



The *Lightning* Rod

Fall 2013

The Official Newsletter of the Texas Floodplain Management Association

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WOW– What a Year!

What an exciting year for TFMA as we celebrated our 25th anniversary. Just 25 years since we first formed TFMA back in 1988 in Austin. We were such a fledging bunch back then, but we had a strong core of around 100 dedicated floodplain managers that supported the organization and we were all bound and determined to make it successful and we did! The success of course comes with the wise guidance of many TFMA Board members over the years and of course you, the very important member is what makes TFMA successful. Without you, where would TFMA be today?

Let's look at this year's many highlights and milestones. First, in February 2013, TFMA moved from an office in Dripping Springs to a new office in Cedar Park. The new office in Cedar Park was a blessing and an answer to our prayers. If you are in the area, stop by for a cold drink and check out your new office.

Another major highlight of the year came with the TFMA Annual Spring Conference. Held at the Marriott Town Square Hotel in Sugar Land in May, it was filled with many exciting, educational presentations and our first ever Silent Auction. Throw in some technical workshops, a great field trip, socials, exhibits and a banquet at George Ranch and you have another great conference success. The Spring Conference was also an election year and boy was the election hot and exciting. You the TFMA membership elected 8 out of 10 new Regional Directors to serve on the TFMA Board. Many thanks to all our exhibitors and sponsors for their support of this event as well.

TFMA celebrated a major milestone in July. We welcomed our 2000th member Shane Tully, P.E. an engineer with the firm of Lina T. Ramey, Inc. in Dallas. TFMA is now the largest state floodplain management association in the country and we continue to grow. Membership now stands at 2,091. Congratulations to Shane and thanks for putting us over the top.

The next challenge came in August when we were forced to re-build our website as the company that had managed it was sold and our web-hosting was acquired by YourMembership. This acquisition required us to rebuild the website and this is still an ongoing project. Thanks to TFMA Office intern Courtney Casebier, we have been able to struggle through the migration and are now working to revamp and redo our web site. Thanks once again to you our membership, for your patience during this transition.

September brought the TFMA Fall Technical Seminars held in Austin at the Omni Southpark Hotel with a record-breaking attendance of over 500 participants. A highlight of the seminar was a tribute to Mike Howard who passed away on April 22, 2011. In honor of his memory, the TFMA Board of Directors established an endowed scholarship to fund in Mike's name at his alma mater – Sul Ross University in Alpine. We also honored Mike with a plaque on a newly purchased Stormwater demonstration model. Thanks to Monica Martin, CFM, floodplain administrator in Wharton for her generous support towards the purchase of this model.

Finally, Membership and CFM renewals is upon us. We hate to lose our members and especially our CFM's. You have worked so hard to gain your professional certification and we don't want you to lose it. Please contact the TFMA Office staff for assistance-they stand ready to help.

Indeed, 2013 was a great year for TFMA. Thanks to all of our members and corporate partners for your dedicated support. We could not do it without you. MANY THANKS! ~ Roy

From the President

By Diane Calhoun, CFM

Greetings TFMA

It is hard to believe that TFMA now has over 2000 members and more than 1700+ CFMs. Who would have ever thought TFMA would be that strong. Roy Sedwick did! Thank you Roy!

I want to thank the outgoing Board members for their support and services that they provided to TFMA over the years. I believe it is important to point out two outgoing members that have a long outstanding record of service and dedication to TFMA: Skipper Wood, Region 1 and Terry Pribble, Region 2. These two gentlemen have been with TFMA since the beginning. There is not enough room in this newsletter to list the many things that Skipper and Terry have been involved with.



Diane Calhoun,
TFMA President

Thank you Skipper and Terry for your support, service, and belief of sound floodplain management and the family of TFMA.

At the ASFPM Awards Luncheon, the 2013 John Ivey Award was presented to yours truly. What a great honor to receive an award in the name of this outstanding person who has been my mentor for many years. I would not have the passion and understanding of floodplain management without the guidance, patience and common sense of John and his support. Thank you John for the many long years ago when you told me to study the regulations and understand the common sense of floodplain management. Your belief in me has been amazing and greatly appreciated. I know I would not be here at this level of knowledge without you. Thank you John so very much.



Diane Calhoun, CFM receives the 2013 ASFPM John Ivey Award

Diane Calhoun, CFM and TFMA President, received the ASFPM John Ivey Award at the 2013 ASFPM Annual Conference held in Hartford, Connecticut in June. Congratulations to Diane!

