

THE IAFSM CURRENT

Illinois Association for
Floodplain and Stormwater Management

Fall 2011 Newsletter

My Pilgrimage to the Gilbert White Memorial

~Jeff Wickenkamp, P.E., CFM, Immediate Past Chair, Hey & Associates

If you're like I was, there's a good chance you don't know all that much about Gilbert White. You may have heard he that he started his career in Illinois and spent his later years at the University of Colorado in Boulder. Maybe you attended an ASFPM national conference and saw someone receive the Goddard-White Award (the most distinguished award at the national level) and thought "Hmm, that's partly named after that Gilbert White fellow again, he must have been pretty important." Maybe you've never heard of him at all. If so, then the first thing you should know is that he's often referred to as the "father of floodplain management."



Jeff Wickenkamp at the Memorial to the
"Father of Floodplain Management"

I could try to tell you more about him in this article, but it's better left to others. CU has an excellent website dedicated to him at: <http://www.colorado.edu/hazards/gfw/> and the National Academy of Sciences has published a relatively short biographic memoir that you can read at: <http://www.rwkates.org/pdfs/a2011.01.pdf> It's not only a summary of Gilbert's major philosophies and contributions, but also provides a fascinating overview of a full career that spanned the major events of the 20th century. His most important work was his 1945 dissertation *Human Adjustment to Floods: A Geographical Approach to the Flood Problem in the United States*. In it, he wrote "Floods are 'acts of God,' but flood losses are largely acts of man. Human encroachment upon the flood plains of rivers accounts for the high annual total of flood losses." He published for 70 years of his career, a bibliographic list that spans 29 pages. Gilbert White passed away in 2006.

While I was Chair a few years ago, the Gilbert White Memorial Committee contacted IAFSM and asked if we would like to contribute to the construction fund for the memorial. With Gilbert's strong ties to Illinois, IAFSM's board decided to provide support. After our donation was made, I received a few email updates saying that construction was progressing or that the dedication ceremony had taken place. After that, I didn't give it much more thought until this summer. One day a small bubble wrap mailer arrived on my desk. I opened it and found a glass paper weight with a letter. As I read the letter, I discovered that the piece of glass in my hand had been cored from the center of the monument and had been sent to me as a token of appreciation. After living with my new paperweight for a few weeks, I found myself feeling compelled to visit the memorial. When my wife and I planned an end of summer weekend getaway, we narrowed our potential destinations down to Florida or Colorado. Noting that hurricane season was soon to be upon us, we chose Denver. (This was a good choice, as all eastbound planes were grounded on our day of departure due to Irene).

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On the last day of our trip we had a free morning which allowed us to make our way from Denver up to Boulder. It didn't take long to find the memorial, which is located in a park near the lively pedestrian mall that is the heart of Boulder. According to those who knew him best, Gilbert would not have wanted any kind of memorial structure. To honor his principles, the designers set out to create something that would not only be beautiful, but also functional and educational. The monument is a glass obelisk, with a sedimentary rock type of texture to it, ringed by metal markers indicating the various design and historical high water marks. In person, it's slender, graceful, and somewhat imposing all at once. The highest flood markers are quite high compared to the tranquil stream next to it. There were also a few nice informational displays that talked about Gilbert and his work.

My wife and I spent a few minutes there and I had her take a photo of me at the monument. The experience was subtly but genuinely moving. Just a few moments taken in a serene and pretty park, where I could remind myself just how important our work is. Take a moment now to ask yourself, how many people's lives and experiences can we improve by continuing to follow the path that Dr. White envisioned so many years ago and spent a lifetime pursuing? I think many more.

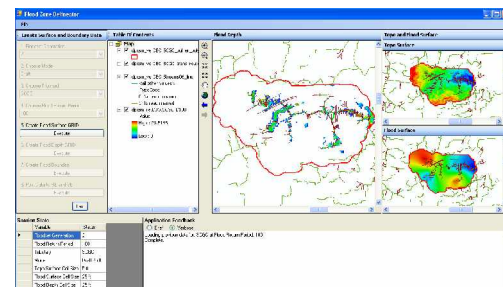


The Gilbert White Memorial in Boulder, CO

Flood Plain Mapping at DuPage County, IL: A Custom Solution Using State-of-the-Art Technology

Adrian Lin, Patrick Engineering; John McLaughlin, P.E., and Christine Klepp, P.E., DuPage County Stormwater Management

