



THE IAFSM CURRENT

Illinois Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management

Fall 2019 Newsletter

Illinois' #1 Repetitive Loss Building Has Been Mitigated

On September 3rd, the IDNR Office of Water Resources (OWR) demolished the Kampsville Inn. The structure was the #1 repetitive loss property in the entire state of Illinois. Over the years, a significant amount of money was paid on disaster assistance and flood insurance claims on this structure. OWR staff have attempted to bring this building into compliance with current flood protection standards for many years. OWR has written dozens of letters, held community meetings, and have gone to court to enforce compliance. Using OWR mitigation funding, we were finally able to purchase the structure and tear it down. It is a huge victory for the State of Illinois. Independent studies have shown that mitigation programs save the taxpayer \$6.50 for every mitigation dollar spent.



Before



After



During

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Local Officials in Illinois Continue to Ensure New Development is Flood Free

Thank you, Local Officials! For many years, Illinois has held the nation's lowest percentage of flood insurance claims on new buildings. In early September, FEMA headquarters provided Illinois with an updated list. Illinois remains #1 in the overall percentage of claims on new buildings (despite an increase in flooding). Only 10% of insurance claims are made on new buildings. The overwhelming majority of damages in Illinois occurs on older structures which were built prior to the adoption of state and local floodplain regulations.

This new data is shown in the table below from FEMA. Region V states are shown in gray shading with Illinois at the top. This confirms what IAFSM has always known:

1. Local officials in Illinois are excellent floodplain managers, and
2. Strong regulations (including freeboard) are working in Illinois.

State	Pre-FIRM Claims	Post-FIRM Claims	Total State Claims	Pre FIRM %	Post FIRM %
IL	15,962	1,789	17,889	89.23%	10.00%
PA	15,972	2,248	18,249	87.52%	12.32%
IN	6,530	980	7,554	86.44%	12.97%
MI	3,183	501	3,692	86.21%	13.57%
WI	3,065	500	3,582	85.57%	13.96%
VT	1,481	252	1,736	85.31%	14.52%
OH	5,225	927	6,179	84.56%	15.00%
NY	74,213	13,467	87,853	84.47%	15.33%
CT	10,381	1,929	12,349	84.06%	15.62%
IA	6,144	1,155	7,337	83.74%	15.74%

- Floodplain / Floodway Studies
- Stormwater Master Planning
- Stormwater System Design, Review and Permitting
- Sedimentation and Erosion Control
- Best Management Practice Application
- Wetland Delineation and Mitigation Planning and Design
- NPDES Compliance
- Streambank Stabilization



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IAFSM Logo Contest: Win \$200!



In 2007, a member contest was held to develop the current IAFSM logo. That logo is now 12 years old.

The Board of Directors has announced a contest to design a new logo that is more appropriate for the digital age. We are offering a \$200 Amazon

Gift Card for the winner of the design contest. Here are the rules:

1. The logo should illustrate the objectives of the Association: to promote the common interest in floodplain and stormwater management; enhance cooperation among various local, state and federal agencies; and encourage effective and innovated approaches to managing the State's floodplain and stormwater management systems.
2. The logo must be no larger than 1-inch-high and 2-inches-wide. It is intended to be on our letterhead, website, newsletter, etc.

3. The logo must be reproducible in black and white or color.
4. Multiple entries may be submitted.

5. Logos must be submitted to the IAFSM Executive Secretary, Sarah Harbaugh, by **January 6, 2020**. Send via email to IAFSM@IllinoisFloods.org.

6. All submittals will become the property of IAFSM.

7. IAFSM reserves the right to modify the winning submittal, create a new logo using elements of various submittals, and/or preserve the current logo for future use.

A Board committee will review the submittals and pick the top four or five. These will be on a ballot in the conference packet during our Annual Conference in March of 2020. All conference participants will be asked to vote for one of the top submittals. The creator of the winning logo will receive a \$200 gift card to Amazon. The selection of final logo for use by IAFSM will be determined by the Board of Directors.

Young Professionals Group Update

The Young Professionals Group hosted its first event on Thursday, September 12th at the Elmhurst Quarry. We had an awesome turnout for the tour and it was both educational and fascinating. The group continued for a networking happy hour after the tour. Thank you so much to Sarah Hunn, Mary Mitros and Jamie Lock at DuPage County Stormwater Management for guiding the tour! Also, thanks to Tyler Meyer and Melissa Duyar for coordinating the tour and happy hour location.

