



FEMA

Consultation and Coordination Officer's Meeting Westchester, NY

January 12th, 2015

RiskMAP

Increasing Resilience Together

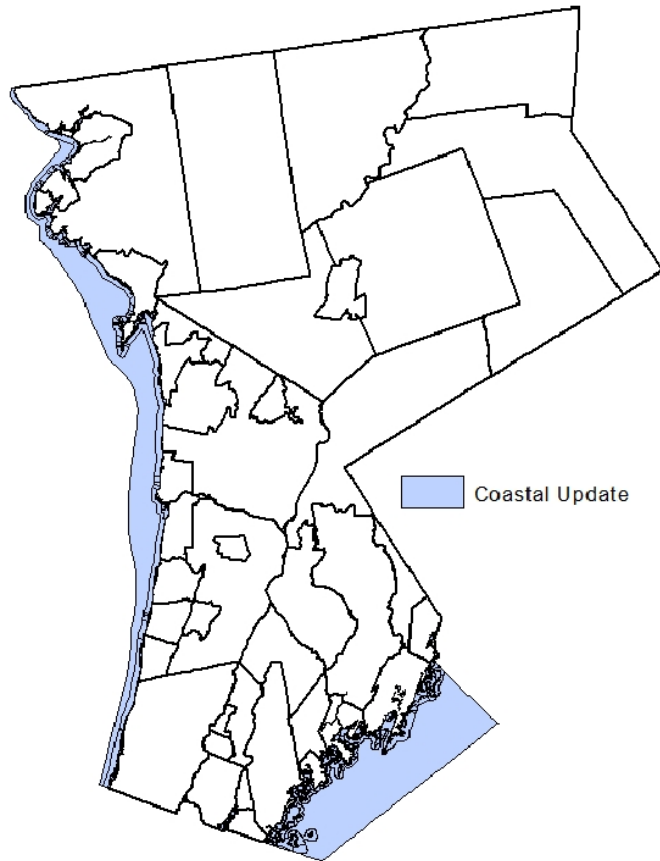


Agenda and Objectives

- Map Overview
- Risk Communication
- Floodplain Management
- National Flood Insurance Program
- Next Steps: Higher than Minimum Standards, Map Adoption, Local Ordinances
- Review and Summary
- Q&A
- Open House Planning

Westchester County, NY — FIRM Overview

Westchester Coastal Study



- 70 miles of revised coastal flood hazard analysis
- Updates base map to 2013 orthophotography
- Incorporation of digital topographic data
- Incorporation of validated Letters of Map Change (LOMCs)

Westchester County, NY FIRM Product

■ Components of a FIRM

- Base map
- Topographic data
- Flood hazard data
- FIRM Database
- Metadata
- Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report
- Back-up data (models, etc.)

