



The Antediluvian

Ohio's Floodplain Management Newsletter



{an · te' · dā · lōō' · vē · ən: Before the Flood}

Volume XIX, Issue 1

Ensuring the wise management of Ohio's floodplains

Winter 2013



Back row (From left to right): Ben Kelley, Jarrod Hittle, Randy Kietz, Christopher Thoms, Tim Beck, Matt Knittel
Front row: Katherine Skalak, Melissa Menerey, Alicia Silverio
Not pictured: Tina Ray

ODNR Floodplain Management Program Staff 2013

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**Keep Your
Community's
Information
Current!**

Please assist the Floodplain Management Program in keeping our records current by submitting new contact information or addresses to Tina Ray at 614-265-6750.

Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012

Summary of Contents

Summary compiled by ASFPM Vice Chair, Bill Nechamen, CFM, and ASFPM Washington Liaison, Meredith R. Inderfurth, using Congressional Committee Section-by-Section, in addition to bill language

H.R. 4348 Conference Report - Title III
Signed by the President July 6, 2012

(Pages 521-576)

The authority of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is extended for 5 years until September 30, 2017. The bill contains many reforms and changes, a number of which are already generating questions as to intent, interpretation and implementation. While a summary is helpful, reading the actual bill text is recommended.

The bill removes subsidized rates (pre-*FIRM* rates) for the following classes of structures and allows rates to increase by 25% per year until actuarial rates are achieved: The effective date is July 1, 2012.

- Any residential property that is not the primary residence of an individual
- Any severe repetitive loss property
- Any property that has incurred flood related damages that cumulatively exceed the fair market value of the property
- Any business property
- Any property that after the date of the Bill has incurred substantial damage or has experienced “substantial improvement exceeding 30 percent of the fair market value of the property.
- Any new policy or lapsed policy, or any policy for a newly purchased property.
- Any policy for which the owner has refused a FEMA mitigation offer under HMGP, or for a repetitive loss property or severe repetitive loss property.
- Severe Repetitive Loss means four or more claims payments of over \$5,000 or two claims that exceed the value of the property.

Increases the limit for annual rate increases within any risk classification of struc-



Hello! My name is Melissa Menerey and I am one of the new Environmental Specialists with the Floodplain Management Program. During the previous year, I was an intern at the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality with the Hydrologic Studies and Dam Safety Unit. As an intern, I helped update two counties' *Flood Insurance Rate Maps* for Michigan's Map Modernization project. This helped “get my feet wet” with *FIRMs* and National Flood Insurance Program.

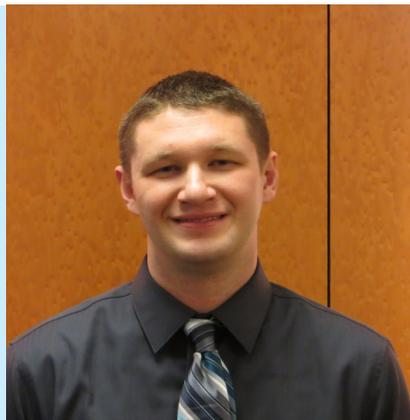
In June of 2011, I graduated from Ohio University with a Master's Degree in Geography. While in Athens, I gained interest in watershed management issues. My thesis looked at stakeholder involvement in watershed management using the Sunday Creek Watershed as a case study. I received a Bachelor's Degree in Geography in May of 2009, from Aquinas College located in Grand Rapids, Michigan. I look forward to applying my knowledge of watershed management and environmental geography as I work with the Floodplain Management Program. I am very excited to live and work in Ohio once again!

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tures from 10 percent to 20 percent. Effective date is July 1, 2012.
 Defines Severe Repetitive Loss properties for single family residences as 4 or more claims, each for more than \$5,000 and cumulatively more than \$20,000. For multi-family residences, the Director may provide a definition by regulation.

Allows for premium payments - either annually or in more frequent installations.
 Places limits on a bank's force placement of flood insurance. Forced placed insurance would be cancelled and the premiums refunded upon proof of a borrower's existing flood insurance coverage.

When flood maps change, a property that has higher rates as a result of a new map shall have the new rates phased in over a five-year period at 20% per year. Premium rate adjustments due to map changes take effect on the effective date of the new map.



Hello, my name is Jarrod Hittle, and I am one of three new Environmental Specialist with ODNR – Floodplain Management Program. I graduated from The Ohio State University in 2008 with a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Policy & Management. In 2006, I earned an Associate's Degree in Environmental Science, Safety, and Health from Zane State College.

My previous work has included an internship with Ohio EPA's – Division of Surface Water wetland mitigation section. During my time with them, I would assist in the inspection and monitoring of mitigated wetlands throughout the state. Upon graduation I spent 3 years working as an urban/wildlife specialist with Knox Soil and Water Conservation District. My time with Knox County was spent administering the County's stormwater regulations, handling nuisance wildlife complaints, and designing various agriculture and urban BMP's for municipal and private landowners. This past year I served as the floodplain administrator for Licking County, Alexandria, Buckeye Lake, Hebron, Johnstown, St. Louisville, and Utica where I would monitor and enforce local floodplain regulations for compliance with the NFIP. Shortly after starting at Licking County I earned my Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) designation in April 2012.

I am excited about the opportunity to work for ODNR and with a knowledgeable staff here in the Floodplain Management Program. I look forward to working with communities and individuals throughout the state to ensure the wise use of Ohio's floodplains.

Lender penalties for non-compliance with mandatory flood insurance purchase requirements is increased from \$350 to \$2000 per violation, and the limit of fines for any lending institution over a calendar year is removed. It was \$100,000.

Minimum annual deductibles on claims are changed to \$1500 for coverage up to \$100,000 and \$2000 for coverage over \$100,000 for pre-FIRM properties, and \$1,000 and \$1,250 for below and above \$100,000 coverage for post-FIRM properties.

Rates must be set to cover the average historical loss year, including catastrophic loss years, in accordance with generally accepted actuarial principles. (That would also increase rates since the increase in flood damages has meant that rates do not cover the historical average loss year.)

Requires FEMA to establish a National Flood Insurance Reserve Fund of at least one percent of the total potential loss exposure. This fund would be built by 7.5% of the reserve ratio required each year. Allows FEMA to report to Congress if such goals cannot be met and to

explain the reasons.

Requires a ten-year repayment plan for the current insurance fund debt and also requires a report and repayment plan whenever FEMA has to borrow funds to pay NFIP claims.

Clarifies that private flood insurance may satisfy flood insurance coverage requirements if it meets certain standards.

Allows state sponsored nonbinding mediation of flood insurance claims disputes, and would require NFIP representatives to participate.

Amends the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (RESPA) to require explanation of the availability of flood insurance under the NFIP or through private insurance for properties both in and out of Standard Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs).

Establishes reporting requirements associated with reimbursement of expenses for Write Your Own (WYO) insurance companies. Directs the FEMA Administrator to develop a methodology for calculating expense reimbursement within 180 days and to issue a rule within 12 months.

