A Note from the Chair

As spring unfolds, many of us are enjoying warmer weather and outside activities. On the other hand, springtime begins Kentucky’s wet weather season and flooding potential increases. As you do your spring-cleaning, I encourage everyone to brush up on preparedness and mitigation plans.

The KAMM Board has been very active since our two-day winter retreat where we established new policies for the organization, developed a schedule for the year and worked on a 3 – 5 year strategic plan. I’m happy to announce that we have revised the organization’s Constitution in order to achieve non-profit status with the IRS, revised our Bylaws to include membership opportunities for agencies, and appointed Pamela Moore as KAMM’s Executive Director. All of these activities have been undertaken with KAMM’s number one goal in mind: providing service, information and value to our members.

We are working diligently to plan for this year’s annual conference at Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park. The Call for Abstracts is open and we are finalizing plans for exciting field trips, great technical presentations and plenty of leisure time. We’re also doubling down on opportunities for attendees to become involved in committees to help shape KAMM’s future and to mingle with sponsors. Speaking of sponsors, we can’t thank them enough! We’re happy to announce a new Sponsorship level for the conference this year, the “Rust” sponsorship. Conference sponsorship is open now; please see additional details in this newsletter and on the KAMM website.

KAMM’s regional trainings are well underway and have been a resounding success. To date, we have provided training on floodplain management, the Community Rating System (CRS), Hazard Mitigation planning and grant opportunities, and local success stories to over 90 participants. Additional trainings will be held as we close out the month of April.

On a final note, I ask that everyone bookmark and visit the KAMM website (www.kymitigation.org) often. Our goal is to keep the website updated regularly and to serve as a “one stop shop” for information regarding natural hazards management and mitigation in Kentucky, training opportunities, and all things KAMM-related. Your feedback on needed resources and information for the KAMM website is both welcome and appreciated.

Carey Johnson
KAMM Accepting Abstracts for the
2016 KAMM Annual Conference
The Changing Climate of Mitigation
We are seeking abstracts for the various session types listed below to be presented at the 2016 KAMM annual conference from local, regional and federal officials, agencies, consultants, KAMM members, or anyone else with an interest in mitigation.

- Workshops (2, 3 or 4 hours)
- Concurrent Sessions (30 and 50 minutes)
- Plenary Sessions

Link to information and to submit. The deadline for submissions is April 15, 2016.

Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park
Lodging
Rooms for the conference can be reserved now. We reserved lodge rooms and various sized cabins. Reserve lodging now for the 2016 KAMM Conference! Deadline is July 22, 2016.

KAMM Conference Sponsorship
Exhibits will open at the KAMM Welcome Fest on Monday, August 22 and close Wednesday, August 24. KAMM has five levels of sponsorship packages this year!

We’re happy to announce new incentives for our sponsorship levels. Sponsors will receive recognition at all networking events and meals, an ad in the conference program, on-site signage acknowledging the contribution, and listing in Sponsor Directory (print and web).

We’re also happy to announce a new “Rust” sponsorship level for the conference this year!

Check it out at KAMM Conference Sponsor information.
From the KAMM CRS User’s Group

KY CRS Communities
- Barren County – Class 9
- Campbell County – Class 8
- City of Berea – Class 8
- City of Bowling Green – Class 7
- City of Frankfort – Class 8
- City of Grayson- Class 9
- City of Henderson – Class 8
- City of Melbourne – Class 8
- City of Nicholasville - Class 8
- City of Owensboro - Class 8
- City of Paintsville- Class 9
- City of Paris - Class 9
- City of Pikeville - Class 9
- City of Radcliff - Class 8
- City of Richmond – Class 9
- City of Silver Grove – Class 9
- City of Southgate – Class 9
- City of Woodlawn – Class 9
- Daviess County – Class 8
- Franklin County- Class 8
- Henderson County – Class 8
- Lexington-Fayette Urban County - Class 7
- Louisville-Jefferson County Metro Government - Class 3
- Madison County- Class 9
- Pike County - Class 9
- Rowan County - Class 9
- Warren County - Class 8

FEMA’s Substantial Improvement
Substantial Damage Desk
Reference
Community floodplain managers and code officials should add the
Substantial Improvement/Substantial Damage User Manual to their
bookshelves.