Please keep an eye out for our upcoming Young Professionals Webinar Series and other future events. We hope to have our first webinar in the Fall. Please pass the word along to any colleagues or friends who may be interested in getting involved with Young Professional events. Watch your inbox or contact Adam Blumstein, committee chair, at arblumstein@burnsmcd.com or 312.741.5867



The Young Professionals Group at the Elmhurst Quarry

Register Now for EPA's Eighth Annual Campus RainWorks Challenge

Do you know any college students studying water resources or a related field? If so, let them know that the registration period for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's eighth annual Campus Rainworks Challenge is open through October 15th.

The Campus RainWorks Challenge is a green infrastructure design competition that seeks to engage with the next generation of environmental professionals, foster a dialogue about stormwater management and showcase the environmental, economic and social benefits of green infrastructure practices. Current students at American colleges and universities are eligible to participate. Teams must register by October 15th and submit their complete entries by December 17th. Winners will be announced in the Spring of 2020.

Each first-place team will earn a student prize of \$5,000 to be divided evenly among student team members and a faculty prize of \$5,000 to support green infrastructure research or training. Second-place teams will win a student prize of \$2,500 and faculty prize of \$2,500.

Check out the rules for competing and register at: www.epa.gov/campusrainworks

Waterpalooza and How to Borrow our Water Table!

IAFSM participated in WEFTEC's Waterpalooza Event in September by displaying the IAFSM Water Table at the event. [About 250 children \(second grade through fifth grade\) from the Maria Saucedo Scholastic Academy attended the event](#) and stopped at IAFSM's booth to learn about Stormwater Management in a hands-on interactive way. Throughout the day, Mark Hoskins from IDNR taught the students about weather, floodplain management and the concept of detention.

The water table is a great hands-on tool for teaching students about the effects of development on watersheds, and a wonderful introduction to sustainable floodplain management concepts. The IAFSM has five water tables available for members to borrow free of charge, located in Springfield, Champaign, Bartlett, Woodridge and Swansea. The tables come with a suggested lesson plan that is tailored to different age groups from about third grade all the way through high school. Contact Sarah Harbaugh, IAFSM's Executive Secretary to reserve a table today!



- Photos courtesy of Natalie Beach

2D Floodway Modeling Update

~Glenn Heistand, P.E., CFM, ISWS

A round table discussion regarding 2D floodway modeling was held at the 2019 IAFSM Annual Conference. In June, 2019, the IAFSM Advanced Hydraulic Modeling subcommittee compiled and submitted comments in response to FEMA’s draft whitepaper titled “2D Models and Floodways: Challenges, Benefits, and Considerations, DRAFT Version 0.1, April 2019”. In addition to IAFSM, more than 30 different individuals and organizations contributed comments to FEMA nationwide, leading to a few minor updates to the draft whitepaper and helping establish priorities for FEMA’s next steps.

The revised FEMA whitepaper (Version 1.0, August, 2019) was recently released, along with a summary of the received comments. In August, FEMA created the 2D Floodway Integrated Project Team (IPT), which will use the latest whitepaper and comments to pursue short-term and long-term goals for addressing 2D floodways in regulatory models. The IPT intends to narrow down short-term recommendations and solutions that are supported by the whitepaper in November of 2019. IAFSM will follow the progress of the IPT and provide more updates as available.



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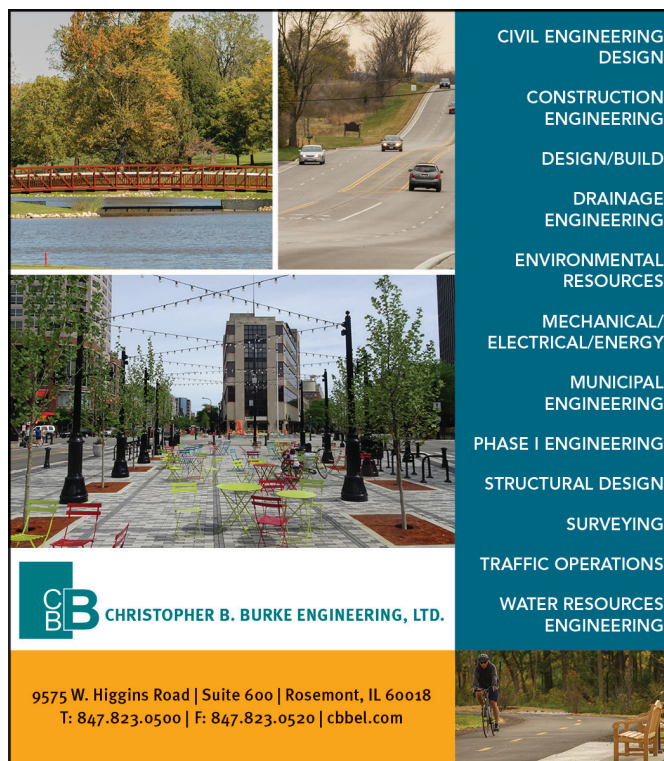