Special Flood Hazard Areas

Land Ownership

Transportation

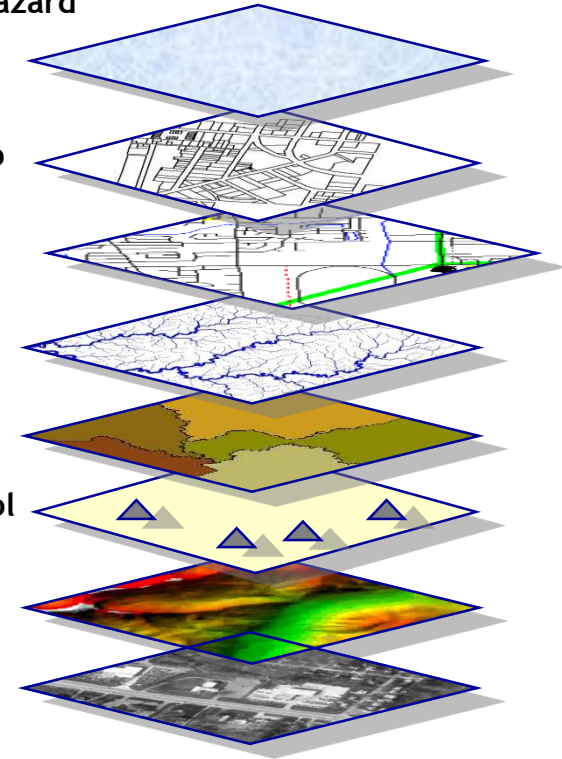
Surface Waters

Boundaries

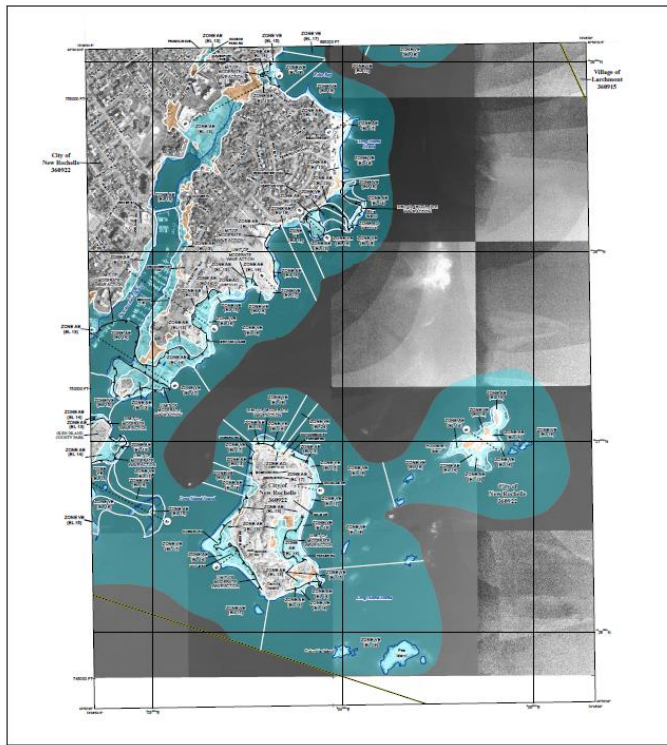
Geodetic Control

Elevation

Aerial Imagery



Westchester County, NY FIRM



FLOOD HAZARD INFORMATION

NOTES TO USERS

SCALE

PANEL LOCATOR

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW YORK

PRELIMINARY

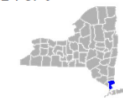
DECEMBER 8, 2014

FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY NUMBER 36119C1001B

Version Number 2.2.2.1

FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

VOLUME 1 OF 5



**WESTCHESTER
COUNTY,
NEW YORK
(ALL JURISDICTIONS)**

COMMUNITY NAME	NUMBER	COMMUNITY NAME	NUMBER
ARDLEY, VILLAGE OF	300902	NEW ROCHELLE, CITY OF	300922
BEDFORD, TOWN OF	300903	NORTH CASTLE, TOWN OF	300923
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, VILLAGE OF	300904	NORTH SALEM, TOWN OF	301240
BRONXVILLE, VILLAGE OF	300905	OSSINING, TOWN OF	301241
BUCHANAN, VILLAGE OF	301034	OSSINING, VILLAGE OF	301021
CORTLANDT, TOWN OF	300906	PEEKSKILL, CITY OF	300924
CROTON-ON-HUDSON, VILLAGE OF	300907	PELHAM, VILLAGE OF	300925
DOBBS FERRY, VILLAGE OF	300908	PELHAM MANOR, VILLAGE OF	300926
EASTCHESTER, TOWN OF	300909	PLEASANTVILLE, VILLAGE OF	300927
ELMSFORD, VILLAGE OF	300910	PORT CHESTER, VILLAGE OF	300928
GREENBURGH, TOWN OF	300911	POUND RIDGE, TOWN OF	300929
HARRISON, TOWN OF	300912	RYE, CITY OF	300931
HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON, VILLAGE OF	300913	RYE BROOK, VILLAGE OF	300930
IRVINGTON, VILLAGE OF	300914	SCARSDALE, VILLAGE OF	300932
LARCHMONT, VILLAGE OF	300915	SLEEPY HOLLOW, VILLAGE OF	301515
LEWISBORO, TOWN OF	301227	SOMERS, TOWN OF	301242
MAMARONECK, TOWN OF	300917	TARRYTOWN, VILLAGE OF	300923
MAMARONECK, VILLAGE OF	300918	TUCKAHOE, VILLAGE OF	300934
MOUNT KISSO, VILLAGE OF	300919	WHITE PLAINS, CITY OF	300935
MOUNT PLEASANT, TOWN OF	300919	YONKERS, CITY OF	300936
NEWT VERNON, CITY OF	300920	YORKTOWN, TOWN OF	300937
NEW CASTLE, TOWN OF	300921		

PRELIMINARY
December 8, 2014

FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY NUMBER
36119C1001B

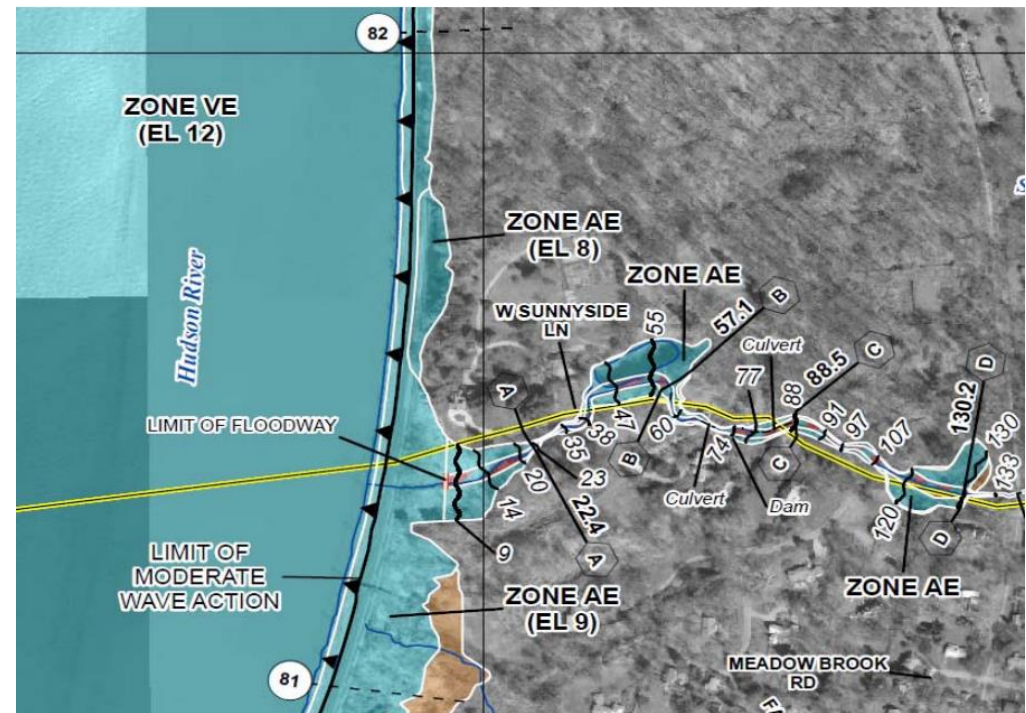
Version Number 2.2.2.1



FEMA



LiMWA on the Map

- LiMWA sits inside of Zone AE
- LiMWA can cross Zone AE lines
- Triangles point to higher waves
 - Indicates where wave height exceeds 1.5 feet
- Also referred to as Coastal A Zone