The SDE tool was developed by FEMA to assist State & local
officials in determining substantial damage for residential & non-
residential structures in accordance with a local floodplain management
ordinance meeting the
requirements of the NFIP. The tool
can be used to assess flood, wind, wildfire, seismic, & other forms of
damage. It helps communities
provide timely substantial damage
determinations so that
reconstruction can begin following a disaster.

FEMA Releases Damage
Assessment Operating Manual
The FEMA Damage Assessment Operating Manual establishes
national damage assessment
standards developed from lessons
learned and best practices already
in use and is intended to increase
the accuracy, consistency, and
efficiency of damage assessments
by empowering emergency
management at all levels with clear
information and defined roles and
responsibilities. The standards put
forth in the manual will be the
national standard utilized by states
and tribes conducting damage
assessments after disasters.

Interested in joining the KAMM
CRS Users Group? Send us a
message at
kentuckymitigation@gmail.com
Emergency Management Institute (EMI) Training

EMI is the best-kept-secret, and you need to add them to your radar as the nation’s best training opportunity. Their program includes reimbursement for flights and lodging for state and local officials when attending on their Maryland campus. To take a course at EMI, applicants must meet the selection criteria and prerequisites specified for each course. Link below to the upcoming 2016 courses:

2016 EMI course schedule 2nd semester

To learn more about EMI, go to http://training.fema.gov/EMICourses/

Upcoming WebEx Webinars

The following one-hour topical webinars begin at 1:00 pm Eastern, unless otherwise noted. Registration is free, but required, as space is limited. To register for any of the free webinars, link to WebEx Meetings and Training Center.

Current 2016 dates are below.
- Apr 14, Elevation Certificates
- May 12, 12:00 pm Floodplain Development
- May 12, 1:30 pm Inspecting Floodplain
- June 9, 2016 NFIP Basics

USDA Strategic Economic and Community Development

Section 6025 of the 2014 Farm Bill, “Strategic Economic and Community Development,” (SECD) reserves selected USDA Rural Development funds to implement regionally based, “multi-jurisdictional” strategic economic development plans.

The SECD requirement expands the mission area’s authority to collaborate across agencies; enables the participating programs to prioritize projects supporting regional strategic and long-range plans; and gives rural communities additional incentives to strengthen their regional capacity. More information may be found at the following link: http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/strategic-economic-and-community-development.

KAMP Training – 2016

KAMP has upcoming training in Owensboro and Lexington and a webinar. Link to KAMP for events and see the upcoming events below.

Links below go to the KAMP training opportunities so you can find out more or to register.

KAMP 2016 Spring Quarterly Meeting at GRADD
April 19 11:00 AM (CDT) • Green River Area Development District, 300 GRADD Way, Owensboro, KY 42301

KAMP and National Geospatial Technology Center of Excellence Joint Webinar
April 20 2:00 PM (EDT) • Webinar
Geospatial Exploratorium and GIS Workshop for Beginners – BCTC Newtown Campus, Lexington, KY
May 10 (EDT) • BCTC Newtown Campus, 470 Cooper Drive, Lexington, KY 40502

KAMP will also be offering a Hazard Mitigation track at their state conference in October 17 – 19 at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center in Covington, KY.
Announcements

Kentucky Business One Stop

The Kentucky Business One Stop Portal is here to create an easy-to-use environment where Kentucky’s businesses can find the requirements and tools they need to own and operate a business in Kentucky. The mission of the Kentucky Business One Stop is to promote economic development and job creation, and at the same time create efficiencies for both businesses and government.

Kentucky One Stop Business Portal (http://onestop.ky.gov)

Environmental Licenses/Permits

You may be required by state and federal law or regulation to have an environmental permit to operate in Kentucky. The website will take you to a great resource for identifying which environmental permits you may need: http://onestop.ky.gov/start/Pages/environmental.aspx.

FY16 Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program and Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Funding Announcement

KYEM is pleased to announce FEMA will be opening funding for the FY16 Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program and Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program application period on March 15, 2016.

FMA: The FMA grant program provides funds on an annual basis so that measures can be taken to reduce or eliminate risk of flood damage to buildings insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). FEMA is making $199 million available for FY 2016 FMA grants. See the FMA webpage for more information.

PDM: The PDM program provides funds on an annual basis for hazard mitigation planning and the implementation of mitigation projects for the purpose of reducing overall risk to the population and structures, while at the same time, also reducing reliance on federal funding from actual disaster declarations. FEMA is making $90 million available for FY 2016 PDM grants.

