DeBaca, Roosevelt, Rio Arriba, Taos, Colfax, Guadalupe, Harding, More, Quay, San Miguel, Santa Fe, Torrance and Union Counties) (Two-year term**)

Laura is the Water and Wastewater Manager for the Town of Springer. She has been a CFM since 2002. She has served as Regional Director for one term.

Region 4: Lynne Krueger, CFM (Cibola, Los Alamos, McKinley, San Juan, Sandoval, Valencia, Catron, Grant, Sierra and Socorro Counties) (One-year term**)

Lynne is Director of Planning for the City of Aztec. She has been a CFM since 2006. She has served as Regional Director for one term.

* The Board of Directors has proposed an amendment to the Bylaws that provides for two-year terms for officers. If this amendment is adopted by the membership, the Chair, Second Vice Chair and Treasurer would be elected to two-year terms in 2009 and the Vice Chair and Secretary would be elected to two-year terms in 2010.

** During the 2008 membership meeting, the membership amended the Bylaws to provide for two-year terms for Regional Directors. The Directors from Regions 1 and 3 will be elected to two-year terms in 2009 and the Directors from Regions 2 and 4 will be elected to two-year terms in 2010.

The Nominating Committee includes Leslie Bond, CFM, LA Bond Associates (Chair), Georgia Goad, CFM, Eddy County and Michelle Truby-Tillen, CFM, San Juan County.

AGENDA

Funding Alternatives for Floodplain Management

	DATE	TIME	TITLE OF PRESENTATION	SPEAKER
	3/17/2009	8a.m. -5 p.m.	Agent/Lender NFIP Workshop	Cathy Meek
	3/17/2009	8 a.m. thru 5 p.m.	Basic Floodplain Management Workshop	Diane Calhoun
	3/17/2009	1 p.m thru 5 p.m.	Emergency Management for Floodplain Managers	Phil Drazek
	3/17/2009	1 p.m thru 5 p.m.	HEC-1 Basics	AMAFCA staff
	3/18/2009	1:00	Conference Kick-off	Kyle Zimmerman
	3/18/2009	1:30	USDA Funding/Ruidoso Emergency Watershed Plan	Diana t. Lopez and Roger Ford
	3/18/2009	2:20	Break	
	3/18/2009	3:00	Preparing an Emergency Action Plan for Your Community	Phil Drazek; URS Staff
	3/18/2009	3:45	Establishing Impact Fees for Flood Mitigation Measures	Jack Cloud and Brad Bingham, City of Albuquerque
	3/18/2009	4:30	New Mexico Community Update	Bill Borthwick, State Floodplain Coordinator
	3/18/2009	5:00	adjourn	
TRACK ONE	3/19/2009	8:30	SSCAFCA's Watershed Management Plan	David Stoliker, Executive Director, SSCAFCA
	3/19/2009	9:15	Hazard Mitigation Grant Funding	Susan Walker
	3/19/2009	10:00	Break	
	3/19/2009	10:15	Public Improvement District Funding	Peter Franklin
	3/19/2009	12:00	Lunch	
	3/19/2009	1:00	Business Meeting	
	3/19/2009	2:00	Flood Control Agency Funding	John Kelly, Executive Director AMAFCA
	3/19/2009	2:45	Break	
	3/19/2009	3:00	Dealing with funding issues after the flood	Justin King
	3/19/2009	3:45	Special Assessment Districts for Flood Mitigation Projects	Randall Carol, City of Rio Rancho
	3/19/2009	4:30	Protection of historic acequia's	Ralph Vigil
	3/19/2009	5:00	adjourn	
	3/19/2009	6:00	SOCIAL	