Summary of Map Actions

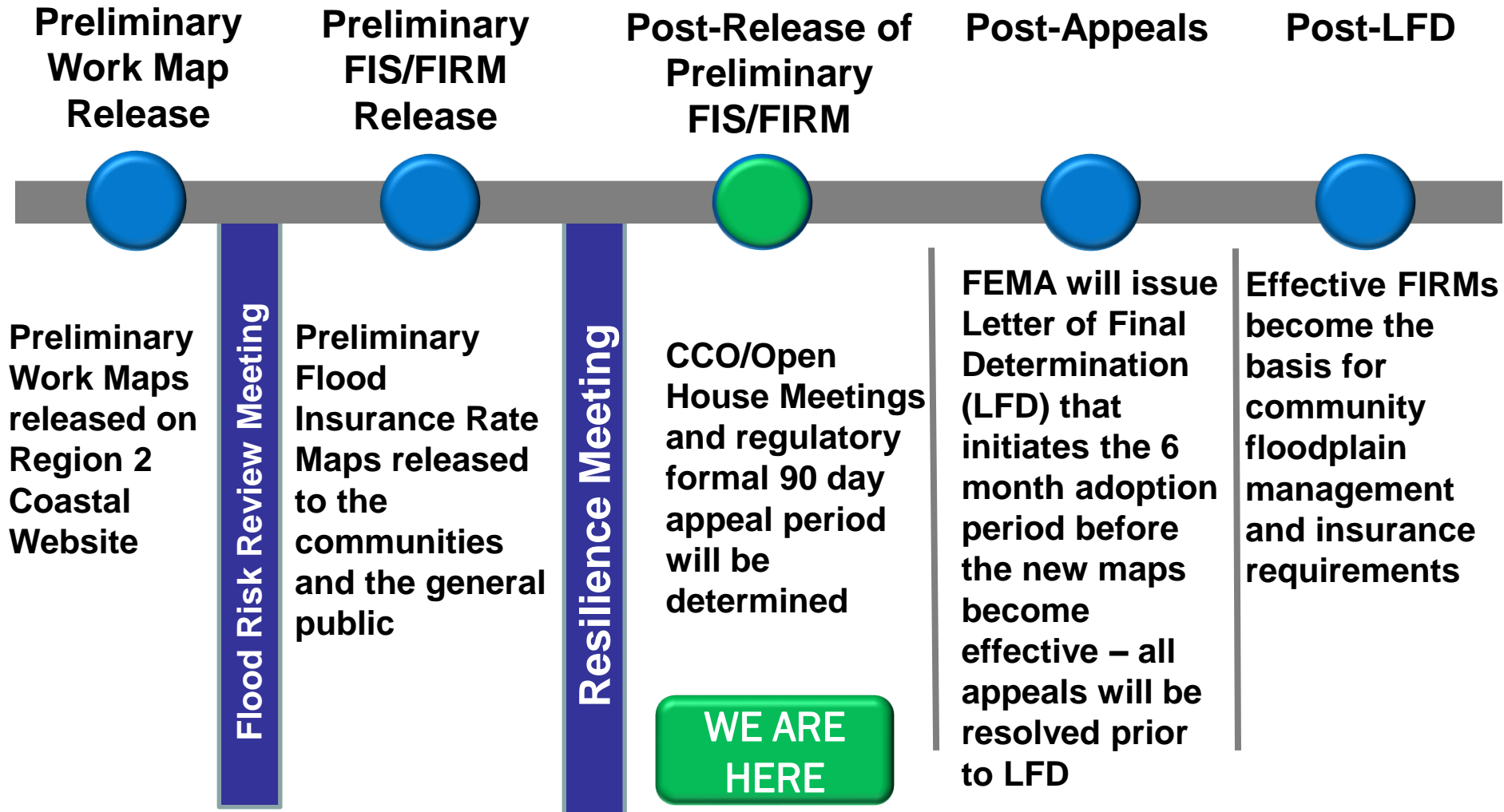
- FEMA periodically issues Letters of Map Change (LOMCs)
- LOMCs are legally binding changes to the map
- Many LOMCs are not typically reflected in the new FEMA maps due to scale constraints
- Summary of Map Actions contains assessment of all existing LOMCs with respect to the new FEMA maps

Page 1 of 3		Date: December 19, 2011	Case No.: 12-02-0206A	LOMA				
 Federal Emergency Management Agency Washington, D.C. 20472								
LETTER OF MAP AMENDMENT								
DETERMINATION DOCUMENT (REMOVAL)								
COMMUNITY AND MAP PANEL INFORMATION			LEGAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION					
COMMUNITY	CITY OF YONKERS, WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW YORK		A parcel of land, as described in the Notice of Certificate of Completion recorded as Control No. 490580380, in the Office of the County Clerk, Westchester County, New York					
	COMMUNITY NO.: 360936							
AFFECTED MAP PANEL	NUMBER: 36119C0317F							
	DATE: 9/28/2007							
FLOODING SOURCE: HUDSON RIVER			APPROXIMATE LATITUDE & LONGITUDE OF PROPERTY: 40.937, -73.903 SOURCE OF LAT & LONG: GOOGLE EARTH DATUM: NAD 83					
DETERMINATION								
LOT	BLOCK/SECTION	SUBDIVISION	STREET	OUTCOME WHAT IS REMOVED FROM THE SFHA	FLOOD ZONE	1% ANNUAL CHANCE FLOOD ELEVATION (NAVD 88)	LOWEST ADJACENT GRADE ELEVATION (NAVD 88)	LOWEST LOT ELEVATION (NAVD 88)
--	--	--	75 Dock Street	Property	X (shaded)	--	--	7.7 feet
Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) - The SFHA is an area that would be inundated by the flood having a 1-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year (base flood).								
ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS (Please refer to the appropriate section on Attachment 1 for the additional considerations listed below.)								
eLOMA DETERMINATION								
This document provides the Federal Emergency Management Agency's determination regarding a request for a Letter of Map Amendment for the property described above. Using the information submitted and the effective National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) map, we have determined that the property(ies) is/are not located in the SFHA, an area inundated by the flood having a 1-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year (base flood). This document amends the effective NFIP map to remove the subject property from the SFHA located on the effective NFIP map; therefore, the Federal mandatory flood insurance requirement does not apply. However, the lender has the option to continue the flood insurance requirement to protect its financial risk on the loan. A Preferred Risk Policy (PRP) is available for buildings located outside the SFHA. Information about the PRP and how one can apply is enclosed.								
This determination is based on the flood data presently available. The enclosed documents provide additional information regarding this determination. If you have any questions about this document, please contact the FEMA Map Assistance Center toll free at (877) 336-2627 (877-FEMA MAP) or by letter addressed to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Attn: RAMPP eLOMA Coordinator, 8401 Arlington Blvd, Fairfax, VA 22031-2666, Fax: 800-684-6860.								
 Luis Rodriguez, P.E., Chief Engineering Management Branch Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration								
				eLOMA				