Stormwater managers are faced with the difficult challenge of representing complex floodplain flows through real geography into a two dimensional mapping space. They also face the task of mapping and publishing their data in a reproducible, efficient, and reliable way. Moreover, the DuPage County Stormwater Management Division's (DPCSM) flood plain modeling approach, that includes HSPF for hydrology, FEQ for hydraulics, and PVSTATS for statistical analysis, has found there is no commercial off the shelf floodplain mapping software that directly integrates with these engineering analysis programs and their specific spatial data handling needs. DPCSM, a FEMA Cooperating Technical Partner, in conjunction with Patrick Engineering (PEI) and others, have met these challenges by developing innovative techniques and embracing the newest technologies using ESRI's ArcGIS server and desktop development platforms and .NET technology. Together, they have constructed a series of GIS applications and a workflow methodology to augment and publish the results of the modeling processes.

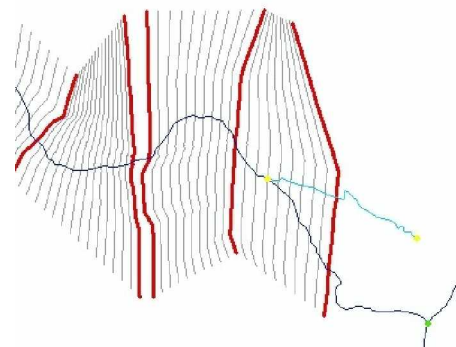


Screenshot of DuPage County's Flood Zone Delineator application

DPCSM is coming to the end of a multi-year endeavor of upgrading and enhancing their floodplain mapping system. This system is composed of five individual applications that are integrated into their engineering modeling workflow and are used to process cross section, flood surface, and elevation data. The applications work together by creating, using, and modifying large amounts of spatial data. *Land Cover Totals* tallies the kinds of land cover in a study watershed. *Transect Manager* and *Flood Zone Delineator* both work in coordination with FEQ to create and manage watershed data. *Flood Theme Developer* is used as a tool to view their products and perform map editing development. Lastly, *Flood Plain Mapper* brings together all the data to create map documents, specifically DuPage's Regulatory Flood Map, to be used by DPCSM and the public.

Transect Manager (TM) is a fully customized application that has a unique graphic user interface tailored specifically for the needs of DPCSM, handling hydraulic modeling, GPS, and custom data. Through the power of ESRI's ArcEngine and .NET technology, Transect Manager allows the user to inspect and manage information regarding cross sections, their stations, and elevation data. Users can create and copy cross sections, move station points, rotate cross sections, and perform graphing functions. Transect Manager fully integrates with the hydraulic model by importing and producing cross section input files.

Flood Zone Delineator (FZD) is built using the same technologies and approach as TM and consumes data created by TM. Its main purpose is to delineate flood zones through the use of a DPCSM and PEI intermediary cross section creation algorithm and several geoprocesses. Typically, managers are faced with utilizing cross sections that have an elevation points arrangement that is not amenable to constructing a fluid and accurate flood surface. Flood Zone Delineator densifies the elevation points in the cross sections to help create a fluid, cohesive, and accurate flood surface. The code fabricates morphed "intermediary" cross sections by creating a "point cloud" of geometric points based on the geometry of the input cross sections. Elevation values are calculated for each new point. This cloud of X,Y, Z point data is then used by the algorithm to create the flood surface and consequently the flood return period boundaries.



An example of intermediary cross sections generated from input cross sections across a stream reach. These cross sections are actually a "cloud" of dense elevation points.

Flood Theme Developer (FTD) is an ArcObjects application that extends ESRI's ArcMap Desktop software in the form of a toolbar. FTD creates a mapping environment symbolized and organized for the DPCSM mapper to quickly access and manipulate data created by TM and FZD.

Lastly, Flood Plain Mapper (FPM) is an ArcObjects "AddIn" toolbar within ArcMap. It allows the user to create DuPage County's Regulatory Flood Maps from the data created and modified by TM, FZD, and FTD. These maps are created in a prescribed map atlas set of pages. The program allows DPCSM to publish these documents in hardcopy and softcopy formats, including Adobe PDFs.

With the latest technologies, DPCSM has created a unique and integrated network of software applications that process floodplain data in an efficient and accurate manner. By combining custom tools developed on ESRI's newest GIS software platform, along with a new custom methodology to produce and represent the flood surface, DPCSM has created an innovative floodplain mapping workflow that is both efficient and specific to their needs.