Establishes a process involving the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to allocate tropical storm and hurricane damages between wind and water damage. (This is Subtitle B of Title III and is entitled “Alternative Loss Allocation”. This is derived from previously introduced legis-

Continued on page 5



I'm Matt Knittel and I was recently hired as one of three new Environmental Specialist in the Floodplain Management Program at ODNR. In 2010 I graduated from “that school up North”, aka the University of Michigan, with a M.S. in Natural Resources and the Environment, with a focus in Aquatic Sciences. There, I wrote my thesis on the impacts of dam removal on benthic macroinvertebrate communities. In addition, I also worked in a lab processing Great Lakes sediments samples gathered by the Environmental Protection Agency counting and identifying macroinvertebrates and dreissenids (zebra and quagga mussels). The year before, I worked at the local USGS office helping study streambed habitats and other water quality issues.

Before I travelled to Michigan, I graduated in 2008 with a B.S. in Environmental Science from Allegheny College, in Northwest Pennsylvania. During my time there and over the summers I worked on many water quality projects. This includes a Research Experience for Undergraduates program I did at Millersville University in Eastern Pennsylvania studying the impacts of stream restoration on benthic macroinvertebrates in streams affected by legacy sediments. Also during my four years at Allegheny, I was involved with the environmental education group *Creek Connections*, working with K-12 students in the classroom and field to teach a hands-on, inquiry-based learning experience.

I have worked with many other environmental education programs including at the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, and the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes. As a native Clevelander, I enjoy rooting (and crying) for Cleveland teams, as well as biking, hiking and exploring the outdoors. I'm excited to be a part of the ODNR Floodplain Management team, and the new editor of *The Antediluvian!*

lation known as “The Coastal Act”. Its provisions are found on pages 576-585.)

Mapping

Establishes a Technical Mapping Advisory Council with membership coming from a wide range of professions, including federal agencies and state and local mapping partners. The Council would advise FEMA on improving accuracy, on standards that should be adopted for flood maps, data and map maintenance, and on funding needs and strategy. It would also develop recommendations within 1 year for future conditions mapping, including impacts of sea level rise and future development on flood risk. FEMA is required to incorporate such recommendations into the ongoing review and updating of flood maps.

Establishes an on-going National Flood Mapping Program. Requires that flood maps show 100-year and 500-year floodplains for all populated areas and areas of possible population growth, as well as areas with residual risk behind levees or below dams. Also requires mapping of the level of protection provided by flood control structures. Requires that new flood maps use the most accurate topography and elevation data available. Also requires acquisition of new ground elevation data when necessary. Requires development of flood data on a watershed basis.

Requires FEMA to notify property owners when their properties are included in, or are removed from, an area covered by mandatory insurance purchase requirements. Also requires notification of Senators and House Members whose States or Districts are affected by map changes.

There is an authorization of \$400,000,000 for flood mapping per year for fiscal years 2013 – 2017. (This is an authorization level – not to be confused with actual annual appropriations.)

Formalizes a Scientific Resolution Panel to arbitrate when a community has received an unsatisfactory ruling with respect to an appeal of a revised flood insurance rate map. Appeals must be based on technical or scientific data.

Removes limitations on state contributions to updated flood mapping. (Previously, there was a limit of a 50% state contribution to the costs of new flood maps. This has resulted in some states in states developing mapping data but FEMA being unable to use it to produce new maps.)

Requires a study on federal interagency coordination of flood mapping, including collection and utilization of data among all governmental users.



Hello. My name is Tina Ray and I am the new Administrative Professional for the Floodplain Management Program. I'm not new to ODNR as I have

worked in several divisions: Water, Recycling, Soil and Water Conservation, as well as working with many colleagues in other state agencies in our 88 soil and water districts. My last assignment was in the Dam Safety Section where I learned about dams, and therefore it was a natural progression to come work in Floodplains and see what the front end of water management is all about.

I have come full circle back to the Division of Soil and Water resources (formally Division of Water) where I started working in the Groundwater section in 1989.

I received a Bachelor's Degree from Capital University in Political Science in 2001 and consider working for ODNR a *natural* career path. I look forward to adding my many talents and skill set to the Floodplain Management Program.

Mitigation Programs

Consolidates NFIP funded mitigation programs (Repetitive Flood Claims, Severe Repetitive Loss Properties, Flood Mitigation Assistance) into a single program. The combined National Flood Mitigation Fund is to be funded at \$90 million per year. (While the old Flood Mitigation Assistance and pilot Severe Repetitive Loss program were funded at up to \$40 million per year each and the Repetitive Flood Claims program at up to \$10 million, the SRL program has never been fully utilized in part due to its complexity.)

The new program simplifies and combines the three previous programs and includes the following:

Allows the required Flood Mitigation Plan to be part of a community's multi-hazard mitigation plan.

Removes beach nourishment as an allowed mitigation activity.

Adds elevation, relocation, or floodproofing of utilities, as allowed mitigation activities.

Adds demolition and rebuild as an allowed mitigation activity.

Specifically notes the capacity for "direct" grants if the Administrator, after consulting with the State and community, determines that neither has the capacity to manage the mitigation grant.

Caps the use of mitigation grant funds for state mitigation plan development at \$50,000 and at \$25,000 for a community.

Provides for denial of grant funds if not obligated (paid out) in 5 years. (This is due to Congressional concern about unobligated balances.) Specifically restates 2004 Reform bill provision prohibiting offsetting collections to fund these mitigation programs.

Restructures federal share requirement:

Up to 100% for severe repetitive loss structures. (4+ Claims of over \$5000 or 2+ claims exceeding value of structure)

Up to 90% for repetitive loss structures. (2 claims over 10 years averaging at least 25% of value of structure)

Up to 75% for other approved mitigation activities.

Levees

Establishes a Flood Protection Structure Accreditation Task Force in cooperation with the Corps of Engineers. The Task Force is charged with better aligning the information collected by the Corps of Engineers' Inspection of Completed Works Program with FEMA's flood protection structure accreditation requirements. The Task Force must develop a process that allows data collected for either purpose to be used interchangeably, and to allow data collected by the Corps of Engineers under the Completed Works Program to be used to satisfy the FEMA accreditation requirements. (This is not meant to reduce the level of public safety and flood control provided by accredited levees. However the Task Force is charged with considering changes to the information collected by the Corps of Engineers and the FEMA flood protection accreditation requirements.) FEMA and the Corps of Engineers must implement the measures developed by the Task Force within one year and complete implementation within two years.

Allows for flood insurance premiums to reflect premiums in fully protected areas in communities that are deemed to have made adequate progress in the reconstruction or improvement of a flood protection system.

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Flood In Progress Determinations

FEMA is required to develop a process for determining when a flood event has commenced for the purpose of flood insurance coverage. (Generally a new policy becomes active in 30 days unless purchased as part of a real estate closing. Due to recent long lasting floods, particularly in the Mississippi and Missouri basins, where flooding can begin upstream more than a month before downstream areas flood, there has been confusion as to the meaning of “flood in progress” as related to coverage under newly purchased flood insurance policies.)

Studies

An assortment of studies is required including:

Analysis of increasing the maximum residential and commercial structures, including the availability in the private marketplace of flood insurance in amounts that exceed current NFIP coverage limits.

Annual program financial reports, including efforts to purchase substantially damaged properties and detailed analyses of the nature of losses.

A Government Accountability Office (GAO) report on Pre-*FIRM* structures, including length of ownership, income of owners, comparison of flood losses to those of post-*FIRM* structures, the cost of subsidies to pre-*FIRM* structures, and options for eliminating subsidies.

A GAO report on the three largest contractors FEMA uses to administer the NFIP.