Summary of Map Actions *(continued)*

- **Summary of Map Actions Categories:**
 - **Category 1:** Shown on the new FIRM panel
 - **Category 2:** NOT shown on the new FIRM panel due to scale limitations (revalidated after the new FIRMs become effective)
 - **Category 3:** Superseded, and no longer valid, due to revised flood hazards
 - **Category 4:** Must be re-determined

Timeline for Westchester County



Using Effective and Preliminary FIRM Data

Use the standard that is the **higher** of the two

What will happen in the future can cost you now

Zone A
V

Flood insurance is **always** based on the Effective FIRM

What will save you now can cost you in the future

Zone A
V

Current Effective FIRM BFE

(used for insurance ratings UNTIL Preliminary FIRM is adopted)

Preliminary FIRM BFE

(will replace CURRENT effective FIRM when adopted)

Regulatory Process: *Comments & Appeals Periods*

- Local constituents must submit their concerns through the local community
- Local official will review the concerns prior to submittal to FEMA by the community Chief Executive Officer
 - Duplicate concerns should be combined, and all concerns should be divided into one of two categories: appeals or comments
- An online appeals tracker will be set up on www.region2coastal.com

Regulatory Process: *Comments*

- **Comments are any input and/or feedback on the Preliminary FIRMs that *do not* relate to new or modified BFEs, base flood depths, SFHA boundaries or SFHA zone designations**
 - **Comments include, but are not limited to:**
 - **Changes in the floodplain that should have been submitted to FEMA**
 - **Corporate limit revisions**
 - **Road name errors and revisions**
 - **Changes affected by a Letter of Map Change**

Regulatory Process: *Appeals*

- Appeals are challenges to the Preliminary FIRMs that relate to new or modified BFEs, base flood depths, SFHA boundaries or SFHA zone designations and that are believed to be scientifically or technically incorrect
 - Appeals may result in revisions to the Preliminary FIRMs
- Appeals must be:
 - Submitted within the designated 90-day Appeals period
 - Accompanied by sufficient technical information (see *Criteria for Appeals of Flood Insurance Rate Maps*) at:
[http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/5270aa93d5b892c8420248bc8f40a1ee/FIRM+Appeals+\(EAP\)+Criteria.pdf](http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/5270aa93d5b892c8420248bc8f40a1ee/FIRM+Appeals+(EAP)+Criteria.pdf)
 - Technical information must comply with FEMA's *Guidelines & Specifications for Flood Hazard Mapping Partners*
<https://www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program-flood-hazard-mapping/guidelines-specifications-flood-hazard-mapping>

Map Adoption

- Communities to be required to adopt the maps.
- When maps are adopted, they are your new Effective FIRMs.
- Risks shown will be the new standard for floodplain management and flood insurance



Risk Communications

- **Federal/State/Local goals:**
 - Creating safer communities reducing risk to lives and property
 - Effectively communicate risk and increase public awareness, leading citizens to make informed decisions
- **Key factors:**
 - Community engagement and exchange of flood risk information
 - Effective collaboration through partnerships
 - Strategic communications plan development

Risk Communciations-Resources

- Visit our Website:
www.region2coastal.com
- Outreach factsheets
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Coastal Risk Educational Videos
- Best Available Data (Preliminary FIRMs)
- For additional information:
www.rampp-team.com/nj/htm

NEW

FEMA Region II
Coastal Analysis and Mapping

Home View Flood Maps & Data What Happens Next? **Community Officials** **Homeowners & Renters** FAQs Resources **Contacts**

After Sandy:
Assessing Coastal Flooding

Your source for the latest information about flood risk in coastal New York and New Jersey.

Is your property in a high risk flood zone? Look up your flood risk by address.

Learn about flood insurance and recent flood insurance reform.

Site News

Video: Learn about the effects of Hurricane Sandy on coastal New Jersey communities and rebuilding, planning, mitigation, and preparedness efforts in the

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

- Voluntary program based on a mutual agreement between the Federal government and the local community
- In exchange for adopting and enforcing FPM ordinance, Federally-backed flood insurance is made available

The screenshot shows the FloodSmart.gov website. At the top right, it says 'Call toll free: 1-888-379-9531 or have us call you' and has a search bar. The main navigation menu includes: HOME, FLOODING & FLOOD RISKS, ABOUT THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM, RESIDENTIAL COVERAGE, COMMERCIAL COVERAGE, POLICYHOLDER RESOURCES, PREPARATION & RECOVERY, and RESOURCES. The RESOURCES menu is expanded, listing: Agent Site, Agent Locator, Community Rating System, Community Resources, File Your Claim, Frequently Asked Questions, Glossary, Flood Facts, Media Resources, Toolkits, and Email Updates. The main banner features the title 'How will the New Flood Maps Affect Your Flood Risk?' and a 'SEARCH YOUR AREA' button. Below the banner are navigation tabs for 'Protect What Matters', 'Hurricane Season', 'BW-12', 'New Flood Maps', and 'Flood After Fire'. The 'LATEST NEWS' section highlights a nomination for the National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies' Excellence in Communications Awards Program by August 8. Three promotional cards are visible: 'GET COVERAGE FOR AS LOW AS \$129 PER YEAR', 'WHAT COULD FLOODING COST ME?' (showing a cost of \$10,870 for various home improvements), and 'One-Step Flood Risk Profile' with a 'HOW CAN I GET COVERED?' section.

