

The Antediluvian

OHIO'S FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 1

SPRING 2005

What not to do when the road is flooded

[Reprint of a January 10, 2005-letter to the editor from Robert N. Hall of Marianna, PA to the *Washington Observer* of Washington, PA © 2005.]

Let me introduce myself: I am the most foolish man in Washington County, (PA). While driving to work last week, I saw a barricade blocking one of the traffic lanes on the road. I decided to take the other lane and drive around it. I soon found myself staring at what looked like a shallow pool of water in the roadway that stretched as far as I could see. Not wanting to be late for work, I cautiously drove into the water where I soon found myself submerged up to the top of my wheels and my engine gasping for life.

Not to be discouraged by these obvious warnings I plowed ahead and then found myself, my vehicle and a few thousand dollars worth of contents in my vehicle hopelessly stranded in thigh deep flowing water.

As the water began to rise to my seat I de-

ecided that the contents in my vehicle were essential to my very existence so I began carrying the items to dry land, making several trips. Then, as I felt the current begin to really show me who was boss, I suddenly realized that this situation was more serious than I could have ever imagined. So I waded back to dry land and finally called 911 from my cell phone.

The response was swift, professional and outstanding.



(continued on page 2)

Ohio's Map Modernization Update

By JONATHAN SORG, ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST
ODNR, DIVISION OF WATER - FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

FEMA's Map Modernization Initiative is nationwide, with a projected need of one billion dollars to support the goal of modernizing the nation's inventory of flood maps. The ODNR-Division of Water Floodplain Management Program is coordinating the initiative in Ohio. Until the initiative is finished, *The Antediluvian* will carry this feature, highlighting different aspects of the modernization and providing a status of

flood map updates that are ongoing.

Map Update Process

Many communities throughout Ohio have flood maps that are 10-15 years old and these maps do not reflect the current hydrologic and hydraulic conditions for their particular areas.

(continued on page 2)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- GIS Highlights from the Floodplain.....4
- Mitigation Funding Source for Flood Recovery Efforts.....6
- Development Review Procedures for Enforcement of Local Floodplain Management Regulations8
- Floodplain Management Regulation Update Process.....10
- Implementing Flood Protection Standards into Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Design.....13
- Acknowledgement – *It DOES Take A Village*.....14
- Ohio Floodplain Management Association.....15
- Floodplain Management in Ohio – Statewide Conference 2005.....17
- Great News About Exciting Training Opportunities.....18
- Roll Call.....19

MISSION STATEMENT: The Mission of the Floodplain Management Program is to provide leadership to local governments, state agencies, and interested parties toward cooperative management of Ohio's floodplains to support the reduction of flood damage and the recognition of the floodplain's natural benefit. This mission will be accomplished through technical assistance, public awareness, education, and development/protection standards.

(Continued from page 1) **What not to do when the road is flooded**

I ended up missing work altogether, I put other people at risk, I lost a vehicle and a few thousand dollars. Why? I can only think of one reason. As I said, I am the most foolish man in the county.

Many people, whose names I didn't even get, risked so much for a foolish man. The Amity fire chief, the young man who was with him, the PENNDOT worker with the large truck, the state police, the Washington County 911 dispatcher and the wrecker drivers. Let's do them all a favor and follow a few simple rules:

- Don't drive around a barricade, even if you can.
- If you see water, go home and get your boat. Your car just isn't made for it.
- If you do get stuck in water and make it to dry land, don't go back for anything that isn't living.
- Don't try to fight a flooded creek, it will win every time.

After all, do you want to be an idiot like me? ♦

(Continued from page 1) **Ohio's Map Modernization Update**

One notable change to these maps involves the format. Previously, flood maps were issued for individual communities, whereby one community would have a set of maps specifically depicting only their community. Newly updated maps will be in a countywide format so as to create a seamless coverage for each county.

Another noteworthy change involves the conversion to digital data. These new maps will be in a digital, GIS format, so they can be easily accessed, viewed, and analyzed by anyone.

Such an extensive project requires the collaboration of many players, including federal, regional, state, and local stakeholders. Each may be participating at a different level, through tasks such as data development, map production, or map maintenance.

What is the map update process, and how do we know when our community will get our maps updated? ODNR will be sending letters and informational packets to those communities that will be funded under the Map Modernization during the fiscal year. This letter kicks off the modernization process with what are known as *Pre-scoping Activities*. The purpose of these activities is to research and accumulate resources that will contribute to the map update project. Such activities include base map inventories and mapping needs assessments.

The next stage of this process is called the *Scoping*

Meeting. This meeting presents an opportunity for all interested parties to gather and finalize the scope of the project and confirm project task assignments. The scope of the project formally identifies where new flood studies will be conducted, their type, and their limits. Invited to this meeting are representatives from FEMA, ODNR, the Regional Management Center (RMC), the study contractor (if used), and all the communities in the county being updated.

Following the conclusion of the *Scoping Meeting*, entities involved in the map update begin playing their roles in *Map Production*. This step of the update process involves the completion of all tasks identified and assigned during the *Scoping Meeting*. For instance, flood studies are conducted during this phase and data is collected, analyzed, and mapped.

Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM)s and a preliminary Flood Insurance Study (FIS) are released for public review when all tasks have been completed and the new digital flood maps have been produced. To aid in this review process, FEMA will conduct a Flood Risk Information Open House whereby the general public will have access to the new countywide FIRMs and FIS report. This provides a forum for FEMA, ODNR, and community officials to answer public inquiries regarding these maps and studies.

After the meeting, FEMA will publish the proposed Base Flood Elevation (BFE) determination in the

Federal Register and they will notify the CEO of each community of this determination. Additionally, FEMA will publish this information in the local newspaper at least twice. Following these publications, a 90-day appeals period begins when stakeholders may submit new flood data or map corrections to their community floodplain official for possible incorporation into the new digital FIRMs.

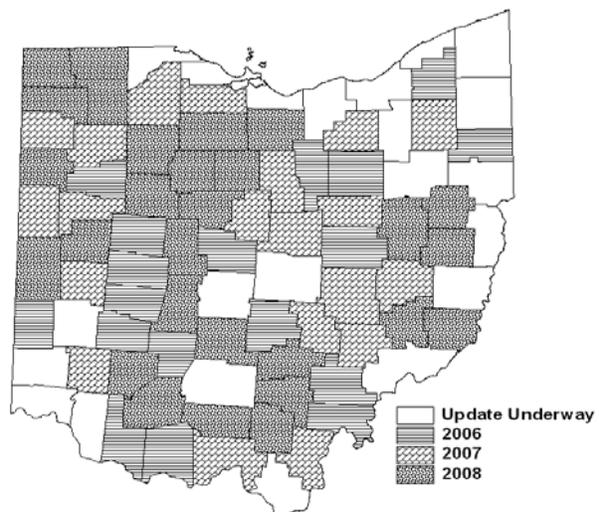
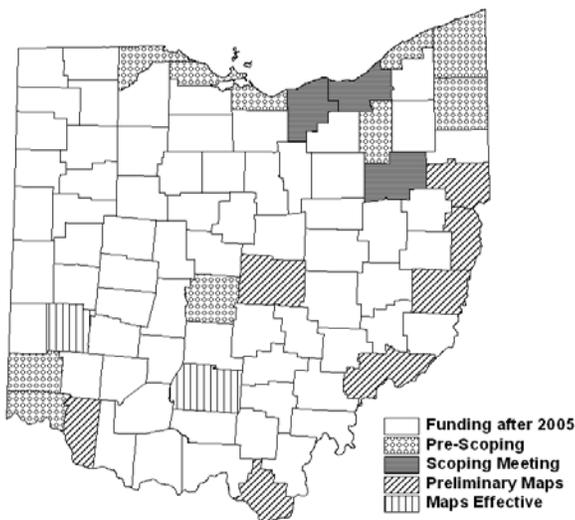
At the end of these 90 days, FEMA will resolve all appeals and finalize the maps and the study report. When finalized, FEMA will issue the communities a Letter of Final Determination (LFD), and this initiates the mandatory update of their floodplain regulations.

