

THE FIRST STATE WATERMARK



Delaware's Floodplain Management Newsletter

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FEMA TECHNICAL BULLETINS REVISED

Over the past year, FEMA's Building Sciences Branch has worked to revise and expand four of the NFIP Technical Bulletins (see below). Last year FEMA solicited comments on the Technical Bulletin series. Based on the volume and nature of comments, FEMA gave the highest priority to revising TB-1, TB-2, TB-5, and TB-9. The ASFPM and others, including several state and local floodplain managers, provided valuable input on drafts of revised documents. The NFIP Technical Bulletin series includes 11 separate bulletins that provide guidance on a wide variety of issues facing states and communities who must administer the flood provisions in their building codes and floodplain management ordinances.

The TBs are available from the FEMA warehouse at 1-800-480-2520, or can be downloaded at:

<http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/floodplain/techbul.shtm>.

TB-1 *Openings in Foundation Walls and Walls of Enclosures* (REVISED)

TB-2 *Flood Damage-Resistant Material Requirements* (REVISED)

TB-3 *Non-Residential Floodproofing Requirements and Certification*

TB-4 *Elevator Installation*

TB-5 *Free-of-Obstruction Requirements* (REVISED)

TB-6 *Below-Grade Parking Requirements*

TB-7 *Wet Floodproofing Requirements*

TB-8 *Corrosion Protection for Metal Connectors*

TB-9 *Design and Construction Guidance for Breakaway Walls* (REVISED)

TB-10 *Ensuring that Structures Built on Fill In or Near Special Flood Hazard Areas are Reasonably Safe from Flooding*

TB-11 *Crawlspace Construction*

ASFPM NATIONAL CONFERENCE JUNE 7TH – 12TH, 2009, IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA

Green Works to Reduce Flood Losses

33rd Annual Conference of the Association of State Floodplain Managers
June 7–12, 2009, in Orlando, Florida.
See www.floods.org for more info.



2009 INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE ADDS FREEBOARD IN V AND COASTAL A ZONES

**John Ingargiola, Senior Engineer
Building Science Branch
FEMA Mitigation Directorate**

“Will freeboard be included in the 2009 International Residential Code?”

We now have an answer to that question—YES! However, that positive answer comes with the limitation that freeboard will be required only in V Zones and in Coastal A Zones (where such zones are designated). The ASFPM and several state floodplain associations actively supported FEMA’s proposal to have freeboard incorporated into the new code, and that support was evident at the recent code change hearings in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The original proposal, to include freeboard standards in all Special Flood Hazard Areas, needed support from two-thirds of the eligible voting attendees to become effective—and it received 63.5% of the votes. This close vote signals growing support for what floodplain managers have long recognized as an effective damage-reduction measure. The flood damage reduction benefits of freeboard—and the savings on NFIP flood insurance policies—were documented in the NFIP Evaluation Report, *Evaluation of the National Flood Insurance Program’s Building Standards* (October 2006). The savings are especially significant in V Zones, where the incremental cost of elevating above the base flood elevation can be recovered through lower insurance premiums in just a few years. At the Minneapolis code hearings the National Association of Home Builders supported freeboard in V Zones and Coastal A Zones, a turnaround from its previous position opposing all freeboard requirements. The evidence of the benefits of freeboard in V Zones and Coastal A Zones made the difference, although the organization continues to be cautious about the added cost of freeboard in areas where fill is used.

UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

DNREC

We will be proctoring the Certified Floodplain Managers (CFM) exam on December 17, 2008. If you are interested in taking the exam you must go to <http://www.floods.org/home/default.asp> and fill out and submit the application form under the “Certification” tab.

EMI

E194 Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts

This course consists of four modules: Local Floodplain Manager Roles and Responsibilities; NFIP Floodplain Rules and Regulations in Depth; NFIP: LOMC’s and Local Floodplain Management; and Preparing for Post Disaster Responsibilities. Each of the four topic areas are designed to be at a higher level of detail than an introductory course. Developed and real life scenarios will be examined and exercises will be conducted in each section to make sure participants not only understand the appropriate rules and regulations, but also why they are in effect and how to apply them. This course is exercise-rich and participants can expect to be engaged throughout much of the course.

Selection Criteria: Full time Floodplain Managers with more than three years of full time floodplain management experience.

Course Length: 4 days

CEC’s: 12 (core).

Course will be offered: May 4-8, 2009 and August 10-13, 2009.

E282 Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts II Course

This advanced floodplain management course is a dynamic and interactive instruction that covers the following four topics in great detail: Considerations for Placement of Manufactured Homes and Recreational Vehicles in the Floodplain, NFIP Flood Insurance Principles for the FPM, Higher Standards in Floodplain Management, Hydrology and Watershed Processes for the Non-Engineer. Each of these topics are designed to be discussed and reviewed in greater detail than any basic course. Developed and real-life scenarios will be examined and exercises will be conducted in each section to make sure participants not only understand the rules and regulations but also why they are in place and how to apply them in these particular topic areas. This course is exercise-rich and participants can expect to be engaged throughout much of the course.

Selection Criteria: Full time Floodplain Managers with more than three years of full time floodplain management experience.

Course Length: 4 days

CEC's: 12 (core)

Course will be offered: February 2-5, 2009 and July 6-9, 2009.

Please go to the EMI web-site for more information at:

www.training.fema.gov/EMICourses/ or contact the NETC Admissions office at 301-447-1035.

GOOGLE EARTH WITH FLOODPLAIN LAYER

Some GIS users may wish to access to the National Flood Hazard Layer through a web map service. The web map service provides flood hazard information online, on demand, and can be used with most GIS software and web-based mapping applications. The NFHL web mapping service works with Google Earth™. A setup file that loads the data automatically into Google Earth is available from the Map Service Center, <http://msc.fema.gov>

NEW ELEVATION CERTIFICATE

We would like to remind you that the current Elevation Certificate expires on February 28, 2009. FEMA has been working on a revised Elevation Certificate that will be released shortly. DNREC will conduct a seminar once the new forms are released.

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