Although custom in its application for DuPage County, the mapping data produced by these GIS tools will be used to update the FEMA DFIRM maps that became effective in December, 2004. With a grant from FEMA and in cooperation with the Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS), another FEMA Cooperating Technical Partner, DuPage County is re-studying twenty-four major and tributary watersheds with its HSPF/FEQ/PVSTATS methodology. The mapping data produced by DuPage County will be sent to the ISWS. The ISWS will then merge the revised study areas with the non-revised areas to create a new DFIRM map for DuPage County, which is expected some time in 2013.

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FloodMap Mobile: How Well Does it Work?

~Mary Lou Kalsted, P.E., CFM, Village of Lisle

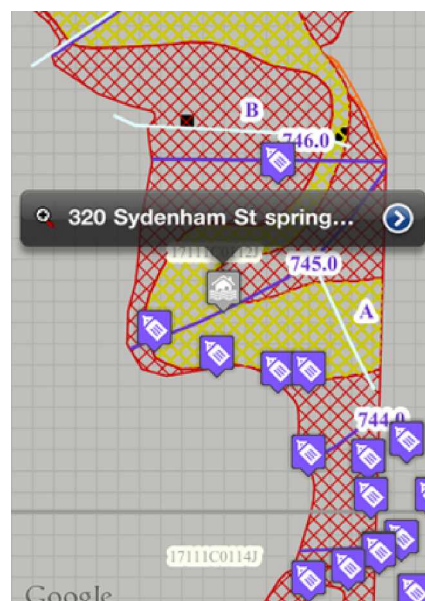
In the Spring 2011 issue of the IAFSM Current, we reported that Atkins created an application for smart phones that provides immediate flood hazard information to the user, called FloodMap Mobile. The phone will use GPS to determine the user's present location and provide the flood hazard information, or the user can enter an address. The application is available to the public, and the cost is a one-time \$1.99. IAFSM wondered how the app worked, so I downloaded the app and tried it out.

Display Options

The app allows the user to configure the data that is displayed and provides many choices. I chose to have it display an orthophoto in the background of the map, the floodplain, certain stream information, and the LOMAs in the area.

Address Report

Let's say you've entered an address. The app brings up a map with an orthophoto in the background, showing the floodplain. The app identifies the location of the address you requested. It also shows points representing LOMAs in the area of the address. By clicking on one of those LOMA points, the actual LOMA document will appear in its entirety.



Example of the app screen display

If the user clicks on the address location point, a basic report opens. It shows the address, an estimated value of the structure and its contents. Three more report subcategories appear on which the user can click and additional information is shown.

The first is "Risk and Insurance". The information in this report includes the level of risk (high or low); the approximate cost of a flood insurance policy, per year; the amount of CRS discount; and the number of flood insurance policies in the community.

The second is "FEMA Mapping Information". This report includes the community name and number, the map panel number, the flood insurance zone, whether or not the property is in the floodway, the distance to the closest floodplain, the date of the initial FIRM, and the printed map date.

The third is "Other Location Information". Information in this report includes the coordinates of the property, the name of the USGS quadrangle map that includes the property, the USGS watershed number, the ground elevation, and information about the closest flood gauge, including a link to it.

The app includes several very useful features:

- The app lets you e-mail the full report for the address, along with a screen shot of the map.
- The report shows the approximate cost of a flood insurance policy for the address.
- There are links to FEMA's website, the FloodSmart website, and to the flood map panel referenced in the report.
- There is a link to the nearest USGS stream gauge. Click on it, and it displays the web page for that stream gauge, with

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current information and the ability to access all features of the stream gauge site.

To view a copy of the Address Report, see <http://illinoisfloods.org/news.html>

FloodMap Mobile Results versus FIRM

I entered several known floodplain addresses in my community (Lisle). Each time, the report that displayed told me that the property was in a “Low” risk area, and most of the possible fields of data said “Not Available”.



I then tried entering known floodplain addresses in other Illinois communities (provided by members of the CRS Users Group). In some areas, all features of the app worked well—map fully displayed, information provided from all data fields. Some addresses showed full report data, but not all the map layers displayed. A few areas were like my community, with most fields showing “Not Available” and “Low” risk.