A community has six months from the LFD to update their regulations. (See related article on page 10.) This timeframe includes the ODNR review and approval time; so, they actually have less than six months for this update. If a community's floodplain regulations are not approved by ODNR and adopted by the effective date, the community will be suspended from the NFIP. ODNR is ready to assist communities with updating their regulations.

Thus, the flood map update process is lengthy, but it is very important for all communities so they will remain compliant with federal regulations and better manage their flood risk. In terms of logistics, this process takes approximately 2-3 years from the initial *Pre-Scoping Activities* until the map effective date. This period depends, in part, on the types of studies conducted in a given county and the amount of floodplain within its boundaries.

Update Status

Approximately one-third of the counties in Ohio have already begun this flood map update process. The remaining two-thirds have not been funded for this update yet, but will receive it in the next one to three years. The figures below represent the stages counties have COMPLETED in the map update process. Some counties have not begun the process because they will be funded after 2005. The figure on the right represents the approximate year each county will be funded to begin the flood map update process. Some counties have already begun this process, and are depicted as such.



- Counties that are currently in the *Pre-Scoping Activities* stage and will have a *Scoping Meeting* this year are: Ashtabula, Butler, Erie, Franklin, Hamilton, Lake, Lucas, Ottawa, Summit, and Trumbull.
- Counties with a completed *Scoping Meeting* and are currently in *Map Production* are: Cuyahoga, Lorain, and Stark.
- *Preliminary Maps* have been issued to: Belmont, Clermont, Columbiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, Licking, and Washington counties.
- Two counties presently have effective DFIRMs in Ohio; they are Montgomery and Ross.

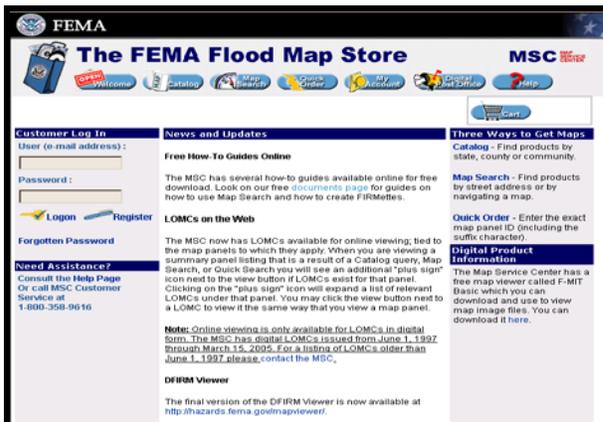
If you should have any questions about this process, or Map Modernization in general, please contact ODNR's Jonathan Sorg at 614-265-6780 or jonathan.sorg@dnr.state.oh.us. ♦

GIS Highlights from the Floodplain

By TIM BECK, GIMS SPECIALIST
ODNR, DIVISION OF WATER - FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

Out with the Old, in with the New

As Map Modernization continues to result in new digital flood hazard information, the Floodplain GIS data that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) has on the web server (<http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/gims/default.htm>) will be removed. Data that has been replaced by new Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) information will be removed to avoid confusion over the best available data to support local floodplain managers' efforts. Examples of coverages that would be affected are 100-year, Other Flood Hazard Areas (500-year), and Floodway Areas files. The structure inventory will not be removed. As countywide datasets are created the corresponding county will be removed and a link added to point to the FEMA Map Service Center (MSC) website:



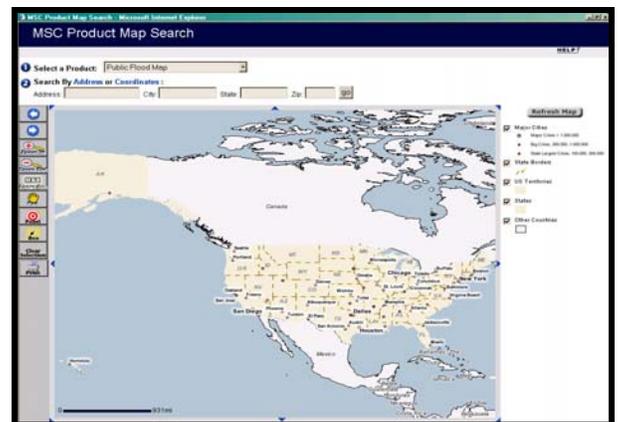
FEMA Map Service Center

main page: <http://store.msc.fema.gov/>.

The FEMA MSC website provides access to a great deal of the FEMA data, such as Letters of Map Change, Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM), Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) data, and Flood Insurance Studies. There are three ways to get data from the MSC website.

Method One

The first method for data retrieval on the MSC website is the [Map Search](#), which allows users to view and select a flood map panel geographically. A specific flood map panel or an area of interest can be located by typing in a street address or coordinates. A user can make a "FIRMette" and save it as a PDF file once the area of interest is located. A FIRMette is a section of the flood hazard map that can be printed from the user's computer. Viewing and customizing of the FIRMette is free. The FIRMette includes a clipped image of the map with the corresponding legend information such as panel and scale.



Method Two

The second method for data retrieval is using the MSC website's [Catalog](#), which allows users to find products by state, county, or community. The catalog is very helpful when requesting data for entire areas, but can be used for specific finds as well. For example if you want to determine if any amendments or revisions have affected your map, click on *Letters of Map Change (LOMC)*, search by community, or search by the FEMA-assigned case number. DFIRM data can be ordered from here as well.



The DFIRM data is comprised of the GIS data that was used to produce the new FIRMs with the aerial photography backgrounds. The *Catalog* lists what types of data are available for purchase from FEMA MSC. Examples of the DFIRM data are on the FEMA website: <http://msc.fema.gov/dfirm.shtml>.

Digital Base Map Inventory

ODNR is conducting Digital Base Map Inventory for all communities tentatively scheduled for Map Modernization in 2005 or 2006. (See related article on page 1.) The Digital Base Map Inventory reflects an effort by ODNR to determine where new base map information is available. In order to produce effective flood maps, the most current data available is needed.

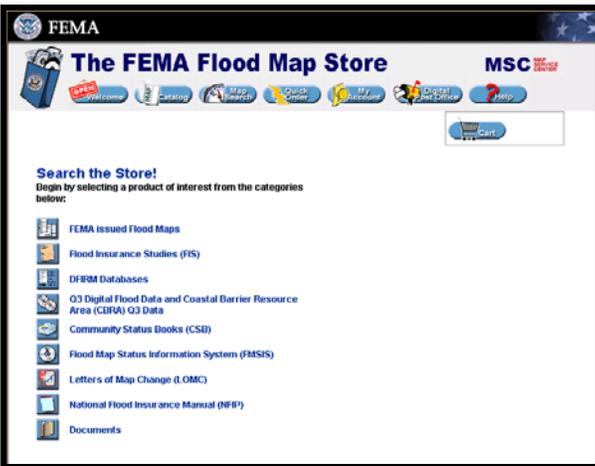
All flood map projects resulting in a DFIRM require a digital base map containing the reference features (i.e., roads, watercourses, political-jurisdiction boundaries) needed by users to locate properties on FIRMs.

DFIRM road and railroad names are derived from community-supplied files or hardcopy sources, effective FIRM-panels, and/or U.S. Bureau of the Census Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Reference System (TIGER) files. Road names are needed regardless of which base map source is chosen for DFIRM production. Many communities maintain their own road files that are updated regularly and will benefit the mapping.