A study by the National Academy of Sciences on graduated risk behind levees.

A separate FEMA and GAO study of reinsurance and privatization of the NFIP.

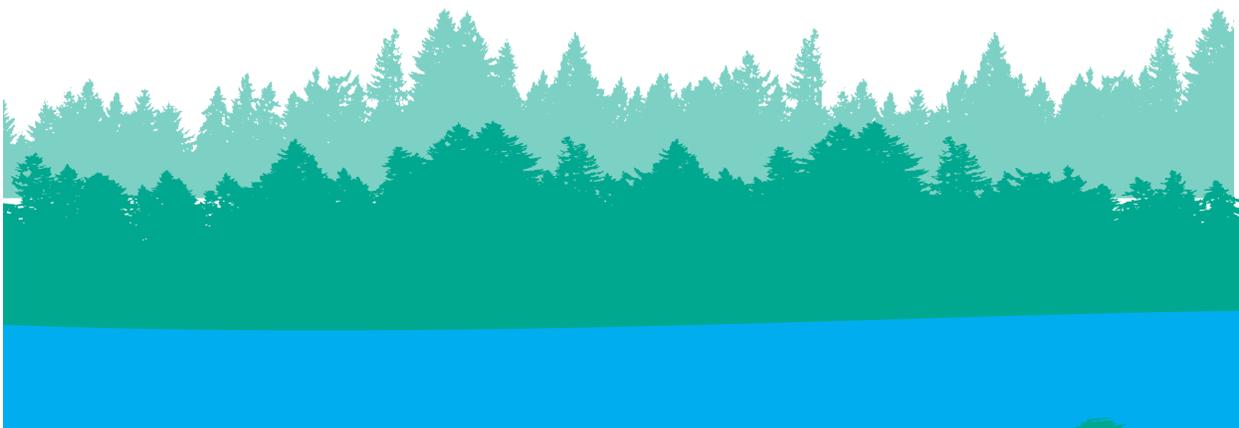
A GAO study on business interruption and additional living expenses coverage.

A FEMA study of amending the legislation to use national recognized building codes as part of the floodplain management criteria.

A FEMA – National Academy of Sciences study of encouraging maintenance of flood insurance and methods for establishing an affordability framework for flood insurance, including targeted assistance.

A Federal Insurance Office study of the current market for natural catastrophe insurance in the United States, including issues of affordability.

Building Code Enforcement



Losing Control Gaining Perspective

50 years (and more) of Ohio Floodplain Management Part 4 *aut viam inveniam aut faciam*

By Christopher M. Thoms, CFM, Program Manager ODNR Floodplain Management

From the great Ohio River flood of 1773 to the remnants of tropical storms in today's forecast, Ohioans have a long record of floods and flood responses. As we can identify areas where floods are more likely to occur, so too can we identify the three basic responses people have to flood risk: relocate the flood, relocate themselves, or ignore the risk. In the last three editions of *The Antediluvian* we reviewed the first 50 years of ODNR's Floodplain Management Program and the strategy used to address Ohio's continuing flood risk. In this article, we will look to the FMP's recent activities and future direction.

During **2009**, NFIP-reauthorization (or failure of) was a recurring issue. Each time, the Congress failed to reauthorize, the NFIP could not issue new policies, increase coverage, approve renewal policies or pay claims until Congress approved (retroactive) reauthorization. NFIP-reform though debated, was put off. Meanwhile, countywide *FISs* and *FIRMs* continued to be published under the auspices of FEMA's 3MS-initiative, FPM assisted dozens of communities to attain or maintain compliant flood risk reduction regulations. March brought moderate to major river flooding across northern Ohio (1-3" rain), with limited damage. Likewise while June saw flash flooding in Lawrence County, reported damage was low. While the FPM was transitioning into its new division, FEMA was introducing another mapping initiative, **Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning** using a watershed approach. **Risk MAP** offered to enhance the foundational regulatory tools of *Flood Insurance Studies* and *FIRMs* with a non-regulatory *Flood Risk Report*. These reports can contain various inundation-depth and analysis grids addressing damage percentages and costs; map, population, and development changes; and **Areas of Mitigation Interest (AOMI)** including claim history, recurrent problems, and development pressure. An accompanying *Flood Risk Map* is intended to further aid in promoting overall risk awareness. The Risk MAP initiative awarded funds to for the FMP to contract for improved flood risk mapping to be provided to several watersheds. FMP efforts to assist State Agencies to implement compliant flood risk reduction procedures continued. The FMP supported OEMA efforts to assist communities update their mitigation plans. One village attained the dubious distinction of being the first Ohio community in 17 years to be suspended from NFIP-participation for non-enforcement of their local flood risk reduction regulations.

Amidst continuing debate over NFIP-reform, **2010** saw frequent, short-term re-authorizations. FEMA conducted several meetings across Ohio to discuss why **Provisionally Accredited Levees (PALs)** were expiring. During the two-year PALs, locally provided experts frequently reported that deferred maintenance had resulted in degraded levees unable to provide the minimum level of flood protection required to maintain a Zone X designation. As should be expected, the consequent requirement to insure for the revealed high flood risk prompted many passionate conversations. These exchanges revealed a stark divide in perceptions put forward concerning risk-identification with one local official arguing that their risk designation was undeserved because they were a hardworking, blue-collar community. A citizen in another community discounted the risk because it was not entirely based upon flood history. January, March, May, July, and September brought minor flooding from the Ohio River to Lake Erie with an August wind-storm. The **Great Lakes Restoration Initiative** promoted 50 clean-up programs and refurbishing projects in all eight Great Lakes states. Local officials around Ohio joined the conversation about State Agency efforts to implement compliant flood risk reduction procedures. Risk MAP funding increased to provide better risk-identification to more Ohio communities.

In **2011**, as the FMP assisted scores of Ohio communities update local flood risk reduction regulations, the tension concerning NFIP-reform and longer-term re-authorization continued. The FPM provided as-

Continued on page 7

sistance to local floodplain administrators as widespread low-level flooding spread across northern Ohio in late February and southern Ohio in May and both in July, September, and December. The FMP was recognized for its pioneering role and continued leadership in **Silver Jackets**, Representatives from Ohio's DNR/FMP, EDA, PS/EMA, and EPA, along with the federal counterparts in FEMA, HUD, NOAA/NWS, NRCS, USACE, and USGS comprise this interagency coordination effort to reduce flood risk through programs developed at the state level. Risk MAP funding continues to support better risk-identification to more Ohio communities.

By **2012**, most communities had updated their flood risk reduction regulations. FEMA-HQ clarified the confused 44 CFR language concerning historic structures expressing their hope that communities would opt for requiring such structures to obtain a conditioned variance (higher standard) rather than settle for the blanket exemption (minimum standard). June saw the 5-year NFIP-reauthorization, though without several promising reforms such as the proposed flood insurance requirement for structures in areas of residual risk (*e.g.*, behind levees). Yet again, FMP provided assistance to local floodplain administrators as more widespread low-level flooding occurred across Ohio in January and May, central Ohio in March, and a statewide severe wind storm on June 29th. Though reduced, Risk MAP funding continues to provide improved risk identification to Ohio communities.

So, where do we go from here? Self-assessment is a recurring activity for the FMP to give us a clear understanding of our role in floodplain management. We reaffirm that:

- there are floodplain management-related purposes and problems that need to be addressed.
- the FMP is an appropriate organization to respond.
- the FMP's initiatives are reasonable.