Status of App Development

I contacted Atkins about the status of the app, and the results that I was seeing. Their representative, Josh Price, was very helpful. He tested some addresses I sent where the map didn’t fully display, and said that they would investigate what appeared to be a problem with a lag in the Google map information. For some of the addresses where “Low Risk” was indicated for a known floodplain property, it appeared to Price that the property was located near the edge of the floodplain. He pointed out that the phone can’t determine exactly where the structure is on the property. Price said, “In FloodMap Mobile we should probably account for a margin of error in determining where an address is and just say it’s high risk if there is any type of floodplain within 50 feet of that address.” He also said, “....we are going to add some things in FloodMap Mobile to account for the inaccuracies in address location and find a better way to communicate that difference.”

Regarding known floodplain addresses which showed “Low Risk” and reports showing that data was “Not Available”, Price said that the flood map data that the app provides is from FEMA’s National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) database, which Atkins does not control. That database is provided by FEMA. Price said they will be looking at a method of checking to see if the database is available for the address requested, and if not, indicate “Not Available” for the flood risk instead of showing “Low Risk”.

Roger Denick from STARR, FEMA’s Region V Support Center, said that the digital data has been developed for about 60% of the counties in Illinois. Data is expected to be available for Lake County in 2012 and for DuPage County in 2013 at the earliest. The NFHL database will be produced from the new maps that the Illinois State Water Survey is currently producing. However, federal funding for flood mapping has been cut by 50%, which will significantly slow the mapping process in Illinois.

Final Thoughts

Overall, the app is a very useful tool for everyone, including floodplain managers, realtors, appraisers, homeowners, and those looking to purchase property. While it is not yet able to provide complete information for every address in Illinois, it is under continual development and will continue to evolve. As floodplain managers, we know that flood risk can be a complicated issue to explain to the general public. This app puts floodplain mapping information into the hands of those who need it, and provides floodplain managers with a starting point for important conversations on this subject.

Moreover, this app shows what can be done with digital flood map data, and what an extremely useful tool it can be, for everyone from homeowners to professional floodplain managers. See “From the Chair” in this newsletter for a discussion of the flood map funding issue and how each of us can influence the process. For more information about FloodMap Mobile or to download it, go to www.floodmapmobile.com or to the Atkins website at <http://northamerica.atkinsglobal.com/floodmapmobile>.

Illinois Homeowner Lawsuit Against Flood Determination Company

~Frank Shockey, FEMA Region V

As floodplain managers know, banks and other federally regulated lending institutions must determine if a building is in the floodplain before they make a loan secured by that building. For a building in the floodplain, with few exceptions the bank must require the borrower to purchase flood insurance, or else the bank could face fines from the federal financial regulatory entities for noncompliance. The National Flood Insurance Act allows these lenders to rely on the services of third-party vendors who perform such flood determinations. Illinois courts have held that by doing so, the Act makes the lender immune from liability for a third-party determiner's errors. But what about the third-party determiner?

In a recent Illinois case, the Third District Court of Appeals addressed this question and the related question of whether a third-party determiner might owe, and fail to meet, a duty to a borrower. A flood determiner failed to find that a building was in a floodplain, and when the building was later damaged by flooding, the homeowners sued the lender and the flood determiner. The trial court dismissed the suit against both the lender and the flood determiner, finding that the Act barred the suit. The homeowners did not dispute that the lender was immune from the suit, but appealed the dismissal of the suit against the flood determiner, arguing that it was not based on the determiner's responsibility under the Act but on a professional duty of care under Illinois common law. The appellate court agreed with the homeowners, holding that the Act does not immunize third-party flood determiners from suits alleging negligence in their flood determinations. The court also found that although the determiner was a third party with no business relationship to the borrower, the determiner's role in the real estate transaction was akin to that of a surveyor, and that the determiner could have foreseen that its determination would be relied upon by the borrower in deciding whether to purchase flood insurance. Thus the court found that it was possible for the third-party determiner to be liable for negligence, and returned the case to the trial court for further proceedings. The court commented that the potential for liability would "promote cautionary techniques in the flood determin[ation] industry."

The case is *Klecan v. Countrywide Home Loans*, 2011 ILL App 3d 100084. This summary is provided for the general interest of those involved in floodplain management. If you need legal advice or legal services, consult an attorney.

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Farewell

~Rich Roths, FEMA Region V

As I approached retirement from full-time employment, it gave me a chance to reflect on 32 years as an Urban Planner and 25 years in floodplain management, mitigation planning, and grants management. From 1979 through early 1986 I worked as a local planner and then what began as another planning position with the Northeastern Planning Commission in 1986 quickly took on a life of its own and a job became a career, and what you might refer to as a calling.