For FEMA to use community-supplied base map data instead of default United States Geological Survey (USGS) Digital Ortho Quadrangles (DOQ)s for new DFIRM production, minimum standards for resolution, horizontal and vertical accuracy, horizontal reference system, data sources, currency, coverage, availability, restrictions on use, required and optional contents, thematic separation of data, file format and transfer media, tiling, data structure, and metadata must be met. FEMA has established “Data Capture Standards” for the above components to assist mapping partners. These standards allow FEMA to:

- Define the content and format of the engineering data that result from the Flood Insurance Study process.
- Describe the minimum requirements for submission of engineering data, as established by FEMA. These data standards will be used in conjunction with the Technical Support Data Notebook and other standards detailed in other specifications.

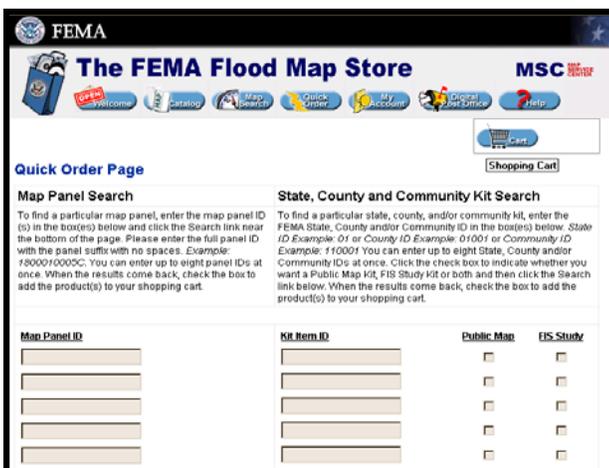
(continued)



Method Three

The third method is the *Quick Order* where you enter the exact map panel ID including the suffix character to get the information you need.

One of the best features of the website is the *Digital Post Office*. If you set up an account with MSC the option to get the data online becomes available. If a digital version of the product is available the data can be ordered and transferred to the *Digital Post Office* page, which allows you to download the data directly instead of waiting for the data in the mail. Once you have an account setup, all you have to do is login and order. Your account information is saved from the first time you set it up. (Note: Not all FEMA data is available through the *Digital Post Office*.)



(continued from page 5) **GIS Highlights from the Floodplain**

- Facilitate the building of an enhanced DFIRM database by providing information that is needed in manageable datasets or data components during the progression of the engineering and mapping process.
- Allow FEMA to track and evaluate progress of studies and report these metrics to the process stakeholders.

FEMA must be able to print and distribute an unlimited number of hardcopy maps using the data, and freely distribute the base map data and floodplain information to the public. Conversion of vector base map data to a raster format for distribution is an option if this satisfies community concerns about the release of proprietary data.

To get a summary of the standards for digital

data for the DFIRMs, see Volume 1 of FEMA's *Guidelines and Specifications for Flood Hazard Mapping Partners* (at: http://www.fema.gov/pdf/fhm/firm_gsv1.pdf pp. 68-71 or http://www.fema.gov/fhm/dl_cgs.shtm). FEMA defines the technical requirements, product specifications for flood hazard maps and related National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) products, coordination, and documentation activities in that publication.

By sharing your digital data with FEMA, not only are you helping to produce maps that better reflect your communities, but also—when finished—the data will line up with your existing data and make your lives easier. When ODNR contacts your community, please consider all the advantages of supporting modernized flood maps with the best available local digital data! For questions contact Tim Beck, GIMS Specialist at 614-265-6722 or email: tim.beck@dnr.state.oh.us.

Mitigation Funding Source for Flood Recovery Efforts

BY STEVE FERRYMAN, CFM, ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST
ODNR, DIVISION OF WATER - FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

Ohio has had seven Presidential Disaster Declarations for flooding in the last two years. Early cost estimates for these seven disasters exceed \$326 million; this figure does not include unreported losses or flood insurance claims paid by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). These disaster events emphasize the importance of effective local floodplain management programs.

One of the primary duties of the local floodplain administrator is to conduct substantial damage determinations following an event that damages pre-FIRM structures (flood, fire, wind, *etc.*) in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). Pre-FIRM structures were built prior to a community's initial Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and may not be compliant with current local flood damage reduction regulations. If the damage to a structure exceeds 50% of the market value of the structure prior to the event, that structure is considered substantially damaged. Substantially damaged struc-

tures must comply with current local flood damage reduction regulations. This could mean elevating, retrofitting, floodproofing, or incorporating some other mitigation technique into the reconstruction of the building that will reduce future flood damages and meet local regulations. Conducting substantial damage determinations on pre-FIRM structures provides communities the opportunity to correct existing at-risk development as part of the disaster recovery effort. The challenge for the local floodplain administrator is explaining this to an emotional homeowner who has suffered personal and financial trauma as a result of flooding. This is where knowledge of the NFIP's *Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC)* coverage can help.

If a structure is declared substantially damaged by the local floodplain administrator as a result of flooding and the homeowner has a Standard Flood Insurance Policy, the structure may qualify for ICC payments. ICC coverage is a benefit of the Standard

standard Flood Insurance Policy that can provide up to \$30,000 to the policyholder for the purposes of bringing the damaged structure into compliance with local flood damage reduction regulations. The money can be used to floodproof, relocate, elevate, or demolish a structure damaged by flooding. ICC funds can be collected in addition to building and contents claims on the flood insurance policy, but cannot exceed the policy maximum.

ICC funds are also available for structures that are "repetitively damaged" by flooding if the community has adopted the necessary language into their local flood damage reduction regulations. A structure is considered repetitively damaged if it flooded twice in a 10-year period and the cost of repairing the damage, on average, equals or exceeds 25% of the market value at the time of each flood. Communities interested in adding this language to their flood damage reduction regulations should consult the *Ohio Floodplain Regulation Criteria* which can

be downloaded from the ODNR website at: <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/water/floodpln/modelfldrules.htm>.

ICC funds are not being fully utilized in Ohio. Since the program's inception, there have been nine ICC claims paid in Ohio for a total of \$94,427. Of those nine claims, four involved elevating the structure, one was for relocation, and the remaining claims fell into a miscellaneous category. Currently there are six ICC claims pending in Ohio, all for elevation.

Every local floodplain administrator should be aware of the basic claim process. The three main parties involved in the ICC claim process are the flood insurance policyholder, the adjuster/claims representative, and the local floodplain administrator. Each party is involved at various times throughout the entire process. The basic ICC claims process is described in the table below.

Increased Cost of Compliance Claims Process		
Policyholder	Adjuster/Claims Representative	Floodplain Administrator
1. Report flood loss to insurer.	2. Estimate flood damage and tell policyholder he/she may be eligible for ICC benefits.	3. Determine building "substantially damaged" or a "repetitive loss." Provide written determination to policyholder. Discuss mitigation options that will comply with floodplain regulations. Issue necessary building permits for mitigation measures.
4. Provide the floodplain administrator's written determination of substantial damage or repetitive loss to the adjuster.	5. Set up an ICC claims file: Obtain damage and market value information on structure from policyholder. For a repetitive loss building, get previous claim information. Verify that the flood-related damage for the current building claim is supported by community information.	
6. Obtain a signed contract that details costs to perform the mitigation activity and give it to the claims representative.	7. Provide Proof of Loss form to the policyholder for a partial payment.	
8. Provide Proof of Loss and copy of community permit(s) to the adjuster in order to receive the first portion of the ICC claim money.	9. Provide an initial ICC claim payment to the policyholder.	
10. Complete the mitigation measure within 2 years from the date of loss.		11. Inspect completed mitigation work and issue a Certificate of Occupancy or other written evidence that the work is compliant with floodplain management ordinance.
12. Provide a copy of Certificate of Occupancy to the insurer.	13. Make final ICC claim payment upon receipt of Certificate of Occupancy.	