Governmental Roles

- **Federal**
 - Risk Identification and Mapping
 - Building /Development Standards
 - Flood Insurance
- **State**
 - Building Code
 - Technical Assistance
- **Local**
 - Adoption and Enforcement of Development and Building Standards

Minimum Standards for NFIP Building Requirements

- **Zone A Building Requirements**
 - Developments over 5 acres or over 50 lots must provide a BFE
- **AE Zone Building Requirements**
 - The lowest enclosed area, including the basement, must be at or above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE)
 - Non-residential buildings may be flood proofed
 - No development in the regulatory floodway that would raise BFE
 - FEMA encourages States and Local Communities to adopt higher standards, such as Freeboard

Minimum Standards for NFIP Building Requirements

- **Zone VE Building Requirements**
 - **Lowest horizontal structural member must be at or above the BFE**
 - **Structure must not be built on fill**
 - **Must be free of obstructions below BFE**
 - **Breakaway walls are permissible**

Floodplain Management Considerations

- Repetitive Loss
- Cumulative standards to address non-compliant structures
- Local Communities need to take ownership of ordinance and map adoptions
- Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act (HFIAA)

Can You Buy NFIP Flood Insurance If...

- You live in a Flood Hazard Area?

YES!!!

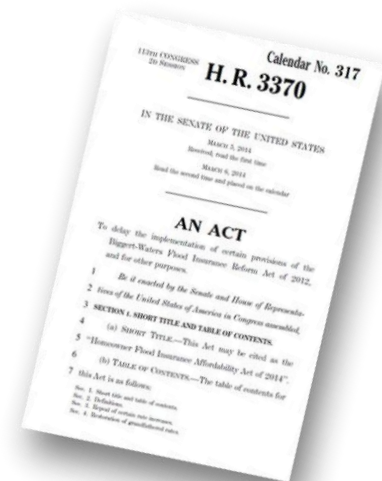
- You Don't Live in a Flood Hazard Area?

YES!!!

- As long as your community participates in the NFIP, you can purchase flood insurance
 - Except when structure has been placed in Section 1316
 - No structures insurable over water

More Changes are Coming to the NFIP

- On March 21, 2014, President Obama signed the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 into law
 - Repeals and modifies certain provisions of Biggert-Waters
 - Makes additional program changes
 - Leaves some parts of Biggert-Waters intact.
- Policyholders SHOULD NOT cancel policies!
- FEMA is working with our Write Your Own (WYO) insurance company partners, Congress, others to implement
 - Prior to restoring and refunding premiums, the law requires FEMA to consult with its WYO insurance companies to develop and finalize guidance and rate tables within eight months; FEMA and the WYOs have up to eight months to implement
 - To date, NFIP has held at least seven conference calls and met in person with senior company representatives



Refunds, Rates, and Surcharges

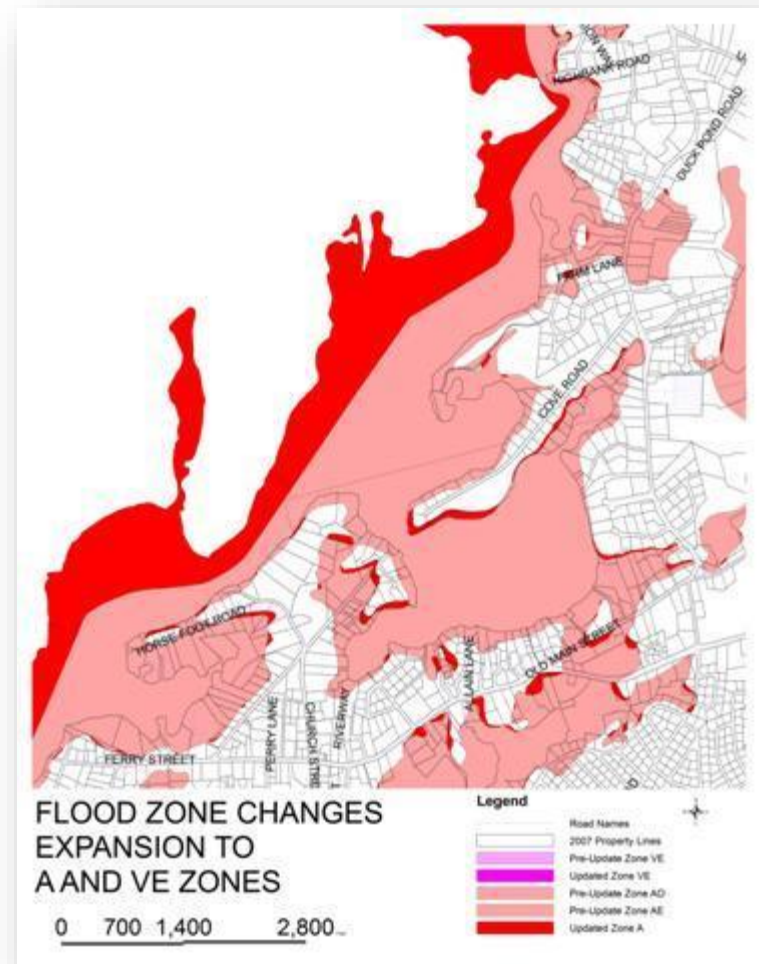
Mandatory Surcharges (Sec. 8)