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Ever Wonder? Selection of Conference Presenters & Award Winners

-From the Chair: Erik Gil, P.E., CFM, CBBEL

For most of our members, autumn kicks off the annual conference preparatory work, but for the Board and especially the Conference Committee Chair and Executive Vice-Chair Steve Altman, conference planning is a perennial activity. By now, members should have received two emails from our Executive Secretary, Sarah Harbaugh: a call for abstracts and a call for award nominations. I'm hopeful that many of you will be responding to one or both emails. Ever wonder how we review your submittals and make decisions?

Selection of Conference Presenters:

The Conference Committee Chair organizes and oversees the entire abstract selection process. The entire Board reviews every abstract, and several of the Committee Chairs provide specific input and recommendations for presentation selections related to their committees. Based on the submittals, particular topics may surface which then help group the remaining selections together in ninety minute sessions. Depending on the number and variety of submittals, the Board also strives to provide maximum diversity of topics, divide the selections equally between the public and private sectors, and provide opportunities to first-time presenters.

We encourage presenters to emphasize unique aspects of their projects or studies, rather than an overview. The technical sessions are the back-bone of our conference and the Board recognizes that it's your efforts that ultimately provide the quality to those two days. [Please consider submitting an abstract.](#)

Selection of IAFSM Award Winners:

Every year we know that there are regulators, engineers, and environmental scientists that have achieved a milestone or helped a community or county stand out in the field of floodplain and stormwater management. For more than 30 years, our awards program have recognized these individuals and units of government. Sarah Hunn, our Awards Committee Chair, has a group of people in her committee who assist her in collecting and reviewing nominations. Admittedly, we are not usually inundated by a large number of nominations. If we are looking for outstanding people and communities, then it makes sense that this number should not be very large.

However, we believe that there are more excellent floodplain managers and communities than are typically submitted for nomination and would meet the minimum threshold for a nomination. Preparing an award nomination is not

trivial, but our awards program is important to IAFSM and recognizing outstanding effort among our membership should be highlighted. If you have an award-worthy person or community in mind and are not quite sure how to approach the award nomination process, please contact Sarah Hunn. She will gladly make suggestions if you want to proceed with a formal nomination submittal.

IAFSM Logo Contest:

Earlier, in this newsletter, you read a description of a logo contest. By now I am hopeful that everyone of you has visited our new website, even if just for a couple of minutes. The updating process is still on-going, so we are not done yet. As part of that process the Board has decided it was time to consider a new logo. The last time we did this was in 2007 and we engaged our entire membership in a contest. The end result was the logo you see in our emails, conference brochures, website, etc. We will vote during the conference to select a winner, but the end result, like last time, could be a combination of ideas. Good luck to our prospective creative members who are willing to give it a go. We received a great number of logo contest entries in 2007 and we hope it can happen again.



Check This Out!



Recent legislation signed into law by Governor Pritzker gives Illinois the ability to set its own limits on emissions of greenhouse gases, beginning January 1st. Clean energy legislation is now advancing through Springfield. This comes following a report that shows how climate change is threatening the Great Lakes, including predictions of more extreme weather events and flooding earlier in the year. Read more at these two links: [new legislation](#) and [Great Lakes Climate Change report](#)

IAFSM on Social Media

Follow IAFSM on Facebook and LinkedIn! You will start to see these pages updated regularly with exciting floodplain and stormwater management related content. Please send any time sensitive announcements or ideas for content to Melissa Duyar at Melissa.Duyar@kimley-horn.com or Sarah Wenzel at SWenzel@prairieengineers.com



Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/pg/Illinois-Association-For-Floodplain-And-Stormwater-Management-607922356237945/posts/?ref=page_internal



LinkedIn:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/illinois-association-for-floodplain-and-stormwater-management/about/>

IEMA Deadline Quickly Approaching for Mitigation Assistance Funding

IEMA has established a submittal deadline of October 31st, 2019 for this year's [PreDisaster Mitigation \(PDM\)](#) and [Flood Mitigation Assistance \(FMA\)](#) programs. The Notice of Funding Opportunity for the programs was announced on August 26th and the details are located on the FEMA website.