(continued from page 8) **Mitigation Funding Source for Flood Recovery Efforts**

A local floodplain administrator should look for ways to leverage funding when developing a mitigation project. The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), the Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant program (PDM) and the Flood Mitigation Assistance program (FMA) all have 75% federal and 25% non-federal cost shares. Communities can use a property owner's ICC claim payment as non-federal matching funds when applying for the mitigation grant programs mentioned above.

If you are interested in learning more about ICC, FEMA has developed several publications focused at different audiences. FEMA publication number 301, titled *NFIP's Increased Cost of Compliance Coverage Guidance for State and Local Officials* is a valuable resource for any floodplain manager's shelf. You can order copies of this publication from FEMA by calling 1-800-480-2520. You may also contact the Floodplain Management Program at 614-265-6750.

Development Review Procedures for Enforcement of Local Floodplain Management Regulations

BY CYNTHIA J. CRECELIUS, CFM – PROGRAM MANAGER
ODNR, DIVISION OF WATER - FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

One responsibility of a community participating in the National Flood Insurance Program, is to develop an administrative system that provides for development review and the issue of permits for development located within 100-year floodplains. **Development** as defined in the floodplain management regulations, refers to any manmade change to the floodplain. This includes new development, substantial improvement/damage to existing structures, and nonstructural actions (e.g., filling, grading, storage of equipment and material). Thinking of development in this way expands beyond the scope of a building permit to include alterations of the landscape. The reason for this expanded approach is because many of these nonstructural actions can impact the severity and location of flooding.

The regulations adopted by the community for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program will identify the local official (position) responsible for the oversight and enforcement of the regulations. This is the position responsible for the permit process and related records unless administrative agreements identify other officials' involvement in local floodplain management. If other officials are involved in the review and issuance of permits in your community, **it is the ultimate responsibility of the local floodplain administrator to review all development to determine if the proposed action meets the local floodplain management regulations.**

The following steps identify a model approach for review of development, enforcement of flood damage reduction standards, and effective record-keeping. The official responsible for each step is the "floodplain manager" allowing for adjustment based upon the administrative choice of your community. As mentioned above, if multiple officials participate there should still be a primary contact for oversight of the floodplain management effort.

1. A SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION shall be obtained from the floodplain manager before construction or development begins within any identified 100-year floodplain. The current effective Flood Insurance Rate Maps and Flood Insurance Study (if available) will be used by the floodplain manager to determine the 100-year floodplain area and determine if the development is subject to the floodplain management regulations.

If it is determined that the activity is not located within an identified 100-year floodplain, the remaining steps are not required.

2. The floodplain manager reviews the completed application and supporting materials (e.g., site topography, scale plans, location and dimension of structures, elevation of grade and structure's

- floor level, proposed location of fill, excavation, storage of equipment or materials, drainage facilities, *etc.*) to determine what specific floodplain management regulations will apply.
3. The floodplain manager determines if the action is a substantial improvement/damage to existing structure, new construction, residential or commercial development, located in a floodway or fringe area, alters an existing watercourse, or is a non-structural activity. This information determines which floodplain management regulations apply to the proposed development.
 4. The floodplain manager must approve or deny the issuance of a permit to develop in the 100-year floodplain. **This decision is based upon whether the activity satisfies the local floodplain management regulations for the development action.** (*e.g.*, Residential development must be elevated so lowest floor is at or above the 100-year elevation, floodway activities must demonstrate no impact on water surface elevations of the 100-year flood, substantial damage/improvement must be flood protected if the value is 50% or greater of market value.)
 5. If the permit is denied, the floodplain manager should provide a written explanation of the regulation requirements that the proposed activity does not satisfy. The applicant for the permit should also be informed of the variance and appeal procedures for the decision to deny a permit.
 6. The floodplain manager should establish for each valid permit, the development standards applicable to the action in a permit file, obtain evidence of compliance, and maintain records to support effective administration of the regulations (*e.g.*, as-built elevations of lowest floor or floodproofed level, engineering analysis for floodway actions, and maintenance information for alteration of watercourse, map revision request where appropriate).
 7. The floodplain manager must maintain as-built elevations for the lowest floor of residential structures (new and substantial improvements), and as-built lowest floor or certified floodproofed elevations for non-residential structures (new and substantial improvements). This should be done by using the FEMA Elevation Certificate and Flood Proofing Certificate as appropriate. For floodway developments, the engineering analysis showing no impact from the development on the 100-year water surface elevation must be maintained.

Only a professional ENGINEER or ARCHITECT can certify that a structure is properly anchored and/or floodproofed. Hydrologic and hydraulic analysis to determine floodway encroachment should only be performed by a qualified professional engineer.
 8. If an applicant requests a variance or appeals a decision to deny a permit to develop in the 100-year floodplain, the floodplain manager must notify the applicant that if a variance is granted the structure will have an increased flood risk. This results in increased flood insurance premiums for any structure with a lowest floor or floodproofed level below the 100-year flood elevation. Variances granted by the community should be documented. This can be accomplished by using the model VARIANCE AND APPEAL RECORD available in ODNR's *Handbook for Local Permit Officials*.
 9. When a floodplain manager becomes aware of development, (structural or nonstructural) which is occurring in the floodplain without a permit or that is not consistent with approved development plans, a remedial action is required. The floodplain manager should consult with the community's legal counsel, since legal action and penalties may result from violations.
- The staff at ODNR's Division of Water, Floodplain Management Program Office can help you with questions about your development review procedures. Please contact us at 614-265-6750.



Floodplain Management Regulation Update Process

By **KIMBERLY BITTERS, ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST**
ODNR, DIVISION OF WATER - FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

We are all pleased that Map Modernization is in full swing and gaining momentum. (See article on page 1.) Certainly, we are all looking forward to the improved format with aerial photographs layered beneath your current Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), the best available data added to your study and reflected on the new maps, and a wider distribution capacity.

FEMA performs detailed analyses to produce useful maps and participating communities implement usage of these new maps. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), Floodplain Management Program is poised and ready to guide communities through the update process. While we are all behind the mission of Map Modernization, local attention may be waning by the end of the scoping, preliminary map drafts, public meetings, and appeal processes. After dozens of letters from FEMA and ODNR about your map changes, it would be easy for the overtaxed floodplain administrator to miss the significance of the Letter of Final Determination (LFD). Don't let this happen to you!

The LFD is one of the most important notifications you, as the local floodplain administrator, will receive. From the date of the LFD, your community has **six months** to adopt compliant floodplain management regulations that reference the new maps! This deadline is important because the six-month mark represents the effective date of your new map and study; therefore your community must have the new date referenced in your regulations. FEMA has designed a process with significant coordination for months prior to the LFD date. For this reason, FEMA will suspend any community from the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) the day after the map

effective date—no questions asked! Below are helpful tips on meeting your deadline, simplifying the update process, and using this mandatory procedure to your community's advantage.

Currently, twenty-two counties are in various stages with sixty-four counties scheduled to begin the process in the next three years. Since all Ohio communities are going to be affected by this process in the near future, there are several items to be considered. The local floodplain administrator has several duties in this process including: gathering public input from their community, relaying community priorities to FEMA, and updating the flood damage reduction regulations.