Therefore, the FMP outlines its strategy as follows.

ODNR's Floodplain Management Program

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| MISSION: | <i>Ensure the wise management of Ohio's floodplains.</i> |
| VISION: | <i>A comprehensive, statewide system of naturally beneficial floodplains.</i> |
| OBJECTIVES: | <i>Reduce flood damage, Protect and promote natural functions of floodplains</i> |
| STRATEGY: | <i>Demonstrate leadership in promoting and implementing sound floodplain management practices.</i> |
| ELEMENTS: | <i>Professionalism - utilize tools and processes to ensure quality, efficiency, outstanding customer service, with high employee satisfaction; Partnership - cooperate with local governments, state agencies, and interested parties, utilizing the NFIP to build local capability for effective influence of land use and development decisions affecting Ohio flood plains; and Presentation - research, identify, assess, prepare, perform, and exhibit program mandates, mission, objectives, strategy, elements, and tactics.</i> |

By clarifying each strategic component, we can identify whether any given tactic effectively supports the overall strategy. By demonstrating effectiveness, we provide Ohio citizens the basis for continued support. An important aspect of that support is budget. Not surprisingly (or unique to the FMP), funding fluctuations are to be expected with the competing demands upon the public treasury. While the FMP has been able to use federal grant monies to support aligned program activities, it is better not to become overly dependent upon that source. *Because of the lack of funds, the division's flood control section has*

leaned heavily on the staffs and programs of the federal government, seeking to encourage and help guide federal programs in Ohio. This statement from 1962 sounds all too familiar and underlines the point that FEMA reasonably concludes that its *funded* priorities take precedence. In partnership with citizens, professionals, and officials the FMP will continue to refine our strategy and update our tactics. From 2008 to 2012, we said goodbye to nine colleagues from a staff that rarely numbered that high. Happily, new members have been added so that, at the end of 2012, we have a staff of ten (see related articles in this edition). Since our founding, more than 40 people have worked in ODNR's floodplain program. All have a part in what has been accomplished and have contributed to refining and pursuing the program mission.

As we look observe the centennial remembrance of the 1913 flood, still the largest natural disaster to affect our State, we have reason for both concern and confidence. At-risk development continues to occur, exposing lives and property to injury and loss. Recovery costs continue to significantly rise and flood risk awareness does not appear to correspond to the actual risk. And yet, we have made significant progress in forecasting, warning, planning, and constructing so that the number of flood-related deaths is considerably lower. Many individuals and communities have incorporated sound floodplain management into their development plans, local floodplain management capability has greatly increased, coordination with (and the number of) our partners continues to increase. While there remains much that we can all do better, much has been and can yet be accomplished.

| Flood Events | Deaths |
|---------------------|--------|
| March 23-27 1913 | >467 |
| January 20-25, 1937 | > 65 |
| January 21-24, 1959 | 16 |
| July 4-5, 1969 | 41 |
| June 14, 1990 | 28 |

Find a way or make a way. Latin proverb

From the *Division of Water* chapter of **ODNR Annual Report 1961-1962**, C.V. Youngquist, Chief 1962 p 60

Alterations of a Watercourse: Establishing Bankfull Stage

By Randy Keitz, P.E., Water Resource Engineer, ODNR Floodplain Management

Communities that participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) have agreed to adopt and enforce regulations that restrict certain types of development within areas that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has identified as being in the 1% annual-chance floodplain. In Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations within Part 60.3(b)(7), FEMA requires communities to *assure that the flood carrying capacity within the altered or relocated portion of any watercourse be maintained*. Every community that participates in the NFIP must have a requirement in their local floodplain regulations that addresses this standard.

FEMA defines the term *watercourse* to mean only the channel and banks of an identifiable watercourse, and not the adjoining floodplain areas.¹ The *flood carrying capacity* of a watercourse refers to the flood carrying capacity of the channel. The flood carrying capacity of the channel in geomorphological terms is called the *bankfull flow* and this flow is associated with the bankfull stage. The *bankfull stage* is the elevation of the water when it is just beginning to flow onto the active floodplain (see Photo

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1). The *active floodplain* is defined as a flat area adjacent to the channel that is inundated at least once every one to two years.² FEMA considers a watercourse to be altered when *any* change occurs within its channel banks. Development that occurs outside of the channel banks, while it may be subject to other requirements, is not considered an alteration of the watercourse.

The ODNR *Model Flood Damage Reduction Regulations* in the section on *Alterations of a Watercourse*, which has been adopted by most communities, establishes that channel banks extend in the vertical direction to the bankfull stage. The establishment of the bankfull stage is required to determine the bankfull flow. Further, the model regulation discusses that the required field determination of bankfull stage be based on methods presented in Chapter 7 of the *USDA Stream Channel Reference Sites: Illustrated Guide to Field Technique*³ or other authoritative source. This reference discusses that the active floodplain is the best indicator of bankfull stage. Floodplains are most prominent along low-gradient, meandering reaches.⁴ Streams with steeper channel gradients (*e.g., greater than 2%*) may have narrow, mild to steeply sloping floodplains or none at all (*e.g., for channel gradients greater than 10%*)⁵, and other streams may have been deepened and straightened with the flat floodplain now much higher above the stream bottom, which may be inundated once every 10 years or longer. These streams will have to locate bankfull indicators other than the floodplain flat to help establish the bankfull stage.

Where floodplains are absent or poorly defined, other indicators of bankfull stage may serve as surrogates to identify bankfull stage. These include:

- The height of depositional features;
- A change in vegetation;
- Slope of topographic breaks along the bank;
- A change in the particle size of bank material;
- Undercut in the banks; and
- Stain lines.⁶

Training for recognizing indicators of bankfull stage is generally necessary for proper field identification. When locating bankfull stage features along a reach of stream, each feature should be marked with a pin-flag. Once marked, most of the features generally identify a fairly consistent elevation for the bankfull stage. However, some streams may be so significantly disturbed that too few or no indicators of bankfull stage are evident. In these cases, a *regional curve* can be used to help make an estimate of the bankfull stage.

The United States Geologic Survey (USGS) has developed regional curves for Ohio, which are in a publication available for download. This USGS publication is titled *Bankfull Characteristics of Ohio Streams and Their Relation to Peak Streamflows*, Scientific Investigations Report 2005-5153, by James Sherwood and Carrie Huitger. The Ohio regional curves (*i.e., regression equations*) provide an estimate of bankfull channel characteristics (*i.e., bankfull width, bankfull depth, bankfull cross-sectional area, and bankfull flow*) for Ohio streams over a range of drainage areas measured in square miles. Thus, knowing the drainage area of a stream at the location of a potential watercourse alteration, the regional curve for bankfull flow can be used to estimate bankfull flow of the watercourse. A field survey measuring the stream profile (*i.e., channel gradient*) and cross-section dimensions along with a pebble count to estimate channel roughness (*i.e., Manning's n-value*) is necessary. Using the surveyed channel slope estimate, cross-sectional dimensions, and channel n-value along with the estimated bankfull flow obtained from the USGS publication, the Manning's equation for flow can be used to back calculate the bankfull depth or stage. This estimated stage can be used as the bankfull stage. Additionally, this bankfull stage determination can be compared with other indicators of bankfull stage to help verify, support or improve a bankfull stage determination. A further check to verify that the estimated bankfull stage is reasonable is to compare the cross-sectional area obtained from the regional curve with the field determined cross-sectional area associated with the determined bankfull stage. These two cross-sectional areas should be similar.