- Applies to all policies
- A policy for a primary residence will include a \$25 surcharge
- All other policies will include a \$250 surcharge
- The fee will be included on all policies, including full-risk rated policies, until all Pre-FIRM subsidies are eliminated
- Surcharges are not considered premium and therefore are not subject to premium increase caps required under Section 5 under the new Act

Refunds, Rates, and Surcharges

Grandfathering (Sec. 4)

- HFIAA restores FEMA's ability to grandfather properties into lower risk classes
- For newly identified properties, the law sets first year premiums at the same rate offered to properties located outside the SFHA (Preferred Risk Policy rates)
- With limited exceptions, flood insurance premiums cannot increase more than 18 percent annually
- Grandfathered policy holders are not entitled to refunds



Refunds, Rates, and Surcharges

Pre-FIRM Primary Residence Policies in High-Risk Areas

- For most pre-FIRM primary residences in high-risk areas, subsidized rates remain in effect, but with newly required minimum increases—and an 18 percent limit for any individual policy—until premiums reach their full-risk rates¹

POLICY TYPE	IMPACT ON RATE
Existing policies	Policies can be renewed at subsidized rates. ²
Newly written policies	Policies can be issued and renewed at subsidized rates.
Policies on newly purchased buildings	Policies can be issued and renewed at subsidized rates.
Policies re-issued after a lapse ³	Policies for pre-FIRM buildings in high-risk areas that lapsed due to a late renewal payment (received after the 30-day grace period but less than 90 days after expiration) can be re-issued and renewed at subsidized rates.

¹Full-risk rates are determined using data from an Elevation Certificate.

²Full-risk rates could be lower than subsidized rates.

³Buildings with lapsed policies are not eligible for the subsidy unless the lapse was the result of the policy no longer being required to retain flood insurance coverage.

Refunds, Rates, and Surcharges

Pre-FIRM Building Policies in High-Risk Areas

- For other pre-FIRM buildings in high-risk areas, subsidized rates continue, but will increase more quickly to reach full-risk rates

POLICY TYPE	IMPACT ON RATE
Policies for non-primary residences (secondary or vacation homes or rental properties)	25% annual increases at policy renewal until premiums reach their full-risk rates.
Policies for business buildings	Future 25% annual increases at policy renewal.
Policies for Severe Repetitive Loss properties	25% annual increases at policy renewal for severely or repetitively flooded properties that include 1 to 4 residences.

Refunds, Rates, and Surcharges

Other Policies

- For most other policy types, rates will increase by no more than 18 percent for any individual policy

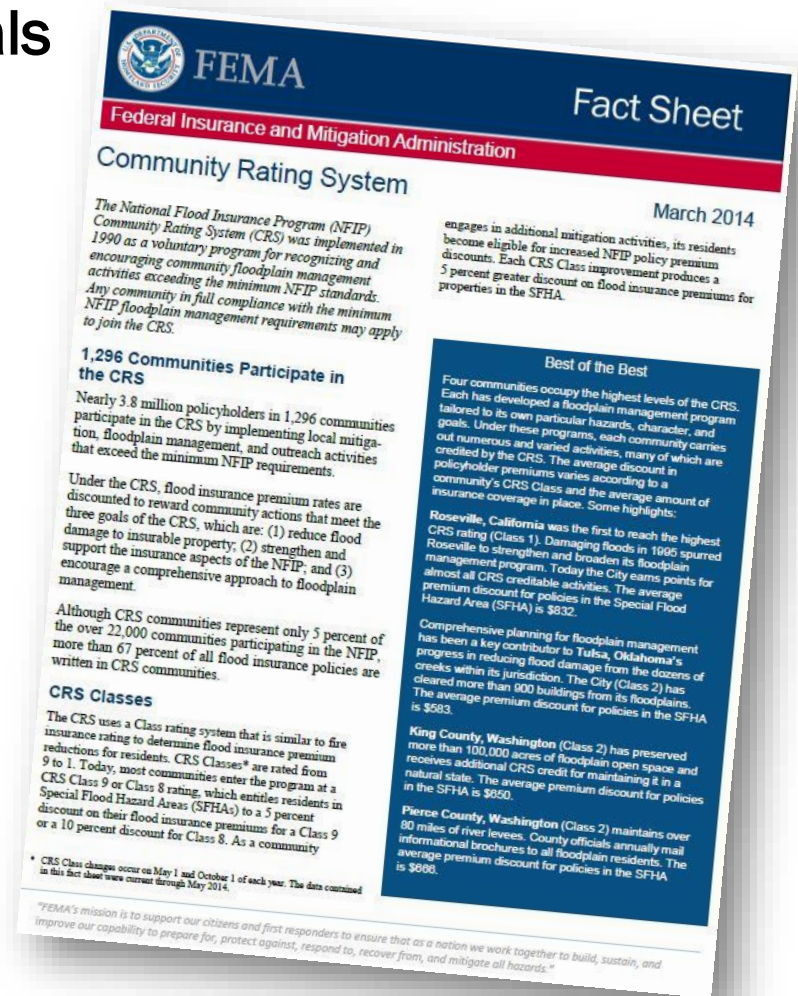
POLICY TYPE	IMPACT ON RATES
Policies for newer (“post-FIRM”) buildings in high-risk areas	Not affected by subsidies; already paying full-risk rates.
Policies for buildings in moderate-to low-risk areas	Not affected by subsidies; properties in these areas (shown as B, C, or X zones on flood maps) do not pay subsidized rates.
Policies for buildings “grandfathered in” when map changes show higher flood risk	Grandfathering remains in effect at this time. Buildings constructed in compliance with earlier maps or continuously covered by flood insurance stay in their original rate class when maps change or properties are sold.
Policies for buildings covered by Preferred Risk Policy Eligibility Extension (PRP EE)	Properties continue to be eligible for lower, preferred-risk rates for the first year after a map change. Starting the following year, rates will increase by no more than 18% for any individual policy until premiums reach their full-risk rate.