Throughout the map update process, public education and outreach is a high priority. Public education may be accomplished through newspaper notifications, public scoping meetings, open houses, and the appeal-resolution process. Communities are encouraged to pursue further means to notify the public of changing maps and subsequent community impacts. As a result of the extensive public contact and the

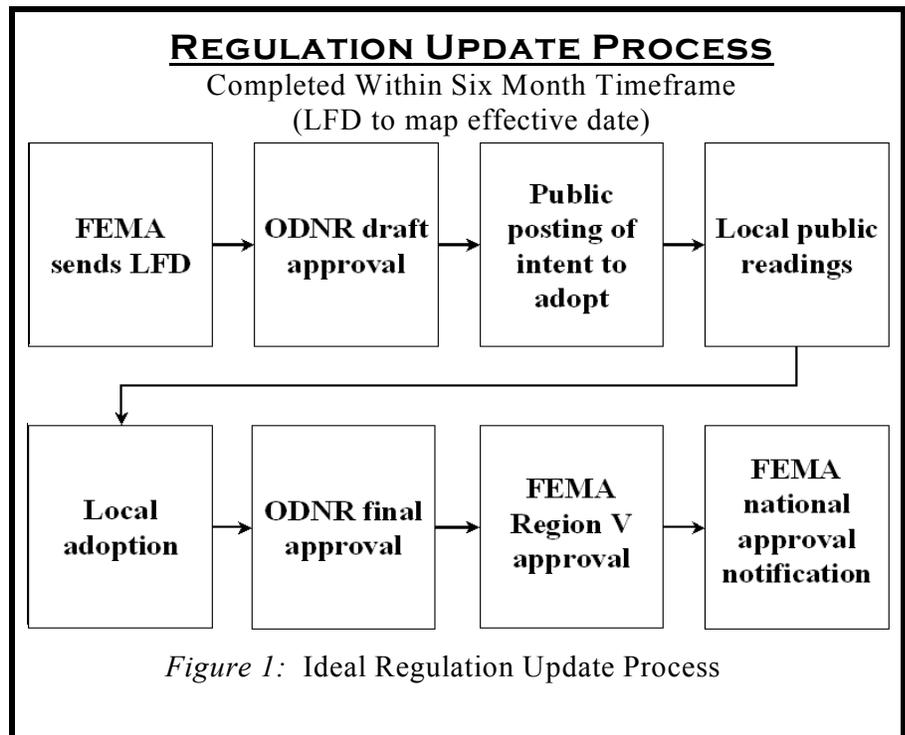
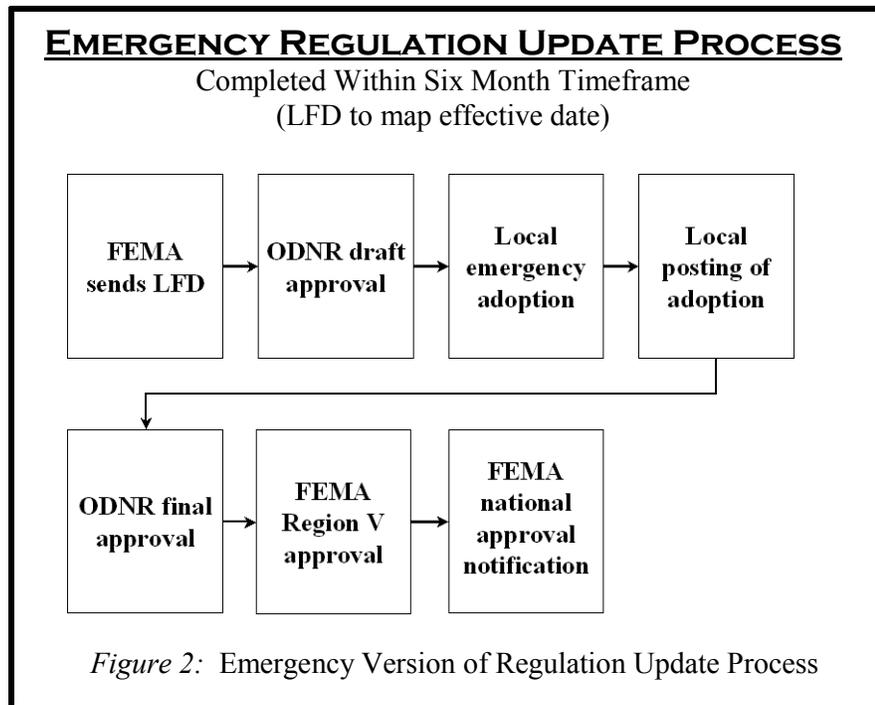


Figure 1: Ideal Regulation Update Process

intimate knowledge of unique local circumstances, the local floodplain administrator plays an important role in the map revision process. Local priorities—determined by unique development patterns or pressures—should be communicated to FEMA during scoping meetings. Additionally, as a result of the increased public attention and education, any public needs or commentary gained by the local community should be passed on to FEMA to facilitate creation of the best possible maps for each community.

The most important responsibility of each floodplain administrator is updating local flood damage reduction regulations. The regulation update process in *Figure 1* describes the ideal process for communities to adopt regulations that will be compliant and enforceable. Emergency adoption of regulations as shown in *Figure 2*, while not recommended, can keep your community in good standing with FEMA, but shortens your time to gain public input and knowledge about your floodplain management regulations. Please note that both timelines indicate that to maintain continuous NFIP-participation, FEMA must receive notification from ODNR that the regulations are compliant and legally adopted before the effective map date.

As mentioned earlier, regulations must be adopted by the map effective date—exactly six months from the LFD. On this date, if your regulation is not legally adopted and compliant, then your community will be suspended from the NFIP. In addition, an adoption date too close to your deadline may result in an interruption of your active status in the program due to the applicable FEMA and Federal Register posting deadlines. ODNR will do everything that we can to ensure your uninterrupted participation in the NFIP. This point is stressed so that it is clear that ODNR must receive signed and certified copies of the adopted regulation with enough time to perform a final review. In addition, ODNR needs documentation that there



has been public advertisement/posting of the legislative actions to provide approval. Therefore, it is best to adopt the regulations well before the map effective date/regulation update deadline!

To simplify the update process, ODNR provides an easy-to-use model regulation. We believe that the model provides substantial improvements over older versions of the regulations. ODNR also provides the required review of regulations for compliance with minimum federal criteria, individual customization for each community, and optional higher standards to assist each community in meeting their own floodplain management goals. To provide your community with the best possible floodplain management tools, several changes have been made to the model reflecting current case law and the latest federal standards.

Language was added to the model at §3.10 describing the local role in Letters of Map Change (LOMC's), physical map revisions, and annexations. This was done to improve and clarify the community's responsibility in coordinating mapping activities and maintaining current flood hazard information. The latest version of our model more clearly defines the duties of the floodplain administrator at §3.2 to better support local enforcement efforts.

(continued)

(continued from page 11) **Floodplain Management Regulation Update Process**

As you prepare the model language to suit your community's regulation of the flood hazards, it is necessary to remove certain language, author's notes, and references that are not applicable to your individual situation. Five of the most common mistakes made in drafting the locally tailored regulations from the ODNR model include:

1. In §1.6(A), the correct map and study names should be inserted and should read as follows "*Flood Insurance Rate Map YOUR County and Incorporated Areas* and *Flood Insurance Study YOUR County and Incorporated Areas* both effective xx/xx/xxx." The title change does not reflect any change in floodplain management jurisdiction.
2. In §1.6(B), the types of studies to be included here are those conducted on specific stream miles within your jurisdiction by credible federal, state, or local agencies. If you are not aware of additional studies, we suggest that you leave the option available for future reference.
3. In §2.0, the "New Construction" definition requires that you insert the initial FIRM date for your community where indicated by [INITIAL FIRM EFFECTIVE DATE] which can be found on the legend of each FIRM.
4. In §5.3, the number of days from application that the Appeals Board must hear an appeal should be inserted where indicated by the [X].
5. In §6.3, the degree misdemeanor for violations must be inserted into the text where indicated by the [ENTER DEGREE].