2013 Annual Spring Conference Wrap-Up

Over 400 floodplain managers, administrators, engineers and others congregated at the Marriott Town Square Hotel in Sugar Land to attend events surrounding this year's Annual Spring Conference as TFMA celebrated 25 years. Conference attendees gathered May 21-24 to learn, network, see old friends, and make new ones, all while celebrating 25 years of TFMA.

Again this year, attendees had ample opportunities to learn about a wide variety of topics from a distinguished presenters during the technical portion of the conference. In addition to the plenary session lectures, attendees could also participate in Early Bird Workshops held on Tuesday and could choose from the many educational tracks on Wednesday and Thursday.



At the Annual Business and Awards Luncheon on Thursday, the 2013 awardee for TFMA's top honors were unveiled as follows:

Roy Sedwick Award—Mike Howard, CFM

Agency Sponsor of the Year Award—Houston Galveston Area Council

City Floodplain Management Excellence Award—City of Irving

Floodplain Manager of the Year—Garry Fennell, CFM

Special Recognition Award—City of Austin, Local Hazard Mitigation and Creek Flood Hazard Mitigation Groups and the San Antonio River Authority



City of Arlington Receives ASFPM 2013 Media Award

At the 37th Annual ASFPM National Conference in Hartford CT, the City of Arlington received the ASFPM 2013 Media Award. The award was accepted by Bill Brown, Executive Stormwater Manager and Audra Valamides. The City of Arlington's Flood Safety Awareness Campaign is an annual week long outreach campaign corresponding with National Flood Safety Awareness Week geared toward raising awareness about flood safety and preparedness. The week of March 18-22 is devoted to revealing how residents' simple actions can help protect lives and property during a flood.

Each year, the City aims to create an all-inclusive outreach campaign targeting youth, adults, and seniors because flooding affects all ages. Due to the size of target audiences, the City utilizes different methods to reach age groups such as traditional outreach methods (newspaper ads, utility bill inserts, local partnerships) as well as modern and creative methods. Daily flood tips appear on the City's Facebook and Twitter feeds with links to more information on flood safety and awareness. The City is also highlighting flood safety and preparedness on its RSS Feed – its constantly updated news blog. Articles covering different flood related topics appeared throughout that week. The City's outreach efforts were broadcasted on FEMA's blog during Flood Safety Awareness Week. Newspaper ads promoting flood safety ran throughout the week and over 93,000 households received information about flood preparedness in their water bills for the month of March. The City partnered with Arlington Independent School District (AISD) high school science teachers to gear lessons toward flood and water related topics during the week, with activities culminating in a flood preparedness competition. Five simple and short lessons created by the City, focusing on hydrology, soils, floodplains, forces in flowing water and preparedness were distributed to teachers to use in their classrooms during Flood Safety Awareness Week.



Most significantly, with the help of a group of commissioned graphic artists, 133 ART Inc., the City of Arlington created *The Rescue League Academy: Sink or Swim*, a flood risk novella (comic book, an effort to create something to appeal to younger audiences (middle school through high school) that may ignore traditional outreach materials. The 40-page novella reveals how the simple actions of residents, regardless of age, can help protect lives and property during a flood. Readers follow Bianca, Shawn, Sonny, Sam, and their families as they experience a major Texas flash flood. In the novella Bianca, the aspiring superhero undergoing her final test, helps a group of citizens during a flood. As she helps them make smart decisions and saves them from dangerous situations created by their ill-informed actions, citizens learn about what they should do before, during, and after a flood. The Arlington Flood Safety Awareness Week efforts and our "comic book" were featured on FEMA's Blog at <http://blog.fema.gov/2013/03/from-hermine-to-heroes-arlington-texas.html>. A local comic book store has asked for copies to give away at their annual comic industry event "Free Comic Book Day" on May 4, proof it is hitting positively on the target audience. http://www.arlingtontx.gov/environmentalservices/pdf/StormWater_Novella.pdf.



Floodplain Manager's Notebook

www.RCQuinnConsulting.com

Reprinted from: *The Insider*, May 2013

Submit your own items or suggestions for future topics to column editor Rebecca Quinn, CFM, at rcquinn@earthlink.net. Comments welcomed!

Can equipment be located below the BFE and still be compliant? Well, yes. At least that's the answer according to the NFIP requirements. Whether it can actually be done in real life is the question I'd like you to ponder today.