Increased Cost of Compliance (I.C.C.)

- Upon a letter of Substantial Damage determination from community, an NFIP insured may qualify for up to \$30,000 to relocate, elevate, or demolish their structure
- Local community should track damages for all structures in flood hazard area through Substantial Damage Estimating
- Cumulative standards are optional but effective higher regulatory standards used to address RL properties
- I.C.C. remains available for substantial damage even if community does not adopt cumulative damage definition

Community Rating System (CRS)

- Provides incentive for local officials to implement requirements exceeding NFIP minimum criteria
- Grants flood insurance program credits calculated for activities undertaken to:
 - Reduce flood losses
 - Facilitate accurate insurance rating
 - Promote awareness of the benefits of flood insurance



Insurance FAQs

- **Will new maps increase flood insurance rates?**
 - Possibly “yes” for some structures effected by a flood hazard zone change, flood elevation increase, or both
- **Will flood insurance become unavailable?**
 - No, as long as community maintains NFIP participation, flood insurance remains available
- **Mandatory Flood Insurance Purchase Requirements**
 - Applies to structures within SFHA where the owner has a Federally - backed mortgage

New York State's Role



Higher Than Minimum Standards

- New York Department of Environmental Conservation will provide some options; these will be noted as optional
- Higher than minimum standards can increase safety, decrease flood insurance rates, and provide the community with points in the CRS

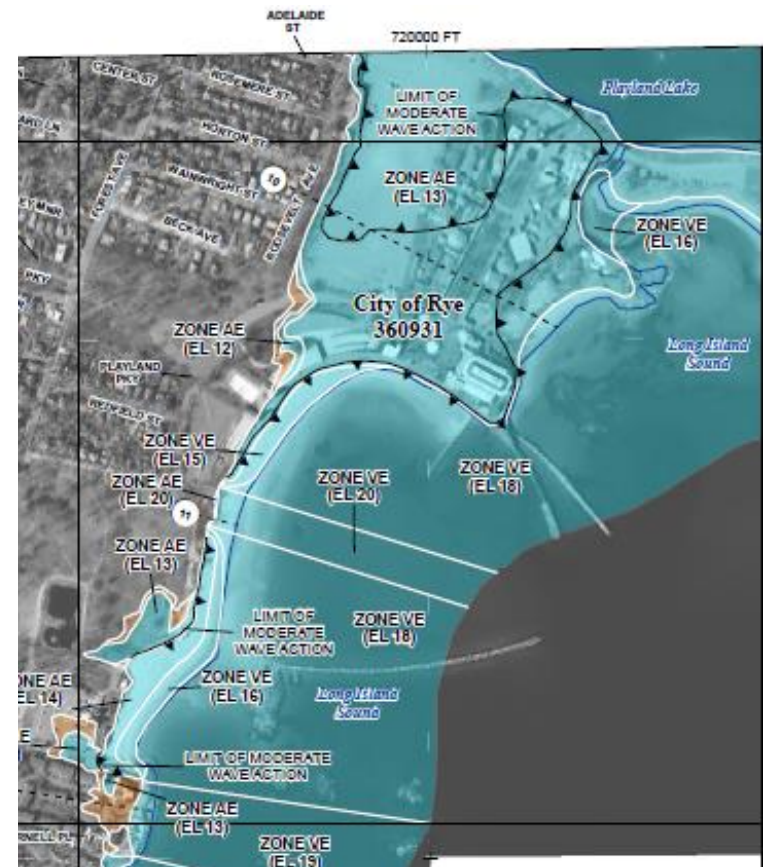


Higher than Minimum Standards: Examples

- **Freeboard**
- **Cumulative Damage or Improvement, including I.C.C.**
- **Compensatory Storage**
- **Other hazard zones: e.g., levee protected areas or areas below dams**
- **Critical Facilities**

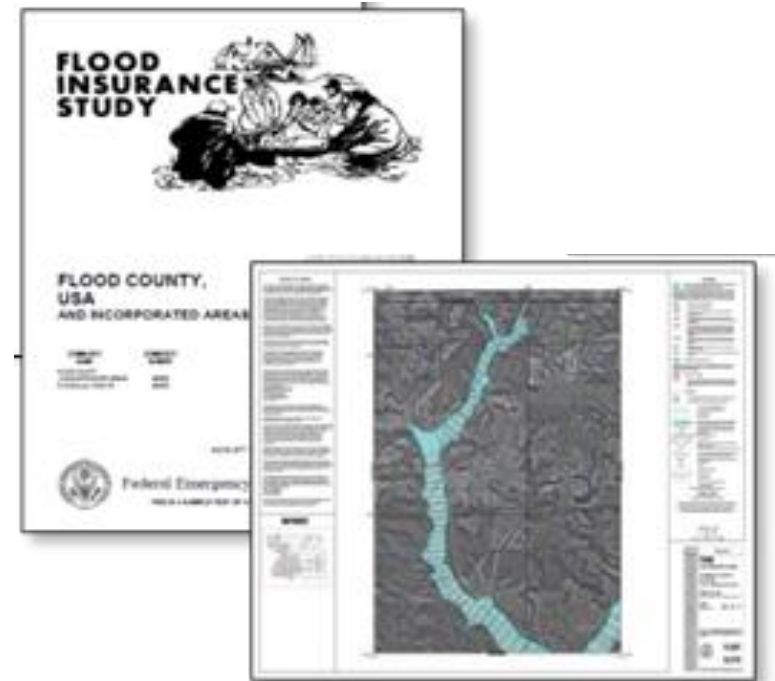
LIMWA: Limit of Moderate Wave Action

- **VE Zone Construction Standards are Recommended**
- **DEC Will Provide Optional Local Law Language**
- **Communities That Choose to Adopt Must Apply to State Fire Prevention and Building Code Council for a More Restrictive Local Standard**
 - DEC Will Provide Guidance
- **Building Code of NYS Requires Use of ASCE-24-05, Incorporating Coastal A Zones (LiMWA) for Construction Covered by Standard Building Code**
 - Residential Code Does Not Have That Requirement at this time.