The floodplain management regulation adoption procedure for each community should comply with the Ohio Revised Code. Similarly, the adoption procedure for charter municipalities includes the prescribed process in each charter. Please note that the procedure for counties and municipalities is different in that municipalities require three public readings and counties only require two. A short summary of standard county procedures has been included here as found in the *Ohio Floodplain Regulation Criteria* document which states:

"Adoption Procedures for Counties: ORC 307.37 identifies an adoption and amendment procedure for flood damage reduction regulations. Additionally, ORC 1521.18 has requirements specific to flood

damage reduction regulations. In summary, these sections require:

- A public hearing must be held on the resolution or amendment at not fewer than two regular sessions of the Board of County Commissioners.
- Notice of the public hearings must be given by publication in a newspaper of general circulation including the time, date, and place once a week for two consecutive weeks preceding the hearings. Copies of the proposed resolution or amendment must be made available to the public at the Commissioners' office.
- The resolution or amendment takes effect on the thirty-first day after its adoption. The resolution or amendment must be submitted to the Chief, ODNR, Division of Water for approval under R.C. 1521.18.
- Counties that have enacted floodplain regulations through their zoning codes (which is rare for an entire county) must follow the adoption or amendment procedures found in ORC 303 (counties) or ORC 519 (townships)."

By properly following the legal adoption process, you help ensure compliance and minimize the likelihood of legal challenges to the code. For further information, please reference the Ohio Revised Code or our document *Ohio Floodplain Regulation Criteria*, which can be accessed on our website at: <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/water/floodpln/OFRC.pdf> for guidance on adoption procedures.

In conclusion, please note that your community will not be considered "in compliance with federal NFIP standards" until the regulation is adopted, ODNR has reviewed the adopted regulation, and FEMA has received notification of the compliant, legally adopted regulation. And remember that your community has **six months** from the LFD to adopt compliant Flood Damage Reduction Regulations that reference the new maps! So begin the regulation update process early, because FEMA relies on each participating community to take responsibility for the accuracy of their maps and the regulations that serve as the backbone of the NFIP.

Thank you for your hard work to ensure your community's continued participation in the National Flood Insurance Program!



Implementing Flood Protection Standards into Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Design

BY ALICIA SILVERIO, CFM, ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST
ODNR, DIVISION OF WATER - FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

When considering improvements/additions to existing WWTP or new facility construction, communities may apply for a low-interest loan through the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's (OEPA), Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance (DEFA), Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF). This program provides long-term and short-term loans for the planning, design, and construction of WWTPs as well as other water pollution control projects.

OEPA, in coordination with ODNR's Floodplain Management Program, reviews proposed WPCLF projects to determine proximity to the 100-year floodplain and floodway, potential adverse impacts to the environment, the structural and mechanical integrity of the new facilities, as well as the overall capital investment. This assessment is conducted to ensure that new and existing facilities are protected from flood damage and the proposed development does not encroach upon the floodway and increase flooding.

Under Section 1521 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC), development in 100-year floodplains that is funded by state and state-administered federal monies must comply with the minimum National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) criteria. Public works projects such as these are also considered "development" under the NFIP and must be reviewed by the community for compliance with flood damage reduction regulations. This means that the WPCLF project must be flood protected to or above the 100-year flood elevation. If a community has adopted standards that exceed the minimum federal NFIP criteria, the proposed development must comply with those standards before development can commence.

To accommodate increased flow during flooding

conditions, ODNR recommends that a freeboard factor of 1.5-2 feet be added to the 100-year flood elevation. OEPA policy mandates that any expansion or addition of an existing wastewater treatment facility must incorporate this level of freeboard. In situations where adding 1.5-2 feet of freeboard is not feasible due to cost, site, or structural constraints, a lesser degree of freeboard may be integrated into the design as approved by OEPA. Floodway encroachments shall be avoided, if possible.

New facilities must also be constructed with a freeboard factor of 1.5-2 feet and shall not encroach into the regulatory floodway. During review of the project, ODNR will reference the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) to ascertain the boundaries of the 100-year floodplain and regulatory floodway and identify the 100-year flood elevation. In the absence of 100-year flood elevation or floodway data, the community must provide a hydrologic and hydraulic analysis establishing the 100-year flood elevation and floodway on which ODNR will base their determination.

OEPA and ODNR strongly advocate addressing flood protection requirements for proposed WPCLF projects during pre-planning meetings with communities. Incorporating these standards during the actual design of the project should reduce time and costs associated with the development. For questions regarding OEPA's WPCLF, contact DEFA at 614-644-2798. Inquiries regarding floodplain management requirements for such projects can be addressed by contacting ODNR at 614-265-6750.



Acknowledgement — *It DOES “Take a Village...”*

By CYNTHIA J. CRECELIUS, CFM — PROGRAM MANAGER
ODNR, DIVISION OF WATER - FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

A few years back Hillary Rodham Clinton borrowed an African proverb as a title for her book about the raising of children. I am no expert on African proverbs, but it seems the meaning behind “It takes a village to raise a child” is that some things require a community effort. Proverbs, or adages, have an appeal because by definition they express profound truths or expressions of experiences that many of us can relate to. Responding and recovering from floods is one of those actions that triggers shared responsibility, broad commitment and participation and risk sharing! During the past two years MANY of us can relate to the feeling that it takes everyone.

The Floodplain Management Program staff was mulling over newsletter topics, as we often do just before the next edition of *The Antediluvian*, and I felt the overwhelming need to say “THANK YOU” to hundreds of people. Since June of 2003, Ohio has experienced seven flood disasters resulting in approximately \$461 million in damage. The events have impacted communities from Lake Erie to the Ohio River, and from the Indiana border to our eastern boundaries. Nearly 75 counties have been involved in at least one of these disasters.

All of the federal and state agencies involved in response and recovery have growing workloads and reduced staff and budget challenges, but so do the local communities. Communities have also been asked to expand your NFIP responsibilities to address substantial damage determinations, issue permits more timely, and enforce penalties for noncompliance. The Ohio Building Officials Association has worked closely with our office and Ohio Emergency Management Agency for nearly five years to develop and perfect the disaster response inspection capability. In the September 2004-disaster this process was tested and delivered in Washington and Belmont counties. Many of the private sector partners at the state and local level have volunteered equip-

ment, staff, and process knowledge to help with the response and recovery for each of these events.

Tenured and brand new local floodplain managers joined the ODNr staff in the field for substantial damage and permit training. Many elected officials have taken the steps to address their flooding and made difficult recovery decisions. Mitigation planning has been started in nearly 70 counties and many more cities and villages. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program projects to elevate, relocate, and retrofit flood hazard area properties continue to be implemented statewide. FEMA Region V, NFIP and Mitigation staff has been committed and flexible with the new ideas and creative approaches to NFIP compliance, disaster response training, and post-disaster inspection support.

The editor will not give me enough space in the newsletter to thank you all individually, so let me collectively say a sincere “thank you” to each and everyone of you for your commitment, dedication, and enthusiasm in dealing with flooding across Ohio in the last two years. I’ll close with yet another wise African proverb, “...life has its moments of drought and its moments of flood...” I think we have had enough of the flood for a while. I wish you all a happy spring, but hope for a little less severe weather. ♦



Ohio Floodplain Management Association

Do You Know Someone Who's Helping the Cause?

BY CYNTHIA J. CRECELIUS, CFM – PROGRAM MANAGER
ODNR, DIVISION OF WATER - FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT



The Ohio Floodplain Management Association (OFMA) was formed in 1995 and for ten years has been developing a network that supports and improves the management of Ohio's water resources, specifically floodplains. The progress that has been made in reducing flood risk and protecting naturally functioning floodplains is due to many individuals, organizations, and agencies across the state. The OFMA Board created the following recognitions to help identify and promote both individual and collective efforts to make Ohio safer from flood risk!

Please join in the fun and help OFMA recognize outstanding local, regional, and state programs by nominating one of Ohio's floodplain management leaders! The presentation of the annual awards has become an exciting part of the Statewide Floodplain Management Conference. The 2005 Conference will be held August 31 - September 1, in Columbus.