When French Wetmore of the Illinois Department of Transportation and Phil Peters of the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission hired me I looked at the position as “another job.” But French quickly immersed me in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) by having me read all of the Federal Register citations on the Program. At the time, I thought that it was a real sleeper, but it prepared me for what was to come. The northern Illinois floods of 1986 and 1987 opened my eyes not only to what the residents of our communities face, but the reasons that the floods take place. It is not the rain and the terrain but the actions that we, as communities, allow to happen.

French continued my education by introducing me to fathers of floodplain management, Gilbert White and Jim Goddard, and giving me the opportunity to listen to their sage discussions on floodplain management. I was hooked. Floodplain management, and subsequently disaster management, became more than a job: it became a calling in which we had to look not only at the after effects of an event, but also had to look at why the event happened and how we could reduce the damages in the future. Thanks French!

Many individuals from the states in FEMA Region V, the ASFPM, IAFSM, Ohio Floodplain Manager's Association, the Central United States Earthquake Consortium, and especially Jim Schwab from the American Planning Association continued to widen my education and offer new vistas. Thanks all!

You probably wonder what I am getting at. As floodplain managers, we cannot look at our positions just as “jobs”. The day to day activities, arguing with citizens, and sometimes arguing with the local officials can take a toll, especially when all we are trying to do is protect the life, health and safety of the residents and their buildings. We have to look at the bigger picture and look at what we are really there to accomplish. What we are trying to do is to:

- Understand the Risks;
- Educate the public and the local officials;
- Guide development so that it does not occur in high risk areas; and
- Reduce the damages in parts of our communities that have already been developed.

As long as we keep our eye on the finish line, we can handle the rest. We must all take the opportunities to learn from each other and use all of the educational opportunities that we are offered. For all of the troubles we face as floodplain managers and hazard managers, many of the individuals that I know continue to stay involved in the field after changing positions and even after retirement. This is because it has become a calling to many of us. I retired on August 31, but I do not plan to go away completely. I plan to stay involved, particularly in floodplain management and mitigation activities. So, you never know when I might pop-up again or when you might read an article by me.

As I close this article, I want to take the opportunity to thank IAFSM for the Lifetime Achievement Award. I truly appreciate it. But remember, a piece of the award should go to each of you, because you all had a hand in creating what I became and you are carrying on the calling.

I also want to remind you to *Keep Your Eye on the Finish Line-Reducing Risks and Protecting Your Communities!*



*Rich Roths accepting
IAFSM's Lifetime
Achievement Award.*

From the Chair

- Michael D. Cothard, P.E., CFM, CBBEL

Hello, I hope everyone has enjoyed their summer and looks forward to another Illinois fall. Loren Wobig, our Vice-Chair and Conference Committee Chair, is deep in preparation for the 2012 IAFSM Conference. You should have received the call for papers, volunteers, exhibitors and sponsors. We are planning many new additions to the coming conference such as a new location, field trips, and other surprises which we hope will create renewed interest and attendance. Please watch for conference information. If interested in volunteering to help coordinate the conference, please contact Loren Wobig, P.E., CFM at loren.wobig@illinois.gov.

I like to follow political issues pertaining to stormwater and floodplain. On Wednesday, September 21, a bill extending government funding failed to pass the House of Representatives. While this funding debate continues and Congress works out how to pay federal disaster funding reconstruction projects in 42 states totaling \$447 million dollars (according to FEMA records), disaster funding has been suspended. Whichever side of the fence you reside, you have my hope that you are not party to a natural disaster.

Finally, the ASFPM has issued a letter to Congress urging them to restore FEMA's Flood Mapping Budget. For those of us who remember using 10-20 year old maps to determine floodplains and floodways, you know that these updates are not only more convenient, but their increased accuracy assists in applying flood risk data appropriately to reduce flood damages and help property owners protect their assets. Also, digital forms of the maps enable new technology such as the FloodMap Mobile App described on page 4. The ASFPM letter can be found on their website at www.floods.org. Please take the time to read the letters and form your own opinions regarding the financing of this item, and contact your legislators accordingly.

If you are interested in the political aspects of floodplain and stormwater management please contact the IAFSM Legislation Chair Kay Whitlock, PE, D.WRE., at kwhitlock@cbbel.com.



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Save the Dates! 2012 and 2013 Conferences

The 2012 IAFSM Annual Conference and Technical Field Tours will be held March 14-15, 2012 at the InterContinental Hotel – O'Hare, in Rosemont, Illinois. A CFM exam and pre-conference continuing education workshops will be held March 13, 2012. Conference hotel rooms can be reserved for \$129 + tax by calling 800-341-7949. For those who may be submitting 2012 budget requests, please be aware that the conference registration fee will be greater than last year's fee. Registration information will be emailed to members in January, 2012.