Establishing a bankfull stage is necessary to determine the bankfull flood carrying capacity of a watercourse, which must be determined to insure that the flood carrying capacity of an altered or relocat-

ed portion of the watercourse has not been diminished. Prior to the issuance of a floodplain development permit, the applicant must submit a description of the extent to which any watercourse will be altered or relocated as result of the proposed development, and be certified by a Registered Professional Engineer that the bankfull carrying capacity of the watercourse will not be diminished. However, some development along a disturbed stream may want to avoid working within the watercourse. A development example might be the restoration of floodplain along a disturbed (*e.g., deepened and straightened*) reach of stream. Restoring floodplain along a disturbed reach of stream would seem to be a reasonable first step with helping restore the stream and to reduce downstream flooding. If the floodplain was restored at the bankfull stage of the watercourse, then the development would occur outside of the channel banks and the floodplain development permit would not need to address alteration of a watercourse except to the extent of providing documentation for the establishment of the bankfull stage.

In conclusion, developments that result in the alteration of a watercourse require the proper establishment of the bankfull stage in order to determine the bankfull flow or flood carrying capacity of the existing channel. The bankfull flow of the altered or relocated portion of a watercourse shall be maintained (*i.e., not diminished*). Further, the applicant shall be responsible for providing the necessary maintenance for the altered or relocated portion of said watercourse so that the flood carrying capacity will be maintained. 'Tools' (*i.e., Excel spreadsheets*) to help assist in assessing stream channels to determine their bankfull stage and flow have been developed by Dan Mecklenburg at the ODNR Division of Soil & Water Resources (DSWR). These spreadsheets are available for free download at the DSWR website, and are located under the *Stream Restoration* tab. Once at this webpage, click on *Stream Modules* and it will take you to the spreadsheets available for download. The *Reference Reach Survey 4-3L.xls* spreadsheet will be the most helpful for determining bankfull stage and flow.

¹FEMA.gov, *Alteration of a Watercourse*, <http://www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program/alteration-watercourse> (September 2012).

² Harrelson, Cheryl C., Rawlins, C. L., and Potyondy, John P., 1994. *Stream Channel Reference Sites: An Illustrated Guide to Field Technique*, General Technical Report RM-245, Fort Collins, CO: USDA, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, p. 33.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid., p. 33.

⁵ Rosgen, D., *Applied River Morphology*, Wildland Hydrology, Pagosa Springs, CO, 1996.

⁶ Harrelson, op. cit., p. 33.

SEE PHOTO ON OPPOSITE PAGE

Documentation for 2-Year PRP Eligibility Extension

FEMA is asking local floodplain officials to provide information to property owners to help them find out if they qualify for the new **Preferred Risk Policy** (PRP) extension. This applies only for those properties that were newly designated as being in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) as a result of a flood map revision that is effective on or after October 1, 2008. Property owners are encouraged to have their insurance agent use this information to determine if they qualify. If so, property owners should maintain a copy of the prior *Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)*.

The required information includes: 1) Property Owner's Name, 2) Address, 3) Whether building is residential or nonresidential, 4) Date, 5) Community Number, 6) Panel, 7) Suffix, and 8) Flood Zone (all from the prior *FIRM*), and 9) Community Official's name, 10) Title, 11) Phone, and 12) Signature with 13) Date. Additional comments are optional.



Photo 1: West Branch Nimishillen Creek, Canton, OH taken by Randy Keitz on July 28, 2003.

Online LOMC

New Process For LOMC Applications

FEMA has released the Online *Letter of Map Change* (LOMC) service that will allow anyone (including home or property owners, their representatives, agents, and professional surveyors and engineers) to electronically submit a request for a LOMC (effective December 17, 2012). Although the paper forms may still be used for “traditional” processing, the new web-based application offers many advantages, including:

- Applicants may save information online and finish applying at their convenience
- The interface is designed to be clear and intuitive to make the application process user-friendly.
- Frequent applicants can manage multiple LOMC requests online
- Immediate generation of a case number once the completed online application is submitted
- Real-time updates on the application status as well as an inventory of all in-progress and previous applications submitted online
- More efficient communications with LOMC processing staff

Should surveyors or engineers be concerned that this will detract from business? NO. The same docu-

Continued on page 14

mentation required for submission with ANY LOMC is still required; however, the property owner may now submit this documentation online on their own and monitor the application status online in real-time.

How is the Online LOMC different from eLOMA? Currently, this Online LOMC is only available for *Letters of Map Amendment* (LOMA), but soon its functionality will be expanded to allow the submission of all LOMC requests, including LOMA, *Conditional Letter of Map Amendment* (CLOMA), *Letter of Map Revision based on Fill* (LOMR-F), *Conditional Letter of Map Revision based on Fill* (CLOMR-F), and *Letter of Map Revision* (LOMR).

To learn more about this tool, visit www.fema.gov/online-lomc.



Severe Weather Poster Contest

By Ben Kelley, CFM, Environmental Specialist ODNR Floodplain Management

The Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness held their annual poster contest ceremony Saturday August 4, 2012 at the Ohio State Fair. Landon Long, a second grader in Pickaway County was recognized as the overall state winner in a statewide poster contest. Landon's poster on tornado safety artistically illustrates four basketballs as they "Shoot for Safety". Each ball has a message- Warning: Seek Shelter; Listen to NOAA Weather Radio; Watch: Be Prepared; and Review Safety Standards. The Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness chose Landon's poster as the most informative, accurate, and creative out of the many posters received during its annual Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest.

As the overall state winner, Landon, received a variety of awards and prizes from the committee and its partners, to include a \$100 savings bond, a letter of congratulations from Governor John R. Kasich, a plaque from the National Weather Service, a smoke detector, a personalized trophy, a Community Response Team (CERT) backpack and disaster supply kit, and a host of other prizes. Later in the fall, his school will receive an engraved "traveling" trophy to showcase for the remainder of the school year. In an effort to promote severe weather preparedness, the committee will feature Landon's poster throughout the year.



This year, a total of 53 students from 33 Ohio counties were honored as regional winners. The students represented grades 1-6 from 36 schools. As regional winners, every student artist received a certificate from the National Weather Service and sling backpacks full of prizes from the offices and their partners that make up the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness.

Since 1978, the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness

Continued on page 15

has conducted its annual poster contest. Since it began, students have designed posters on severe weather safety and preparedness. The efforts of these students have helped the committee to educate Ohioans about on protective measures against severe weather.



Federal, State, and Local Government Compliance with Floodplain Management Standards

By Alicia Silverio, CFM, Senior Environmental Specialist ODNR Floodplain Management

In their best effort to implement effective floodplain management, communities are wondering how they should ensure that development performed by government entities (local, State, or Federal) is compliant with the minimum National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) criteria. In response to these inquiries, the Floodplain Management Program (FMP) offers the following guidance:

NFIP-participation requires each community to adopt and administer flood damage reduction regulations that meet the minimum federal criteria outlined in 44CFR60.3. These communities must also designate an official responsible for administering a floodplain permitting process to ensure that all development proposed within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) is constructed in compliance with the locally adopted floodplain management regulations.