All applications must be entered in the egrants system, which requires registration. Sam Al-Basha is the State Hazard Mitigation officer at IEMA and can assist you in registering. He may be contacted with any questions you have at 217.785.9942 or by email at sam.m.al-basha@illinois.gov.



CEC Education & Training Opportunities

Looking for training opportunities? The following opportunities are coming up in the next few months. If you are looking for credits, be sure to review the material and confirm they meet the appropriate requirements.

IAFSM/ASFPM Sponsored Training Opportunities:

- December 11th – Winter 2019 CFM Exam

Additional Training Opportunities:

EMI provides a wide range of training opportunities and upcoming training. See article in this newsletter!

- EMI courses are free for local and state government employees. Learn more at the EMI website: <http://training.fema.gov/emicourses/>

Upcoming classes include:

- E0172 Hazus for Floodplain Managers – December 2nd through the 5th
- E0272 Core Principles for Hazard Mitigation Floodplain Management Specialists February 3rd through the 5th, 2020
- E0273 Managing Floodplain Development through the NFIP – December 2nd through the 5th

Webinars

ASFPM – <http://www.floods.org/n-calendar/webinars.asp>

- None listed at this time

Conferences

- October 23rd through the 25th – WAFSCM (Wisconsin) Annual Conference in Wausau, Wisconsin

Other training and CEC opportunities can be found on ASFPM's calendar: <http://www.floods.org/n-calendar/calendar.asp?>

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Important Stuff We Tell You in Every Newsletter...

Save the Date! 2020 IAFSM Conference

The Annual IAFSM Conference will be on March 11th and 12th at the Tinley Park Convention Center.

Wanted: Newsletter Ideas and Articles

IAFSM members, this is YOUR newsletter! Email Jennifer Maercklein, editor, at jmaercklein@v3co.com if there are topics that you'd like us to cover. You don't need to write the article - we just want your ideas! If you're gifted with a pen and would like to provide content, we welcome your written contributions as well.

Get Involved with IAFSM!

IAFSM Committee Chairs welcome your help and involvement. See the list of chairs on the last page of this newsletter or visit the committee web-page to learn more about volunteer opportunities: <http://www.illinoisfloods.org/committees.html>

Borrow our Water Table

IAFSM has five Watershed Tabletop Models available for all members to check out (free of charge) and bring to Public Works open houses, scout meetings, 4-H meetings, school classrooms, etc. This offers a great opportunity to educate about the dangers and impact of unplanned development and human activity in the floodplain. IAFSM currently keeps

tables in Springfield, Champaign, Bartlett, Woodridge and Swansea. Contact Sarah at IAFSM@illinoisfloods.org to make arrangements.

Next Board Meeting

The next IAFSM Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 19th from 9am to 3pm at V3 Companies, Ltd. V3 is located on 7325 Janes Avenue in Woodridge, Illinois. This is our big conference planning meeting and a great meeting to attend! All members are welcome and encouraged to attend board meetings. General members should notify Sarah Harbaugh if you plan to attend. See you there!

Jobmart

Visit our Jobmart at <http://www.illinoisfloods.org/jobmart.html> Jobmart is a free service to members of IAFSM. To post an open position, please sign into our website and complete the job listing form. If you have any questions please contact Sarah at IAFSM@illinoisfloods.org

2019 CFM Exam Schedule

To view 2019 exam dates and register, visit www.illinoisfloods.org/certification.html The next exams are scheduled for December 11th in Rosemont and March 10th in Tinley Park (before the conference).



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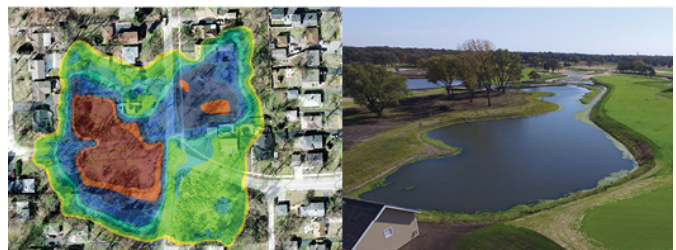
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Fall 2019 Newsletter

The IAFSM Newsletter is published quarterly for members of the Illinois Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management. Information and opinions contained herein do not necessarily reflect the views of all members. Items for publication and other editorial matters should be directed to the editor at jmaercklein@v3co.com.

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