The 2013 IAFSM Annual Conference will be held March 6 – 7, 2013 at the Marriott in Bloomington, with pre-conference continuing education workshops and the CFM exam on March 5, 2013. Save the dates!




Reminder: Call for Speakers, Exhibitors, and Sponsors for Annual Conference

We are looking for presentations that address floodplain and stormwater management issues for our 2012 annual conference. NEW! This year we are also looking for field tour ideas within ten miles of the conference site near O'Hare. The deadline to submit an abstract or tour idea for consideration is Monday, October 31. Exhibitors and Conference Sponsors are also being sought at this time. Bonus recognition will be provided to those who commit to Sponsorship by January 6, 2012. For more information, visit our website at http://www.illinoisfloods.org/12_conference.html.

Ottawa's Continued Floodplain Mitigation Efforts



The City of Ottawa continues to mitigate structures in the floodplain. Here, a historic school house is moved to higher ground. Ottawa will soon be the only CRS Class 2 community in the state, and one of only a handful in the nation. Residents will benefit with a 40% reduction in flood insurance premiums. Good work, Ottawa!

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CRS Users Group News

~Mary Lou Kalsted, P.E., CFM, Village of Lisle

Changes are coming to the Community Rating System Program in 2012. In August, the CRS Users Group participated in webinars presented by French Wetmore on behalf of the NFIP to learn about the proposed changes. Following the webinars, the group met via conference call to discuss the proposals and consider how it would affect their organizations. The group compiled their comments and sent a letter to the NFIP with the Illinois users group's comments. A follow up webinar will be held on October 20, 2011, led by French Wetmore, to discuss the final changes to the program and the NFIP and CRS Task Force response to the Illinois users group's comments.

The group also held a workshop hosted by the City of St. Charles on September 22, 2011. Paul Osman, Manager of Statewide Floodplain Programs/National Flood Insurance Program, Illinois Office of Water Resources, discussed substantial damages caused by flooding and taught the group to use FEMA's Substantial Damage Estimator software.

The CRS Users Group is made up of CRS Coordinators and others who work with the Community Rating System in Illinois communities. The IAFSM Community Rating System (CRS) Committee facilitates the meetings. The Community Rating System is a program that earns flood insurance discounts for residents by a community's actions toward exceeding minimum NFIP requirements and meeting three goals:

1. Reduce flood losses;
2. Facilitate accurate insurance rating; and
3. Promote the awareness of flood insurance.

The next meeting of the group will include a discussion of one or more aspects of the new programs included in the 2012 CRS changes, date yet to be determined. Watch the IAFSM web site, on the CRS Committee page, for the date and location. For more information about the CRS Users Group, contact Mary Lou Kalsted, Chair of the CRS Committee, at (630) 271-4107 or mkalsted@villageoflisle.org.

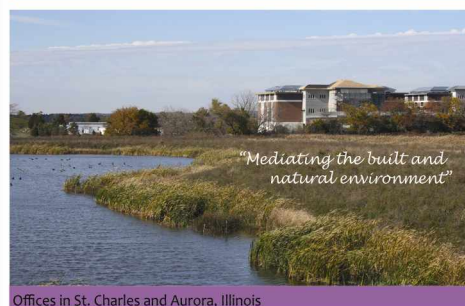
Borrow our Water Table!

Our Water Tables have been a big hit with kids and grown-ups alike! You may have seen our table (or played with it) during the Annual Conference. The table belongs to IAFSM members and is 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 new model offers a real opportunity to educate about the dangers and impact of unplanned development and human activity in the floodplain.

Through the use of this model, students can explore the value of wetlands and retention ponds in flood management. They can construct their own levees and witness how stream flow is affected and can impact downstream communities during times of high runoff. They can simulate ice damming and other seasonal risks in the floodplain. They can measure runoff volume and construct their own hydrograph of stream flow over time. Most importantly, they will work as a team to find and test solutions to a variety of floodplain problems simulated by the model. An in-depth curriculum guide is available to introduce students to important tools in the management of our critical watershed resources. Curriculum is geared towards middle school and high school students, with adaptations for younger grades.

IAFSM has two models and keeps one in Springfield and the other in northeast Illinois. Contact Sarah at iafsm@sbcglobal.net to make arrangements to borrow the model.