Development that must be reviewed for compliance includes:

- Man-made changes to improved or unimproved real estate (land), including but not limited to mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavating, drilling operations, and temporary or permanent storage of equipment or materials.
- Placement of new buildings and other structures including tanks, accessory structures, and manufactured homes, and the methods of construction.
- Additions, repairs or renovations to existing structures, when such actions are classified as substantial improvements.
- Repair and restoration of existing buildings that have been substantially damaged by any cause (flood, fire, wind, tornado, & other damaging events).
- Installation of water and sewer utilities, & other site improvements.
- Construction or modification of flood control works, including levees, floodwalls, & channels.
- Construction, modification/replacement of roads, bridges, & culverts.
- Any related activities that may affect the floodplain, especially those activities that may increase the level of the 100-year flood.

The authority to regulate any of this development, when proposed by a local property or business owner within a community is clear – the community’s designated Floodplain Manager must review the proposed development for compliance with locally adopted ordinance or resolution. BUT, who’s responsible for ensuring that development performed or funded by a government agency is meeting all the standards? Hopefully, the following information will provide some clarification:

If **LOCAL Government** is proposing development within the SFHA, the Community Floodplain Manager must work through the permitting process to evaluate the proposed development to ensure it is performed in accordance with locally adopted regulations. (*Yes, this means that the community is REGULATING ITSELF...*) The community must retain all permit records on file to verify compliance.

If **STATE Government** (State Agency who is undertaking, financing, or preempting development) is

Continued on page 16

proposing development within the SFHA, the State Agency is responsible for ensuring that the development is compliant with locally adopted flood damage reduction regulations. (Refer to Ohio Revised Code Section 1521.13(D)(3)) **Note:** It is the FMP’s understanding that State Agencies are not required to work through local permitting processes. Since they must comply with minimum NFIP criteria in addition to any additional and/or higher standards that the community has adopted, we suggest that best way for a State Agency to demonstrate compliance with the necessary standards is to work through the community’s floodplain management permitting process to ensure compliance. If the Agency has any questions about application or compliance with the standards, the Floodplain Management Program is available to offer assistance.)

If **FEDERAL Government** (Federal Agency who is performing the “action” which is *any Federal activity including acquiring, managing, and disposing of Federal lands and facilities; providing federally undertaken, financed, or assisted construction and improvements; and conducting Federal activities and programs affecting land use, including but not limited to water and related land use resources planning, regulating, and licensing activities*) is proposing development within the SFHA), the Federal Agency must ensure they conform with the provisions of Executive Order 11988 and are minimally compliant with NFIP criteria. **Note:** Federal Agencies are not required to work through local permitting processes. EO 11988 directs an eight-step decision making process that Federal Agencies must follow to when proposing development in the 100-year floodplain. The EO directs Federal Agencies to avoid actions located in or adversely affecting floodplains unless there is no practicable alternative; requires agencies to mitigate losses if avoidance is not practicable; and, establishes a process for flood hazard evaluation based upon the 100-year base flood standard of the NFIP.



| Entity Undertaking Development | Applies to | Permitting Responsibility | Compliance with? | Legislation | Notations |
|--------------------------------|---|--|--|---|---|
| Local | Any development undertaken by the community that is proposed within the SFHA | Community Floodplain Manager | Minimum NFIP + any higher standards adopted by the community | Ohio Constitution Article XVIII, §3, ORC 307.37, ORC 307.85 | Community is regulating itself |
| State | Any development undertaken by the State that is proposed within the SFHA | State Agency undertaking the development | Minimum NFIP + any higher standards adopted by the community | ORC 1521.13(D) (3) | Recommend that State Agency coordinate with Local Floodplain Manager |
| Federal | Any Federal activity including acquiring, managing, & disposing of Federal lands & facilities; providing federally undertaken, financed, or assisted construction & improvements; & conducting Federal activities & programs affecting land use, including but not limited to water & related land use resources planning, regulating, & licensing activities | Federal Agency initiating the action | Minimum NFIP | EO 119988 | Federal agency is not required to obtain local floodplain development permit approval |

What's new with Ohio flood mapping?

By Katherine Skalak, CFM, Environmental Specialist ODNR Floodplain Management

During the summer of 2011, Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) in cooperation with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) held Discovery meetings for 8 watersheds around the state. In summer 2012, FEMA and its contractor held Discovery Meetings and technical workshops for the Great Lakes. Discovery Meetings are the beginning of FEMA's Risk Mapping Assessment and Planning (MAP) process and are similar to scoping meetings of the past. The major differences between these two meetings are the number of partners involved and that these meetings include at least two or more counties. As a result of the 2011 Discovery Meetings, ODNR, in cooperation with our contractors, has been working to develop new *Flood Insurance Rate Maps* (FIRM) for 9 counties (Athens, Erie, Lawrence, Licking, Logan, Meigs, Shelby, Summit and Washington). Some of these counties (Logan, Meigs, Shelby) never went through map modernization. For these counties, Risk MAP will be a complete countywide update, meaning every panel in the county will be updated. The remainder are going through the **Physical Map Revision** (PMR) process, in which only some of the panels are being updated. In addition to the traditional regulatory products, *FIRM* and **Flood Insurance Study**, all studied counties will be receiving non-regulatory products to assist with their mitigation efforts. Products per county will vary but generally counties will receive *Changes Since Last FIRM* (CSLF), Zone AE Depth Grids and Zone A Depth Grids. These products will only be created for new study areas. Mapping updates for the Great Lakes Counties have not yet begun, but will likely begin next year.

As part of the Risk MAP process, most counties will also be receiving a Flood Risk Review meeting. During this meeting the technical partners of the county, ODNR and ODNR's contractor, meet to discuss the studies for the county. This meeting typically occurs about one month prior to preliminary maps release (see Figure 1). The first Flood Risk Review meetings were held for Meigs and Washington Counties. About one month after the preliminary maps are released, there will be a Community Coordination/Open house meeting. The community coordination meeting occurs in the afternoon and this involves community officials from the county. For the open house portion, the public is invited to view the maps. At this meeting there will representatives from ODNR, ODNR's contractor, and local officials. The purpose of the open house is for locals to see how the new *FIRMs* will affect them. Meeting dates will be posted on our events calendar (<http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/tabid/22976/Default.aspx>) when they become available.

| County | Projected Prelim Date |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Washington Co. PMR | 12/7/2012 |
| Meigs Co. CW | 1/4/2013 |
| Summit Co. PMR | 2/1/2013 |
| Lawrence Co. PMR | 2/28/2013 |
| Shelby Co. CW | 3/22/2013 |
| Athens Co. PMR | 3/28/2013 |
| Erie Co. PMR | 4/15/2013 |
| Logan Co. CW | 6/10/2013 |
| Licking Co. PMR | 8/14/2013 |

In addition to the ODNR projects, FEMA is also the lead on several mapping projects throughout the state. Therefore, there are currently 24 counties in process of updating flood maps. Information concerning any of these updates is available on our website in the form of a Google map, which was created to help interested Ohioans understand what mapping projects are occurring throughout the state. This map is updated once a month and is available online at <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/water/tabid/3524/Default.aspx>. Once loaded, click on the county of interest to view what flood mapping projects are occurring, as well as the projected preliminary dates, meetings, or when letters of final determination are available.