Map Adoption

- After appeals are resolved, communities will receive a letter of final determination (LFD)
 - Maps effective after six months
- Before FIRM effective date, communities must adopt FIRM(s) and FIS into their local laws
- Most Westchester Communities Updated Local Laws in 2007 and Only Need To Amend Map Reference
- Consider Optional Additional Requirements



Compliance and Map Adoption Period

- Begins at date Letter of Final Determination is sent and ends at FIRM effective date
- Community officials review and revise the community's flood damage prevention ordinance to ensure compliance with NFIP regulations
- To avoid suspension from the NFIP, the community must adopt a compliant flood damage prevention ordinance, and submit its ordinance to the NYSDEC for approval prior to the end of this period

The Road to Ordinance Re-Adoption

- 6 month: FEMA 6-month LFD Letter
- 5 month: NYSDEC Assistance Letter
- 3 ½ month: Draft Ordinance
- 3 month: NYSDEC review of draft ordinance
- 3 month: FEMA 90-day Reminder Letter; NYSDEC Reminder
- 1 month: FEMA 30-day Reminder Letter; NYSDEC Call

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						
31						
31	30	30	31	30	30	30
31	30	30	31	30	30	30
31	30	30	31	30	30	30
31	30	30	31	30	30	30

What is the responsibility of the community during this period?

Local Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance to include:

- Updated FIS and FIRM Panel numbers
- Local Floodplain Administrator Designation
- Updated Map and FIS Effective Date
- Appeal Board Designation
- Penalties for Noncompliance

SEQRA

- **Type I Action**
 - Part 617.4(b)(1), this is a land use plan in which the local community has some discretion
- **Must fill out long Environmental Assessment Form**
 - Most of form is “Not Applicable”
 - Fill out Introduction and Part 25
- **This is a clear “Negative Declaration”**
 - Reduces flood risk and is beneficial to the environment

Common Local Law Mistakes

- Failure to provide map repository location
- Failure to name a floodplain administrator office (must be an office; not a name)
- Incorrect FIRM or Flood Insurance Study reference
- Naming Town/Village/City Board or Council as appeals board (Must be an Independent Board)
- Inconsistent section numbering
- Failure to include all sections

Questions? Need Ordinance Assistance?

Visit our website:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/311.html>

Contact our office:

NYSDEC, NY State NFIP Coordinator's Office

(518) 402-8185, floodplain@dec.ny.gov

David Sherman (Local Law Lead)

Bill Nechamen (Section Chief)

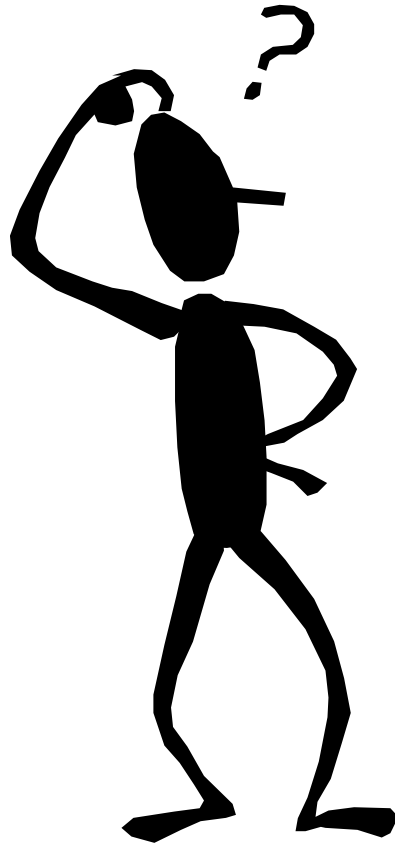


Review and Summary

- Map Overview
- Risk Communication
- Floodplain Management
- National Flood Insurance Program
- Next Steps: Local Ordinances, Open House, Appeals
- Review and Summary

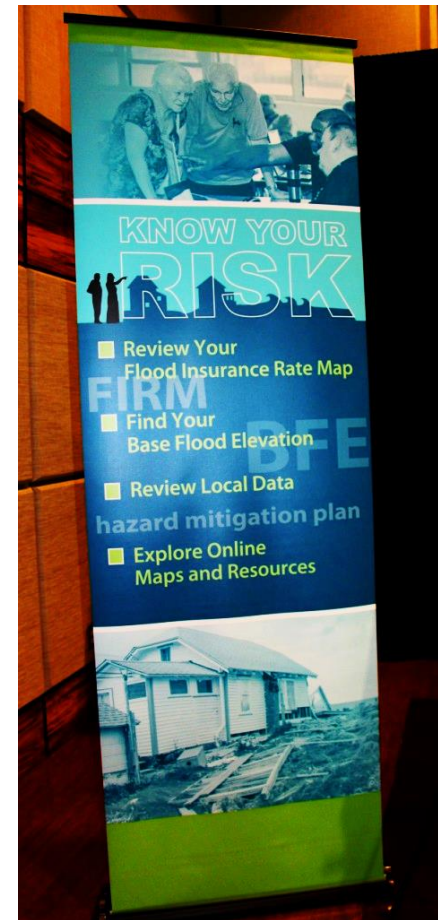
Together, we all can create stronger and safer communities.

Questions



Open House

- Provide local residents, businesses, and property owners opportunity to visit with municipal, county, State, and Federal officials to:
 - Understand what flood hazard zones on new FIRMs are and what they mean
 - Learn about how their flood risk will affect their floodplain management and flood insurance requirements
 - Become informed about options if affected by high-risk flood zone



Example Flood Risk Open House Room Layout