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CEC/Training Opportunities

Floodplain Management Workshops

October 11, 2011, DuPage County Administration Building Auditorium

Two half-day workshops will be presented, with lunch provided. Attendees may choose one or both workshops:

REVISING YOUR MAPS: INSIGHTS ON THE CLOMR/LOMR PROCESS, 9:00 – 12:00

This workshop will explain the review process and provide insights to help facilitate the map change process for requestors or potential requestors of map changes. Members from the Illinois State Water Survey's CLOMR/LOMR review team, Chris Hanstad and Brian Chaille; and Liana Winsauer from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Office of Water Resources will present helpful guidance and insight into the IDNR and FEMA CLOMR/LOMR reviews.

FLOODPLAIN 101, 1:00 – 5:00

This workshop is designed for new floodplain administrators and is also a refresher course for Certified Floodplain Managers (CFMs). The session will cover floodplain management concepts, basic FEMA mapping, floodway and floodplain regulations, state and local permit requirements, and flood insurance. Heather McGowan, Brian Eber and Paul Osman, from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Water Resources, and Frank Shockey, representing Federal Emergency Management Agency, will present.

To register, visit IAFSM's registration website: <https://www.123signup.com/register?id=cmbgd>. Registration deadline is October 7.


Costs of Green and Gray Stormwater Infrastructure

October 25, 2011, NIU Outreach Center, Naperville IL

There is much information available on green stormwater infrastructure, including design considerations and methods for modeling its effectiveness. Use of low impact development and BMPs aimed at treating and/or keeping runoff onsite is increasingly practiced in Illinois and nationally. There is still much debate and discussion regarding when these methods are cost-effective as compared to more traditional 'gray' infrastructure. This workshop will compare costs of green and gray infrastructure and provide considerations of the elements that influence the selection of one or the other.

This seminar is intended for stormwater engineers, permitting agencies, contractors and developers. The event will begin with an EPA update on the NPDES Rules Making status and then proceed with providing a framework of factors that influence the evaluation of cost. Subsequent presentations will then focus on real-life case studies, presented by both private and public sector subject matter experts.


To register, visit the IAFSM registration website at: <https://www.123signup.com/register?id=cmhgm>
Registration deadline is October 21.



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FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI) 2011 - 2012 CEC Courses

Seats are still available for floodplain management courses at EMI that have been pre-approved for Continuing Education Credits (CECs) for CFMs. EMI courses are offered at the Emmitsburg, MD campus and are **FREE** for local and state government employees. FEMA reimburses travel expenses and provides housing for state and local government employees attending EMI courses. Attendees or their employers pay for the campus meal ticket (about \$100 per week). You can find the EMI Course Schedule and application materials on the EMI website at <http://training.fema.gov/EMI/>.

2011 Calendar Year

E210 *Recovery from Disaster* Oct. 3-6, 2011 (6 Parallel CECs)
E900 *IEMC All Hazards: Preparedness & Response* Oct. 17-20, 2011 (6 Parallel CECs)
E901 *IEMC All Hazards: Recovery & Mitigation* Oct. 24-27, 2011 (6 Parallel CECs)
E273 *Managing Floodplain Development thru NFIP* Oct. 31 - Nov. 3, 2011 (12 Core CECs)
E208 *State Coordinating Officer* Oct. 31 - Nov. 3, 2011 (6 Parallel CECs)
E317 *Comprehensive Data Mgmt. for HAZUS-MH* Oct. 31 - Nov. 3, 2011 (12 Core CECs)
E905 *IEMC Hurricane: Preparedness & Response* Oct. 31 -Nov. 3, 2011 (6 Parallel CECs)
E313 *Basic HAZUS Multi-Hazards* Nov. 7-10, 2011 (12 Core CECs)
E276 *Benefit-Cost Analysis: Entry Level* Nov. 14-16, 2011 (12 Core CECs)
E190 *ARCGIS for Emergency Managers* Nov. 28 - Dec. 1, 2011 (12 Core CECs)
E601 *MTP: Mgmt. & Supervision of Training* Dec. 5-8, 2011 (12 Core CECs)
E282 *Adv. Floodplain Management Concepts* Dec. 12-15, 2011 (12 Core CECs)
E602 *MTP: Performance & Needs Analysis* Dec. 12-15, 2011 (6 Parallel CECs)
E174 *HAZUS MH for Earthquake* Dec. 19-22, 2011 (6 Parallel CECs)