Figure 1: ODNR Mapping Status

If you have any questions concerning the mapping projects in Ohio, please contact Katherine Skalak at Katherine.skalak@dnr.state.oh.us.



Historic Structures

By Christopher M. Thoms, CFM, Program Manager ODNR, Floodplain Management

In a radio interview, a Scottish couple referred to an event at their village's *new* church, only to pause when they remembered the broadcast was intended for an American audience, and clarified that the new church was the one built in the 1400s. Growing up, I readily accepted that cars from the '20s were antique but find it startling to see vehicles from the 1980s so designated. Our perspective can affect whether we treat something as refuse or relic.

For the purposes of flood risk reduction regulations, a structure qualifies as historic if it is listed individually on the inventory of the local (certified), state, or national historic preservation programs, or contributes to a registered historic district. A search of Ohio's online inventory should indicate what is currently posted, but may not include all structures.

However, when an historic structure is in a floodplain, there may be a conflict between preserving *for* historic value and *from* flood risk. The NFIP's performance standards attempt to balance the two by providing for either an **exemption** or a **variance** to obtain relief from flood risk reduction standards. This can serve as an incentive for property owners to obtain the historic designation and maintain the structure's historic character but it can also lead to unnecessarily exposing those structures to high flood risk.

Exemption is the NFIP minimum standard. It grants nearly unconditional relief from flood risk reduction standards for qualified historic structures. Exemptions have the appeal of being relatively simple. All development, including alterations or additions to historic structures, must comply with the floodway encroachment provisions of 44 CFR §60.3(c)(10) and (d)(3). Any structure on an eligible historic inventory is exempt, until and unless it loses that standing. Also, the owner may avoid some immediate cost of incorporating flood risk reduction standards into repair or other alterations while benefitting from Pre-FIRM insurance rates.

On the other hand, an exemption leaves those very structures that are considered uniquely valuable due to their historic nature at high risk of flood damage. And, paying a Pre-FIRM rate every year may cost more overall than the owner could pay if appropriate mitigation methods are used. Also, since Ohio's State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) does not usually issue official letters, certificates, markers, *etc.*, establishing whether a structure is qualified may be difficult.

Variance is another option. Communities may include historic structures in their variance process to ensure that substantial alterations include appropriate flood loss reduction techniques. All applicable standards are conditioned that they not preclude its standing as a qualified historic structure. There are many examples (several just in the City of Marietta) of such mitigation methods being used that leave the structure's historic standing intact. Requiring a qualified historic structure to be reviewed by your local variance board helps better ensure a balanced, effective preservation.

Of course, historic structures are eligible for reduced (Pre-FIRM) flood insurance. Unlike other Pre-FIRM structures, a qualified historic structure is not subject to substantial alteration thresholds so long as its place on the historic inventory remains.

Most listed historic structures would not qualify for **Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC)** coverage. ICC coverage helps pay for the cost to comply with local flood damage prevention regulations (after a direct physical flood loss) up to \$30,000 for the cost to elevate, floodproof, demolish, or relocate the building. However, any structure allowed to be anything other than fully compliant is ineligible for ICC.

Continued on page 19

Local flood risk reduction regulations must reflect which option the community chooses, and FEMA requires communities use only one method. The regulations should contain no variance requirements for exempt structures, nor exemption language for variance structures. While the exemption process is generally easier before substantial damage occurs, the variance process helps ensure that less damage occurs. This is significant when considering how best to preserve our historic structures. Our office can assist you with whichever choice you make.

Ohio Historic Preservation Office: <http://www.ohiohistory.org/ohio-historic-preservation-office>

National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places: <http://www.nps.gov/history/local-law/nhpa1966.htm>

Ohio's searchable inventory: <http://ohsweb.ohiohistory.org/ohpo/nr/index.aspx>

page 2-17 of *NFIP Increased Cost of Compliance Coverage Guidance for State and Local Officials*, FEMA 301 / September 2003 at <http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=1532>.

page 5 of Floodplain Management Bulletin *Historic Structures* (FEMA P-467-2 rev. May 2008 at: http://search.fema.gov/search?q=May+2008+Historic+Structures&sort=date%3AD%3AL%3Ad1&output=xml_no_dtd&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&client=fema&proxystylesheet=fema&site=fema).

Manufactured Housing in Ohio

By Jarrod Hittle, CFM, Environmental Specialist ODNR Floodplain Management

There have been some recent changes in the State of Ohio's legislation regarding which agency is responsible for permitting manufactured homes in Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA). Previously, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) would oversee the permitting for installation and removal of manufactured homes inside licensed manufacture home parks (MHP's) while the Ohio Manufactured Homes Commission (OMHC) would oversee the installation and removal outside of licensed manufactured home parks. Effective December 1, 2012 the OMHC now oversees the permitting inside all licensed MHP's as well as maintain their duties for manufactured homes located outside of MHP's.

So what does this mean for local floodplain administrators (FPAs)? While OMHC has the permitting responsibility, they typically refer applicants to the local FPA. Section 4781-6-03.1 of the Ohio Administrative Code states; *the provisions of this rule apply to the initial installation of new or used manufactured homes. All manufactured homes located where there is a local floodplain authority shall be installed in accordance with the local floodplain authority rules, ordinances or resolutions.* This is sensible because, who better to ensure that manufactured homes are installed to local rules, than the local FPA! The same section ultimately holds the installer responsible for determining whether a manufactured home lies "wholly or partly" within the SFHA as shown on the locally adopted *FIRM*, *FHBM*, or *FBFM* before installation begins. ODNR's Floodplain Management Program recommends that local FPA's still monitor the SFHA for the installation of manufactured homes and coordinate with OMHC and the installer throughout the installation process.

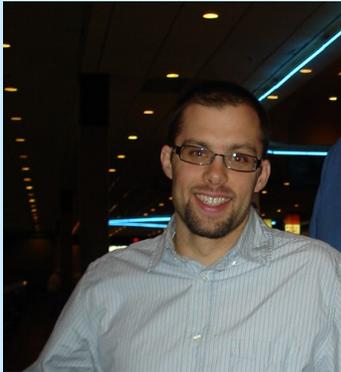
For manufactured home parks, the requirements under Chapter 4781-12-07.2 of the Administrative Code apply. Local FPA's do not have authority over manufacture homes located in MHP's but do still have authority over all other construction such as: club houses, pools, roads, grading, utilities, etc.

Continued on page 20

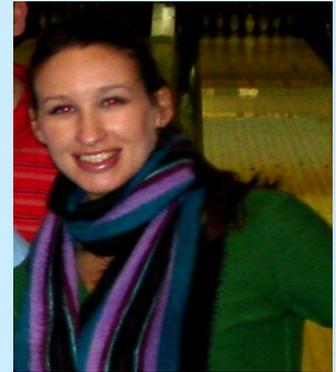
For additional guidance refer to the Administrative Code Section 4781, 44 C.F.R. 60.3(a) to (e) (Feb. 8, 1984), other provisions of 44 C.F.R. 60 referenced by those paragraphs, Chapter 1521 of the Revised Code, and division 1501:22 of the Administrative Code. For further information refer to FEMA 85 /September 1985, *Manufactured Home Installation in Flood Hazard Areas*, 1985 and the local floodplain authority. Contact OMHC at (614) 734-6010 or ODNR-Floodplain Management Program at (614) 265-6750 with any questions regarding placement of manufactured homes in a SFHA.