AGENDA CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

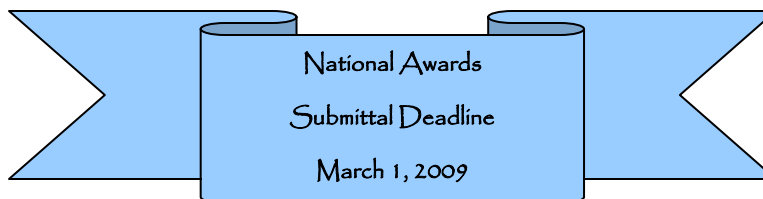
AGENDA - Continued from Page 7

	DATE	TIME	TITLE OF PRESENTATION	SPEAKER
TR A C K T W O	3/19/2009	8:30	Rio Rancho's NPDES Program	Xavier Petis
	3/19/2009	9:15	Albuquerque's Experience W/ EPA Phase I MS4 program	Cathy Verhage/Roland Pentilla
	3/19/2009	10:00	Break	
	3/19/2009	10:15	Flood Protection Design with Gabions	Stuart Klien, Macafferri
	3/19/2009	11:00	The Benefits of Retention and Disposal Through Stormwater Drywells	Jeremy Livengood, Torrent Resources
	3/19/2009	12:00	Lunch	
	3/19/2009	1:00	Business Meeting	
	3/19/2009	2:00	Bringing Your Hazard Mitigation Plan to Life: Strategies for Turning Plans into Projects	Philip Drazek, PE, CFM
	3/19/2009	2:45	Break	
	3/19/2009	3:00	<i>Rio Grande Surface Water Model</i>	<i>Jesse Roach, Sandia National Lab</i>
	3/19/2009	3:45	Developing a Stormwater Management and NPDES Program	Jim Salazar, City of Santa Fe
	3/19/2009	4:30	<i>adjourn</i>	
	3/19/2009	6:00	SOCIAL	
		3/20/2009	8:30	Grandfather Rules
3/20/2009		9:15	The Curse of Minimum Standards	Dale Hoff
3/20/2009		10:00	Break	
3/20/2009		10:15	Submittal Reviews for Cities and Counties	Brad Bingham, City of Albuquerque Floodplain Administrator
3/20/2009		11:00	FEMA's Digital Delivery	Les Bond and
3/20/2009		11:45	Conference Wrap-up	

MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND DON'T MISS ONE MINUTE OF THE CONFERENCE

THIS IS TIME TO LEARN, SHARE AND CONTRIBUTE TO FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT IN NEW MEXICO

ASFPM NATIONAL AWARDS



The national awards for excellence in flood loss reduction are conferred at the annual floodplain managers' conference each spring, and you are invited to feature YOUR outstanding local or state program or person! The 2009 ceremony will be held at the annual ASFPM Awards luncheon, noon Thursday June 11, at the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando, Florida. Please see the Award categories and submittal instructions at www.floods.org/awards/nomination.asp. Make sure you complete this online submission by the March 1 deadline; it is highly recommended that you attach applicable letters of support for your nomination. You may direct any questions to Diane Brown in the ASFPM office at diane@floods.org or call her at 608-441-3003. Winners will be notified in April to allow time to make travel arrangements. We appreciate your help in showcasing what works, as we commemorate those who reduce flood damages in the nation and make flood risk management an achievable reality. Congratulations to those who received national awards in 2008 – you can see them online at www.floods.org/Awards/Recipients.asp.

From *The Insider*, January 2009 - A Publication from the Association of State Floodplain Managers

Floodplain Management Notebook



Submit your own items or suggestions for future topics to column editor Rebecca Quinn, CFM, at rcquinn@earthlink.net.

Comments welcomed!

Here's Something You Might Find Interesting . . .

If you've been through a Community Assistance Visit (CAV) more than likely you've had to play catch-up because your records don't have all of the documentation and certifications that you're expected to keep. Among other commitments communities make to participate in the NFIP are three related to keeping records: (1) maintain certain elevation data and design certificates for buildings in Special Flood Hazard Areas, (2) maintain documentation if variances are granted, and (3) submit biennial reports to FEMA.

Let's talk about three aspects: first, collecting Elevation Certificates; second, keeping records accessible; and third, length of time to keep those records.

Collecting Elevation Certificates

If you work for a state or FEMA and have conducted CAVs, more than likely you've had to tell communities that the NFIP assumes that a building is in violation of the requirements if evidence of compliance is missing. The definition of "violation" clearly states that lack of elevation certificates and other certifications is sufficient for a presumption of a violation until such time as the documentation is provided. I'll bet hundreds of communities each year have to get in touch with owners, builders and surveyors – not an easy task if a couple of years have gone by.

These days, there are no good reasons for a community's records to be inadequate. Every floodplain management ordinance I've seen in the past 30 years contains a clear statement that it is the local administrator's responsibility to obtain and retain certain elevation information and, depending on the building and zone, certain design certificates. Why do we keep finding community officials who don't know this is in their ordinances?

If you work for a community, when was the last time you read through your ordinance from front to back? Check your intake procedures – are applicants given a copy of the Elevation Certificate and told that it must be completed before the final inspection? Some communities require applicants/owners to sign a statement acknowledging that the EC is required before the Certificate of Occupancy is issued. Check your inspection procedures – do inspectors make sure a completed EC is submitted? Check your record retention – are copies of EC retained in a permanent file?