The focus of the OFMA awards and criteria are listed below. Following each description is the name of the previous award recipients. **If you know someone who has contributed, please take a minute to complete the nomination form and send it to us!**

Floodplain Administrator of the Year

The *Floodplain Administrator of the Year* award is designed to honor an individual whose contributions have resulted in an outstanding local program or activity for comprehensive floodplain management. The recipient of this award will serve as a role model and inspiration to other local officials.

- ✓ The nominee must be employed by a county, city, or village as a local floodplain manager.
- ✓ No more than one award will be granted in a single year.
- ✓ The nominee will be selected based upon their leadership, outstanding accomplishment in the profession of floodplain management, and demonstrating personal/professional character of the highest quality.
- **Ray Sebastian, Clermont County, Ohio (2001)**
- **Jim Fox, Butler County, Ohio (2002)**
- **Keith Putnam, Ross County, Ohio (2004)**

Award for Innovation in Floodplain Management

This award is intended to recognize those who have developed and applied an approach that is "outside of the box." Promotion of flood loss reduction, stewardship of valuable floodplain resources, economic sustainability and quality improvement may be elements of programs, projects, publications, and activities nominated for this award.

- ✓ The nominee may be an individual, organization, public or private sector, government agency, regional agency, or academic institution.
- ✓ This award need not be given annually, or may be given to multiple recipients in a single year.
- ✓ Nominees must be currently working or contributing to active water resource management programs or projects.
- **Chagrin River Watershed Partners, Inc., Willoughby, Ohio (2001)**
- **Dr. Cornelia Dettmer, Village of Manchester, Ohio (2002)**
- **Chad Berginnis, CFM, ODNR, Division of Water (2003)**
- **Licking County Planning Commission, Licking County, Ohio (2004)**

(continued)

(continued from page 15) **Ohio Floodplain Management Association**

Peter G. Finke Award for Most Valuable Contribution to Floodplain Management

This award is established as a tribute to Peter G. Finke in his distinguished service and leadership of the Ohio Floodplain Management Program for three decades. Peter utilized collaboration and creativity throughout his career and drew strength from his personal dedication to create a statewide floodplain management program that improves the quality of life for Ohioans present and future. He was also an integral part of developing the national policy on floodplain management.

- ✓ The nominee may be an individual, organization, public or private sector, government agency, or regional agency.
- ✓ This award need not be given annually.
- ✓ The recipient will be selected based upon their outstanding contribution to the multifaceted aspects of floodplain management.
- ✓ The contribution supporting this recognition should have a direct impact on improving the quality of life through better water resource management.
- ✓ More than one award may be granted in a single year upon approval by the Board.
- *Peter G. Finke, Retired, ODNR, Division of Water (2001)*
- *Cynthia J. Crecelius, CFM, ODNR, Division of Water (2002)*

Jerry J. Oney Distinguished Member Service Award

The success of any professional organization is rooted in the dedication and capabilities of its members. This award is intended to recognize a member whose outstanding contribution has furthered the OFMA goals and objectives.

- ✓ The nominee may be an elected official, appointed official, federal, state, or local employee, engineer, planner, consultant, insurance agent, student, surveyor, appraiser, real estate agent, or interested citizen.
- ✓ The recipient must be currently active in the Ohio Floodplain Management Association.
- ✓ More than one award may be granted in a single year upon approval by the Board.
- ✓ This award need not be given annually.
- ✓ The nominee must have made a significant contribution through their leadership, dedication, creativity, or collaboration to improve floodplain management in accordance with the OFMA purpose and objectives.
- *Jerry Brems and Doug Johnson- Past OFMA Presidents (2001)*
- *Ray Sebastian - Past OFMA President and Alicia Silverio, CFM, ODNR, Division of Water (2002)*
- *Gary Ziegler, Past OFMA Chair (2003)*
- *Joe Black, CFM, Lawrence County, Ohio and Christopher Thoms, CFM, ODNR, Division of Water (2004)*

OFMA Annual Awards Application and Instructions

- ✓ Complete the "OFMA Recognition Award Application" and supporting information.
- ✓ Publications, videotapes, letters of recommendation, and project descriptions may all be submitted as support or justification of nominees.
- ✓ **Submit applications and supporting materials to:**
Cindy Crecelius, OFMA Awards Coordinator
ODNR, Division of Water
2045 Morse Road, Building E-3
Columbus, Ohio 43229
- ✓ You may direct any questions to awards coordinator, Cindy Crecelius at 614-265-6750 or fax number 614-447-9503.
- ✓ The deadline for submittal of annual nominations is June 15th.

There is an award application form included in this edition of *The Antediluvian*. If you prefer, the Division of Water is preparing to make the application and award criteria available on the Division's website at <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/water/>.

Floodplain Management in Ohio – Statewide Conference 2005

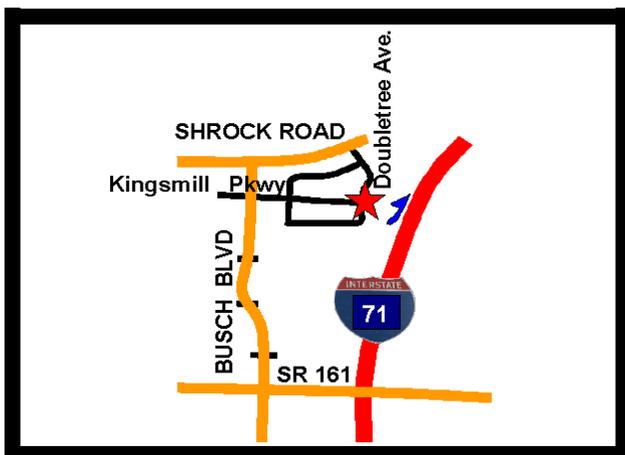
BY ALICIA SILVERIO, CFM, ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST
ODNR, DIVISION OF WATER - FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

Save the date! The 2005 Statewide Floodplain Management Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, August 31 – Thursday, September 1, 2005, and will be held at a **new location** - the Marriott North in Columbus, Ohio. We will also be offering the Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) exam at ODNR on Tuesday, August 30th from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

This year's conference will focus on using good floodplain management to build community sustainability. Conference attendees will be offered sessions that range from post-disaster floodplain management to map modernization. The comprehensive agenda will provide topics that will appeal to new and experienced floodplain managers. Conference brochures with a detailed agenda will be mailed during late May 2005. All conference information will also be posted at: <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/water/floodpln/conf2005.htm>

If you have any questions regarding the 2005 Statewide Floodplain Management Conference, please contact Alicia Silverio at 614-265-1006 or alicia.silverio@dnr.state.oh.us.

We look forward to seeing you at the conference in August!



“Making Strides in Floodplain Management?”

Are you a local official who has improved floodplain management in your community, even in a small way? Have you worked with a consultant that exceeded your expectations? Have you received assistance from a federal or state employee that really

made a positive impact on your work? Perhaps you think that OFMA's Recognition Awards are a great idea, but the categories aren't a perfect fit? Then take this opportunity to nominate someone you know or even yourself for **“Making Strides in Floodplain Management”**! We've all seen small deeds go unnoticed. In an effort to recognize some of these small deeds that have helped promote community floodplain management, the **“Making Strides in Floodplain Management”** honor has been developed.

To recognize someone for **“Making Strides in Floodplain Management”**, contact Alicia Silverio at 614-265-1006 or send an email to alicia.silverio@dnr.state.oh.us with:

- The nominee's name, affiliation, address, and phone number.
- An explanation why the individual or group is being nominated (including how they improved floodplain management in their community).
- Name, affiliation, address, and phone number of the person submitting the nomination.

Nominations will be considered by the OFMA Board. Recipients will be recognized at the 2005 Statewide Conference. We hope that you will take this opportunity to honor someone you know or even yourself.