It is important to read the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for each program posted on Grants.gov as they contain the key program priorities and application requirements for FY 2016:

- Flood Mitigation Assistance: Link to the FMA NOFA or search for the DHS-16-MT-029-000-99 on grants.gov
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation: Link to PDM NOFA or search for the DHS-16-MT-047-000-99 on grants.gov

For example, the agency’s priority for FY 2016 PDM competitive projects is climate resilient mitigation actions (CRMA) and pre- or post-wildfire mitigation activities or any mitigation action that utilizes green infrastructure approaches. More information on CRMA can be found in the FEMA Library.

Link to Fact Sheets: FMA fy16 fma fact sheet and PDM fy16 pdm fact sheet.

Deadlines for Kentucky Applicants:

- Pre-Grant Applications will need to be submitted in the eGrants system at https://portal.fema.gov/famsVuWeb/home, by Friday, April 15, 2016.
- Grant applications will need to be complete and submitted by Friday, May 13, 2016.

Contact: Geni Jo Brawner, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, Kentucky Emergency Management, geneva.j.brawner.nfg@mail.mil.
NFIP Bulletin Announces Rate Changes
Effective April 1, 2016

FEMA, through the NFIP, provides the opportunity for homeowners, renters, and businesses to purchase flood insurance for financial protection against flooding. FEMA also works with communities to update and develop flood maps to inform the community of their current flood risk. These actions allow community members to take important steps to prepare for flooding risk in their area.

FEMA continues to take important steps to implement changes to the NFIP as called upon by the 2012 and 2014 flood insurance reform legislation (Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 and the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 (HFIAA)). In addition to the incremental rate increases required by law to bring rates to full risk, the NFIP is also putting processes in place in order to more clearly communicate flood risk to policyholders.

It is important to note that nearly 80 percent of NFIP policyholders are minimally impacted by either law because they already paid a full-risk rate prior to the passage of Biggert-Waters or HFIAA.

The NFIP is working with Write Your Own (WYO) insurance companies to better inform insurance agents and other stakeholders on the changes that took effect on April 1, 2016, for new business and renewals beginning on and after April 1, 2015.

More Information:
For key changes being made to the program, visit: www.nfipiservice.com/bulletin_2015.html.

Handy Guide to NFIP Changes that Took Effect on April 1, 2016


Flood Insurance Manual Changes Training

New Online Video Tutorial
This new video summarizes the changes that took effect on November 1, 2015. Many of these changes are a result of the implementation of the HFIAA and the continued implementation of Biggert-Waters 2012 (BW12).

What You Will Learn: This video covers important NFIP changes including:
- new Non-Residential categories
- new guidance for determining a Primary Residence
- revised rate tables for certain Post-FIRM buildings
- revised ICC rates

You’ll also learn about modifications to the underwriting forms, Floodproofing Certificate, and the endorsement and cancellation refund rules.

Go to the Video – 19 minutes long

Elevation Certificate & Nonresidential Floodproofing Certificate Renewed

The Office of Management and Budget has cleared its review of both the revised FEMA Elevation Certificate form and the Nonresidential Floodproofing Certificate form. Both will be effective until November 30, 2018.

FEMA has indicated it will offer its usual 12-month transition period for the use of the new form. During that period, the previous form may still be used. CRS communities are encouraged to use the fillable form available on the FEMA website linked below. Note that FEMA’s Residential Basement Floodproofing certificate is on a separate renewal cycle; that form is valid through November 2016.

FEMA is issuing a bulletin announcing the effectiveness of the new forms, and will be posting them on its website. Online and downloadable versions both certificates will be found at https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/160.

Alex VanPelt – Kentucky NFIP Coordinator
Alex VanPelt, Environmental Scientist IV, Floodplain Management Branch.
502. 564.3410 Ex. 4952; alex.vanpelt@ky.gov.
New Mitigation Publications – 2016

For more mitigation resources and other publications, go to KAMM’s Mitigation Resources page.

Follow the links ….


The UFR Newsletter serves as outreach to multiple federal, tribal, state and local stakeholders as a way to showcase UFR Process efforts aimed at supporting communities affected by disaster. The newsletter allows agencies to stay involved with efforts to further develop a UFR Process across the nation.