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Floodplain Management Notebook

Most states and communities administer building codes that are based on the *International Building Code* and the *International Residential Code*. Both codes require retention of applications received, permits issued, and reports of inspections. Both codes also call for specific inspections, including a “lowest floor elevation” inspection, which specifies that documentation or certification of elevations is to be submitted upon placement of the lowest floor and prior to further vertical construction.

The I-Codes also require that certain documentation, signed and sealed by registered design professions (see sidebar), be submitted to the building official. The documentation includes: elevations (lowest floor or bottom of lowest horizontal structural member, depending on flood zone); engineered openings; foundation design (in V Zones); and breakaway walls. The IRC also clearly requires submission of “as-built” certifications of lowest floor elevations. And for dry floodproofed nonresidential buildings, the IBC requires submission of a statement that designs are in accordance with ASCE 24.

OK, the requirement is spelled out clearly, so that’s not the problem. Everybody is busy and building inspectors have hundreds of things to check as construction of a building nears completion. So what’s the solution?

I’m told it’s becoming common in many states for surveyors to charge a single fee upfront to cover establishing the ground elevation, setting a temporary bench mark, and preparing the final as-built Elevation Certificate. Because insurance agents are supposed to have an EC to write flood insurance policies on post-FIRM buildings, I’ll bet that most builders and owners call the surveyor to get the as-built EC. Why isn’t the paperwork getting submitted to communities?

Here’s another thought. A few years ago I became aware of software programs that are designed to help building departments review and track permits. These programs are now used by many communities, both large and small. I’d like to see the vendors modify their programs to include flood-specific content. In particular, because a final inspection is required before a Certificate of Occupancy is issued, doesn’t it make sense that the final inspection checklist includes a reminder to collect the Elevation Certificate?

Keeping Records Accessible

The NFIP requires communities to “maintain for public inspection and furnish upon request” information on elevations and certificates of floodproofing. The records must be accessible for inspection during Community Assistance Visits. In addition, communities themselves must be able to access records in order to complete the NFIP’s biennial report (which requests the number of permits and variances issued in the preceding two years). And because many Post-FIRM buildings are now 20 to 30 years old – and as so many maps have been revised and BFEs and zones are changing – it’s becoming more important than ever to have documentation of compliance at the time buildings were constructed.

Some communities keep a log of SFHA permits (or can sort their electronic permit tracking data), which helps when digging through boxes of old permit files. Some keep paper copies of Elevation Certificates in a separate file, and some keep electronic copies. All CRS communities are required to maintain records and use FEMA’s Elevation Certificate and Floodproofing Certificate, and they must make copies of the certificates available to any inquirer (Activity 310).

Length of Time to Keep Records

The NFIP regulations do not specify how long the records should be kept, suggesting there is no limit. Similarly, local ordinances specify that records must be maintained but are silent about how long they should be kept. On the other hand, the I-Codes indicate that “records shall be retained in the official records for the period required for retention of public records.” I’m told that many states mandate that records be retained only for three or four years.

The question then is what are communities supposed to do? Keep in mind that some communities may issue only a handful of permits in a year, but the numbers run into the thousands for many large jurisdictions. Records retention is not a trivial matter.

In my opinion, the answer is that Elevation Certificates, Floodproofing Certificates, and V Zone certificates (foundation design and breakaway walls), should be kept permanently. Yes, that’s a lot of work for larger jurisdictions, but they’re the ones most likely to already use electronic storage. These days anyone can save scanned copies of documents. Indeed, the EC itself is now available (and can be sealed) electronically. It doesn’t matter whether it is a dedicated file for hardcopies or an electronic file, keeping permanent records is the easy part once it truly becomes routine for communities to collect the certificates.

Remember how I opened this article – noting that hundreds of communities each year probably expend a great deal of time and energy to get in touch with owners, builders and surveyors to obtain Elevation Certificates. That’s a lot of headache that will be avoided if they pay more attention to the requirements of their own ordinances and codes. [RCQ]

From the Insider - January 2009 A publication from ASFPM

Rebecca Quinn, CFM

An Opportunity to Advertise In the High Waters

Advertise Here
For Only \$200
for one year

Advertise Here
For Only \$200
for one year

Advertise Here
For Only \$400
for one year

Advertise Here for Only \$800 for 1 year

Opportunity to Advertise in the New Mexico High Waters

By Diane Calhoun, CFM—Newsletter Editor

We are collecting advertisements to run in the High Waters beginning with the first issue in 2009. Your ad will run for the full year of 2009. The newsletter is published four times a year.