Scholarships

OFMA is also offering ten scholarships for community officials to attend the conference. Four of these scholarships will be awarded to OFMA Recognition Award recipients. The remaining scholarships are available to community floodplain administrators who will:

- Host a floodplain educational workshop in their community; or
- Participate on the 2006 conference planning committee; or
- Participate in a panel discussion at the 2006 conference. (CFMs, Federal/State Agency Representatives, or Consultants are not eligible for these scholarships.) Please visit <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/water/floodpln/conf2005.htm> for detailed criteria and submission information. ♦

Great News About Exciting Training Opportunities

A MESSAGE FROM FEMA

Read on for the latest news and updates.

Since the inception of the Cooperating Technical Partners (CTP) Program, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has offered training for CTP participants. In response to feedback received from previous CTP training courses, FEMA has revised the courses available to CTPs in order to provide up-to-date training at the locations where it is needed most.

FEMA plans to introduce four training courses that have been developed specifically with the CTP Program in mind. They include an introductory course titled “Cooperating Technical Partners Overview,” an intermediate course titled “Cooperating Technical Partners Floodplain Mapping Overview,” an advanced technical GIS course titled “Advanced Cooperating Technical Partners Course (E241),” and a GIS course titled “DFIRM 101—Getting Started with GIS Hazards Data.”

The “Cooperating Technical Partners Overview” course is designed for new and potential CTPs and explains the basics of the CTP Program. It provides overview information on Map Modernization (Map Mod), the CTP Program, the Community Rating System Program and how it relates to CTP, support available to CTPs, regulatory requirements, standards and performance reviews, managing Federal funding through a Cooperative Agreement, and the map production process.

The intermediate course, “Cooperating Technical Partners Floodplain Mapping Overview,” is for CTPs that have signed or soon will sign a Mapping Activity Statement (MAS) and are preparing to participate in the development or update of a flood study. The course includes more in-depth information than the introductory course and reviews the following topics: overview of the CTP Program and Map Mod, Mapping Needs Assessments, scoping, project outreach, the MAS, base maps and digital mapping, and map production and processing requirements.

Both courses involve lectures and activities taking place over two days. The courses will be delivered regionally, with the frequency, dates, and lo-

cations driven by interest.

The “Advanced Cooperating Technical Partners” course, offered at the Emergency Management Institute, is for CTPs developing digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM)s as part of the CTP Program. The course addresses new technology and gives CTPs advanced technical training on DFIRM creation. Taught in a computer lab, this course includes lecture and hands-on activities. Topics covered include topographic data development, base mapping and digital flood maps, and map production and processing procedures. At the conclusion of this course, participants will be familiar with FEMA’s guidelines and specifications for submitting digital data and with digital tools used to create DFIRMs. Participants must have signed a Partnership Agreement and a MAS with FEMA to be eligible to attend this course, which is available by invitation only.

“DFIRM 101 - Getting Started with GIS Hazards Data” is currently under development. When completed, this course will teach CTPs how they can use GIS and flood data for risk mitigation activities. The course will cover basic GIS operations and benefits. As with the introductory and intermediate courses, this course will be made available in the field based on interest. Information on availability dates and locations will be provided when the training nears completion.

Interested in finding CTP trainings near you? Look for the new CTP training calendar on the CTP training page of FEMA’s website. General CTP training information can also be found at http://www.fema.gov/fhm/ctp_train.shtm or by contacting Necolle Maccherone (necolle.maccherone@mapmodteam.com) at 410-424-2210.

For more information about the CTP Program, including points of contact for participation, visit http://www.fema.gov/fhm/ctp_main.shtm. For more information about FEMA map production processes in general, see FEMA’s *Guidelines and Specifications for Flood Hazard Mapping Partners*, which is available at http://www.fema.gov/fhm/dl_cgs.shtm. (see related article on page 4). If you would like to

learn more about FEMA's digital mapping initiative and other important modernization initiatives, please visit FEMA's Map Modernization pages. (Ohio's Map Modernization Initiative is featured on page 1 of this newsletter.)

Have an idea for an article? If there is a topic you

would like to see discussed in the ListServ, please e-mail your idea to Scott.Schelling@mapmodteam.com for consideration. Make sure to include your contact information along with a brief description of the topic.

Roll Call - *Ray Klingbeil Retires*

By CATHY WILLIAMS, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
ODNR, DIVISION OF WATER - FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

Too quickly the time has passed us by, now it's time for us to say good-bye. Environmental Specialist, Ray Klingbeil will retire on June 30, 2005, after 30 years of service with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR).

Ray started with the Department in 1964 as a Drafting Technician with the Office of Chief Engineer. He has also held positions with the Division of Reclamation and the Division of Geological Survey before joining the Division of Water, Floodplain Management Program in 2000.

Ray's sunny disposition and "can do" attitude are what will be remembered most about him in the Floodplain Management Program. The many facets of the Floodplain Program were somewhat different from the more technical and focused areas that Ray had worked in previously. He chose to embrace these new aspects and the hectic pace of the Floodplain Management Program during his five years here. Ray's personal standards for quality, professionalism, and credibility have been great assets for the Program and himself. Ray's keen eye for fash-



ion and graphics will also leave a void that we will be hard-pressed to fill.

During his tenure with ODNR, Ray has been awarded two Governor's citations and five additional awards, including the Award Celebrating Excellence (ACE) that was presented to the Floodplain Management team for their Structure Inventory Project. He is a Certified Floodplain Manager and a member of the Association of State Floodplain Managers. He is also a

member of the Columbus Engineers Club and a former Certified Engineering Technician.

Ray has many interests and engineering talents that may even turn into an entrepreneurial venture. Retirement will give Ray and his wife Rita more time to spend with their two children and four grandchildren. Ray and Rita will be celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary soon. They also plan to shop for a new home/condo, vacation, and just enjoy life with their family and friends.

We will miss Ray's quick wit and energy. We all wish him the very best in retirement: **congratulations Ray!**

Floodplain Management Training Available

*FEMA offers on-campus and correspondence courses through their **Emergency Management Institute (EMI)** in Emmitsburg, MD.*

For information or a course catalog describing EMI's Floodplain Management Courses visit: www.training.fema.gov or call: 800-238-3358.

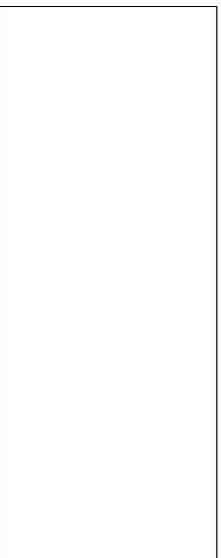
*Mortgage lenders and insurance agents can learn about federal flood insurance at **Lender & Agent Seminars**. Locations and dates currently scheduled for 2005 include: Zanesville on 11/1, Dayton on 11/2, and Toledo on 11/3.*

For the latest information on these and other seminars call Rich Slevin, Regional Marketing Manager for the NFIP at: 630-577-1407



ODNR, DIVISION OF WATER
2045 Morse Road (B-2)
Columbus, Ohio 43229-6693

Bob Taft, Governor
Samuel W. Speck, Director
Richard S. Bartz, Chief



Dates to Remember:
June 15, 2005—Deadline for Recognition Award Applications
August 31-September 1, 2005—Statewide Conference 2005

The Anhedivian is produced by the Division of Water and is supported by funding through a FEMA cooperative Agreement as part of the Community Assistance Program—State Support Services Element of the National Flood Insurance Program. The contents do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the federal government. Christopher M. Thoms, Editor; Cathy J. Williams, Layout Design. Please send address corrections, additions, & other changes to our new address at: 2045 Morse Road (B-2) Columbus, OH 43229-6693. An Equal Opportunity Employer-M/F/H. Printed on recycled paper.