2012 Calendar Year

E170 *HAZUS MH for Hurricanes* Jan. 9-12, 2012 (6 Parallel CECs)
E296 *Applic. of HAZUS-MH Risk Assessment* Jan. 16-19, 2012 (12 Core CECs)
E603 *MTP: Instructional Design* Jan. 23-26, 2012 (12 Core CECs)
E194 *Adv. Floodplain Mgmt. Concepts* Feb. 13-16, 2012 (12 Core CECs)
E179 *Applic. of HAZUS-MH for Disaster Operations* Feb. 13-16, 2012 (12 Core CECs)
E604 *MTP: Course Development* Feb. 13-16, 2012 (12 Core CECs)
E274 *Nat'l Dam Safety Technical Workshop* Feb. 22-23, 2012 (12 Core CECs)
E278 *NFIP: Community Rating System* Feb. 27- Mar. 1, 2012 (12 Core CECs)
E601 *MTP: Mgmt. & Supervision of Training* Mar. 12-15, 2012 (12 Core CECs)
E273 *Managing Floodplain Development thru NFIP* Mar. 19-22, 2012 (12 Core CECs)
E602 *MTP: Performance & Needs Analysis* Mar. 19-22, 2012 (6 Parallel CECs)
E605 *MTP: Instructional Delivery* Mar. 26-29, 2012 (12 Core CECs)
E172 *HAZUS MH for Flood* Oct. 17-20, 2012 (12 Core CECs)

To Apply

Applications for course vacancies must be received at least 6 weeks before the course start date for an applicant to be considered for the course. Vacancies within 6 weeks of the course start date shall only be filled from the established wait list, so it's important to apply early!

Go to <http://training.fema.gov/emcourses/> for more information or contact the Admissions Office at netc-admissions@dhs.gov or (301) 447-1035. Send completed applications to your State Training Officer for approval. The State will then forward them to Admissions. If interested, apply immediately!

More Ways to Stay in Touch!

As a reminder, in addition to email, IAFSM has more ways to stay in touch with members:

IAFSM now has a LinkedIn Group. Membership in the group is limited to current and past IAFSM members. All official IAFSM communication will continue to come via email, but our LinkedIn group provides a way for committee members to communicate with each other (if preferred over email). The LinkedIn group provides another way to network and stay in touch with other members; for example, one subgroup has been set up for users of HEC-RAS Unsteady Flow, and a second subgroup has been set up for CRS communities. Type IAFSM into the group search box on LinkedIn to find us, or click the hyperlink on our homepage at www.illinoisfloods.org.

We have a new Committee page on our website. Visit www.illinoisfloods.org/committees.html to learn more about what each committee is up to, check meeting dates, and get involved!

2011 IAFSM Membership Drive – FREE Membership!

In March 2011, the IAFSM Board voted to extend the membership fee waiver for municipal and county government employees and those who are retired or currently job seeking. Please help us get the word out and encourage your colleagues to join IAFSM! Sign up at: <http://www.illinoisfloods.org/membership.html>

CFM Exam Schedule

- Rosemont: **December 7, 2011** (Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd.)
- Rosemont: **March 13, 2012** (InterContinental Hotel)

As a reminder, IAFSM uses the National Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) Exam. The National Exam includes questions on coastal floodplain requirements and excludes Illinois-specific questions. The Illinois Floodplain Management Desk Reference found on our website is a valuable tool for floodplain managers in Illinois, but it is not a comprehensive study guide for the National Exam. To register, visit www.illinoisfloods.org/certification.html.

Next Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Wednesday, November 9, 2011 at V3 Companies, 7325 Janes Avenue, Woodridge IL.

All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. This is a great way to get involved with IAFSM. See you there!

Jobmart

Visit our Jobmart at <http://www.illinoisfloods.org/jobmart>. Current openings include:

- Stormwater Administrator, Village of Downers Grove, Illinois.

Jobmart is a free service to members of IAFSM. If you would like to post a position, send complete information to IAFSM@sbcglobal.net. The information should include a detailed job description and information on how to obtain an application (e.g., contact person, phone/fax numbers, URL). Please also include an expiration date for the posting.



Illinois Association for
Floodplain and Stormwater Management

THE IAFSM CURRENT

Fall 2011 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. To advertise in this newsletter (\$100-\$200 per year depending on ad size) contact the association at IAFSM@sbcglobal.net.

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For current Job Postings and CEC Training Opportunities, visit our website at illinoisfloods.org