If your firm is interesting in advertising, please provide the following:

- Provide a full color graphic of the advertisement to Diane Calhoun either by email at dcalhoun@mbakercorp.com, or ftp site or CD-ROM (M. Baker Inc. 101 S. Locust St., Denton Tx 76209)
- Make your check payable to NMFMA.

HEC-RAS Training Available



Basic HEC-RAS 3-Day Hands-on Computer Workshop



The New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association is pleased to announce a three-day basic HEC-RAS 4.0 hands-on computer workshop to be held at the offices of Wilson & Company in Albuquerque, NM on March 3 – 5, 2009. The course will be taught by WEST Consultants, Inc.

Certified Floodplain Managers will receive 16 CECs.

Registered Engineers will receive 24 PDHs.

Cost: \$650.00 per participant.

Registration: Online at <https://nmfma.clubexpress.com/>. Select “Events” and then click on “3-day HEC-RAS Course” on March 3.

Participants are required to bring a Windows based laptop to participate in this workshop. The HEC-RAS software does not need to be installed prior to the workshop.

Class size will be limited to 30 participants, first come, first served.

Workshop Objectives:

- Become familiar with inputting data into HEC-RAS to develop a hydraulic model
- Understand the theory behind many of the computational routines inside HEC-RAS
- Become familiar with the modeling capabilities in HEC-RAS including bridges, culverts, multiple openings, storage areas, gates, and inline and lateral structures
- Become familiar with how to perform a floodway encroachment analysis
- Understand how to develop a stable and calibrated steady flow model, including recommendations on cross-section spacing and Manning’s n -value selection
- Gain intensive, hands-on experience in developing models through numerous computer workshops
- Learn about new features available in HEC-RAS 4.0

Firm Qualifications: WEST has prepared and presented over 75 basic HEC-RAS three-day workshops as the national contractor to the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). In addition, WEST has teaches HEC-RAS course on unsteady flow modeling, dam breach analyses, and sediment transport analyses.

Instructor(s): The instructor(s) for this course will be Martin (Marty) J. Teal, P.E., P.H., D.WRE, and/or Brian T. Wahlin, Ph.D., P.E., D.WRE. Both instructors have more than 15 years of experience working with hydraulic modeling and serve as primary instructors for the ASCE HEC-RAS courses.



New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association

Application for Membership

Name: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip code:** _____

Email _____

Telephone: () _____ **Fax** () _____

- Affiliation:**
- Local Government
 - State Government
 - Federal Government
 - Private
 - Academic
 - Other _____

Nature of Duties

- Administration
- Engineering
- Planning
- Insurance
- Other _____

I am interested in the following areas of concern:

Dam Safety _____

Flood Data _____

Structural Flood Control _____

Litigation/Legal Issues _____

Wetlands Issues _____

AO/AH Flooding _____

Crawl Spaces _____

Flood Warning & Response _____

Other: _____

Membership Class Applied for & Dues

- Individual \$ 35.00
- Agency \$100.00
- Corporate \$100.00
- NEW MEMBER
- RENEWAL

DUES ARE FOR ONE CALENDAR YEAR.

MAKE CHECK OUT TO NMFMA

Send to: NMFMA
Executive Office
P.O. Box 531
High Rolls, New Mexico 88325

I am interested in these Committees:

_____ Certification

_____ Conference

_____ Floodplain Management

_____ Legislative

_____ Membership

_____ Nominating

_____ Training/Education



Executive Office
P. O. Box 531
High Rolls, New Mexico 88325
505-682-1359

WEB SITE:

WWW.NMFMA.ORG

Purpose of the New Mexico Floodplain Managers

- 1. To promote public awareness of proper floodplain management;**
 - 2. To promote the professional status of floodplain management and secure all benefits resulting there from;**
 - 3. To promote a liaison between individuals concerned with proper floodplain management and to encourage the exchange of ideas;**
 - 4. To keep individuals concerned with proper floodplain management well informed through educational and professional seminars and to provide a method for dissemination of information, both general and technical;**
 - 5. To inform concerned individuals of pending floodplain legislation and other related management matters; and**
 - 6. To study and support legislation pertinent and necessary to the effective implementation of floodplain management matters.**
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