Farewell to Matt Leshner and Kimberly Bitters

Matt Leshner left the Floodplain Management Program in April 2012 for a new position with ODNR's Division of Wildlife. He is working as a Fish Federal Aid Coordinator where he manages funding from United States Fish and Wildlife Service to ODNR.



Kimberly Bitters (now Berginnis) left the FMP in June 2012 to relocate to Madison, Wisconsin to be with her husband and his new career. She is now working as a Disaster Response and Recovery Planner for the Wisconsin Emergency Management Agency.



Congratulations to both Matt and Kimberly on these new opportunities!

In Remembrance of Joseph (Joe) Black

We are sad to share with you that Joe Black (age 62), former Lawrence County Floodplain Manager and longtime friend, passed away on September 1, 2011. Many of you will remember Joe from his attendance at the annual Statewide Conference and service on the Ohio Floodplain Management Association (OFMA) Executive Board. If you knew Joe, you would recall his good humor and kindhearted nature. At the Floodplain Management Program, we remember his phone calls usually began with the chorus to "Achy Breaky Heart" instead of "Hello", as a way to invoke some comedy and represent Billy Ray Cyrus' regional roots.



Joe was retired from Lawrence Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) as an Urban Technician, where he also served as the Lawrence County Floodplain Administrator. He also worked on the 911 addressing system and the Lawrence County Planning Commission. Joe was a member of the Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO) and the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) where he achieved Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) certification. He was a member of 13th Street Baptist Church in Ashland, Kentucky, a licensed Real Estate Agent, income tax preparer, a retired Ironton City Council and a councilman for the Village of South Point. Joe is survived by his wife, two sons, two stepsons, one daughter, two brothers, two sisters, and six grandchildren.

2013 Ohio Statewide Floodplain Management Conference

By Alicia Silverio, CFM, Senior Environmental Specialist ODNR Floodplain Management

The 2013 Ohio Statewide Floodplain Management Conference will be held on August 28-29, 2013 at the Doubletree Hotel, Columbus/Worthington. This conference will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 1913 Flood.

The Ohio Statewide Floodplain Management Conference is an annual training event that focuses on various elements of floodplain management, such as regulations, insurance, mapping, engineering, and natural benefits. The conference is intended to develop and expand the capabilities of floodplain management professionals throughout Ohio. Conference sessions are designed to provide local floodplain managers with information and skills necessary to implement effective floodplain management programs within their respective communities.



The Ohio Statewide Floodplain Management Conference is a cooperative effort between the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), and the Ohio Floodplain Management Association (OFMA).

Attendance at the conference will provide 12 Continuing Education Credits (CEC) toward Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) Certification through the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM), 12 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) hours for Registered Professional Engineers, and hours for Building Officials through the Ohio Board of Building Standards (BBS).



All conference information will be posted at www.ofma.org. For questions about this conference, please contact Alicia Silverio at 614-265-1006 or alicia.silverio@dnr.state.oh.us.



L273 – Managing Floodplain Development through the NFIP

Date: March 5-8, 2013
Course Length: 4 days
Schedule: 8:30am-4:30pm
CEUs: 3.1
CECs: 12 (core)

SPONSORS: FEMA Region V and Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR)

LOCATION:

Utilities Learning and Business (ULAB) Center
1981 Blase Nemeth Road
Painesville, OH 44077

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This is the field deployed version of the EMI E273 course. This course is designed to provide an organized training opportunity for local officials responsible for administering their local floodplain management ordinance. The course will focus on the NFIP and concepts of floodplain management, maps and studies, ordinance administration, and the relationship between floodplain management and flood insurance. A manual will be provided for attendees at the course.

SELECTION CRITERIA: Local officials responsible for administering local floodplain management ordinances, including but not limited to floodplain management administrators, building inspectors, code enforcement/zoning officers, planners, city/county managers, attorneys, engineers, and public works officials. State and regional floodplain managers also are encouraged to attend. The course is designed for those officials with limited floodplain management experience.

REGISTRATION:

- 1) All students will need to obtain a Student Identification Number (SID) in order to process their application and receive credit for the course. Information about how to get a SID number can be found here: <http://training.fema.gov/apply/notice.asp>
- 2) To register, students must click on the link below to complete FEMA's General Admissions Application form, sign it and have the head of the sponsoring organization approve and sign it; then submit it to the Ohio EMA State Training Officer Lisa Jones at ljones@dps.state.oh.us or fax it to her 614-799-3831. <http://training.fema.gov/Apply/119-25-1%20Previously%20FF75-5.pdf>
- 3) The deadline for registration is February 25, 2013.

FEES: There is no fee for this course.

Information/updates regarding this course will be posted at: <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/water/tabid/23389/Default.aspx>

QUESTIONS: Please contact Alicia Silverio at 614-265-1006 or alicia.silverio@dnr.state.oh.us

2013 CFM Exam, Refresher, & OFMA Conference Schedule

| Event | Date | Time | Location | Address |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|--|
| CFM Exam | March 11, 2013 | 1-4pm | Northeast Ohio | 50 Westchester Dr., Suite 107, Austintown, OH 44515 |
| CFM Exam | May 2, 2013 | 1-4pm | Southwest Ohio | Stantec, 11687 Leba- non Road Cincinnati, OH 45241 -2012 |
| CFM Exam | July 15, 2013 | 1-4pm | Southern Ohio | 111 Jackson Pike, Suite 1569, Gallipolis, OH 45631 –Meeting Room of the C.H. McKenzie Building |
| CFM Refresher | August 27, 2013 | 8am-5pm | ODNR | 2045 Morse Rd, As- sembly Center WEST Columbus, OH 43229 |
| CFM Exam | August 27, 2013 | 1-4pm | ODNR | 2045 Morse Road, I-1, Columbus, OH 43229 |
| OFMA Conference | August 28-29, 2013 | ----- | Doubletree Hotel | 175 Hutchinson Ave., Columbus, OH 43235 |
| CFM Exam | August 29, 2013 | 1-4pm (approx) | Doubletree Hotel | 175 Hutchinson Ave., Columbus, OH 43235 |
| CFM Exam | October 25, 2013 | 12-3pm | Northwest Ohio | TMACOG, 300 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Toledo, OH 43604 (Amtrak Train Station) |
| CFM Refresher | November 7, 2013 | 8am-5pm | ODNR | 2045 Morse Rd, As- sembly Center EAST Columbus, OH 43229 |
| CFM Exam | December 11, 2013 | 1-4pm | Southeast Ohio | Mid-East Ohio Build- ing Dept., Muskingum Co. Law Library, 22 N 5th Street, Zanesville, OH 43701 |

The Antediluvian

Ohio's Floodplain Management Newsletter

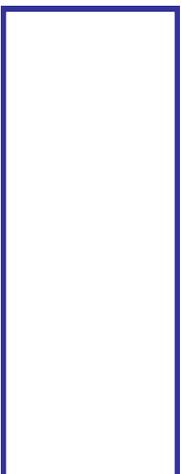


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James Zehringer, Director

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The Antediluvian is produced by the Division of Soil and Water Resources 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.

Matthew J. Knittel, Editor.

Please send address corrections, additions, and other changes to 2045 Morse Road B-2 Columbus, Ohio 43229.

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