Flood Resilience Guide to protect utilities

Introducing EPA’s tool, Flood Resilience: A Basic Guide for Water and Wastewater Utilities, which was designed for small and medium drinking water and utilities and includes interactive worksheets, instructional videos, and flood maps. With a user-friendly layout, embedded videos, and flood maps to guide you, EPA’s Flood Resilience Guide is your one-stop resource to protect your critical assets.

Flood Resilience Guide Fact Sheet

Download the EPA Fact Sheet – Build Flood Resilience at Your Water Utility.

Flood Insurance Requirements for Recipients of Federal Disaster Assistance

When property owners receive financial assistance from the Federal Government following a Presidential declared disaster, they may be required to purchase flood insurance coverage.

Flood Recovery Guidance, Publications, and Links

Reducing Flood Risk to Residential Buildings That Cannot Be Elevated

This publication presents a range of flood protection measures available as alternatives to traditional structural elevation for homeowners whose residences meet both of the following conditions:

1. The residences are existing buildings. This publication is not intended to address construction of new buildings in floodprone areas as these structures should be sufficiently elevated and built in conformance with NFIP and local floodplain management regulations.

2. The residences are not Substantially Damaged or Substantially Improved, meaning that the buildings have not sustained damage or undergone improvement (i.e., reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition) where the cost of the damage or improvement exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the building before the damage occurred or improvement began. As with new construction, Substantially Damaged or Substantially Improved structures must be re-built in conformance with NFIP and local floodplain management regulations.

Link to the publication Reducing Flood Risk to Residential Buildings That Cannot Be Elevated.

Engineering Principles and Practices for Retrofitting Flood-Prone Residential Structures

The third edition of Engineering Principles and Practices for Retrofitting Flood-Prone Residential Structures (FEMA P 259) is now available from the FEMA Publications Warehouse. To read more about the document and for other information, see the article here: [Full Article].

Taking the Mystery Out of Flood Openings

There is a great article in the American Surveyor titled “Taking the Mystery Out of Flood Openings” by ASFPM’s Region 4 Regional Director, Terri L. Turner, AICP, CFM. Surveyors and local floodplain officials will appreciate this useful resource that illustrates some important considerations when evaluating flood openings. Click TheAmericanSurveyor_Turner_FloodOpenings_Vol10No6 for the article.

Property Owners Resources

After a Flood: Replacing Your Important Papers

Not only can homes be damaged by the severe storms, flooding, landslides or mudslides, but many survivors also may lose valuable personal documents. The documents include everything from Social Security cards to driver licenses to credit cards. Link to Replacing Your Important Papers for ways to retrieve lost documents.
Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)

2015 brought a summer of green water, with many areas of the nation seeing a record year for the growth of HABs.

Algal toxins are a growing problem in the US. HABs produce algal toxins that can cause fish kills and contaminate drinking water supplies. EPA has released a comprehensive strategic plan outlining actions to address algal toxins in drinking water. Solving this complex challenge to our drinking water will require action at all levels of government and approaches that are collaborative, innovative, and persistent.

FEMA Map Service Center a Great Resource

The FEMA Flood Map Service Center (MSC) is the official public source for flood hazard information produced in support of the NFIP. Use the MSC to find your official flood map, access a range of other flood hazard products, and take advantage of tools for better understanding flood risk. Users may search by address, place or latitude/longitude coordinates. Bookmark msc.fema.gov now!

Technical Mapping Advisory Council

The Technical Mapping Advisory Council (TMAC) is a federal advisory committee established to review and make recommendations to FEMA on matters related to the national flood mapping program authorized under the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012. The national flood mapping program provides flood maps to inform communities about the local flood risk and help set minimum floodplain standards so communities may build safely and resiliently.

The TMAC will review the national flood mapping activities authorized under the law and prepare recommendations to the FEMA Administrator. The TMAC will also produce a report on the impacts of climate sciences and future conditions and how they may be incorporated into the mapping program. TMAC is comprised of representatives from federal, state, local and private sector organizations as mandated in The BW-12 and governed by the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) requirements.


KAMM was formed in order to promote natural hazard mitigation and management in Kentucky. Our members represent local floodplain coordinators, planning and zoning officials, engineers, surveyors, GIS specialists, hydrologists, public safety and emergency managers.