Have you ever had a builder or property owner try to convince you that it's OK to put a heat pump or other building service equipment below Base Flood Elevation (BFE)? I have, but we'll get to my story later. If you haven't looked at your building code or local floodplain management ordinance in a while, the NFIP provision I refer to might not readily come to mind. I always express profound respect for the folks who, more than 40 years ago, wrote the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) regulations on which much of what we do is based: 44 Code of Federal Regulations Part 60. But this requirement about equipment has had me scratching my head for more than 30 years.

The requirement is in 44 CFR § 60.3(a)(3) where the broad goals for development and buildings are found (see below). Section 60.3(a)(3) is where "reasonably safe from flooding" is stated, along with other broad goals for new construction and substantial improvements. As with most regulations, broad goals are first established, followed by the details that will bring about the desired results. The NFIP regs are set up the same way: § 60.3(a) sets the goals and, depending on whether detailed analyses were conducted to produce the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and depending on the nature of flooding, the details are found in § 60.3(b), (c), (d), and (e). [For most local officials, the designation or "level" of your ordinance doesn't mean much, but if you're curious: level (b) is Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA) without Base Flood Elevations; level (c) is SFHA with BFEs; level (d) is SFHA with BFEs and floodways; and level (e) is SFHAs that are coastal high hazard areas.]

The only place in § 60.3 where building equipment and utilities are called out is right up front with the broad goals: §60.3(a)(3)(iv). It's all right there; there aren't any more details in any of the subsequent sections.

So, what does 60.3(a)(3)(iv) require? It requires equipment and utilities to be "designed and/or located" – the located part is easy. That turns into elevate (i.e., "locate") all the equipment along with the elevated building. But what does the rest of the statement mean? What does it mean to be designed "to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of flooding"? And does that also mean that the equipment should function after being submerged by floodwaters?

Before we attempt to answer that question, let me point you to similar provisions in the International Code Series (on which virtually all state and local building codes are based). The International Residential Code has similar language, shown below, that requires equipment to be located at or above the elevation required for the building. An exception to that requirement allows equipment below the BFE if "designed and installed to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components and to resist hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and stresses, including the effects of buoyancy." And the International Building Code, by reference to ASCE 24 Flood Resistant Design and Construction, uses similar language. The [link](#) to download flood excerpts from the I-Codes and "Highlights of ASCE 24" is [shown below](#).

OK, so now we know that the rules do permit equipment below the BFE. But what about the rest of the question – can it actually be done? Is there equipment out there that can be submerged and still function? I think we can all agree that it is reasonable to interpret the NFIP rule to mean equipment should function after flooding – what good would it be to have equipment that is designed to prevent the entry and accumulation of water, but that didn't function afterward?

The Insider May 2013



Floodplain Manager's Notebook

www.RCQuinnConsulting.com

Here's where we pick up my story. Many years ago I was a permit engineer with the State of Maryland, working in the agency that regulates nontidal waterways and floodplains and also serves as the NFIP State Coordinating Agency. A "deep pocket" developer (haven't we all dealt with at least one of those?) insisted he didn't need to elevate the heat pumps for nearly 100 townhomes that he was planning for the floodplain of a large river. He didn't contest elevating the homes (it turns out the site was so tight, he was already planning ground-level garages, which happened to put the lowest floors several feet above the BFE).

After several meetings about the heat pumps (including with the director of my agency!), I'm sure he thought he'd worn me down. Since he wouldn't accept my "no," I decided to exercise an option that all regulators have – the "show me" option. It's the applicant's responsibility to demonstrate that a proposal will satisfy the requirements. If we, as permit officials, can't determine compliance based on the submittals, we should ask for more documentation.

All I said was this: Show me that the manufacturer states that the heat pumps will function after being submerged. Guess how long it took for us to get revised plans showing heat pumps elevated on platforms? To my knowledge, that riverfront development has flooded at least twice in the last 15-20 years. But I'll bet none of the residents know they have my agency's vigilance to thank for the fact they're able to come home after floods and don't have to call the HVAC guy to replace their heat pumps.

Now, let's spend a minute on elevation of equipment. Have you ever permitted equipment to be lower than the lowest floor, but still compliant? This scenario might occur if the owner/builder elects to raise the home higher than required, but then installs the equipment at the minimum required elevation, the BFE. If the heat pump is flooded but the house isn't, re-occupancy might be delayed or at least not as comfortable if flooding occurs in the dead of winter or middle of one of our record-hot summers. It only makes sense to match the equipment elevation to the lowest floor elevation. **Important reminder!** NFIP flood insurance policies will not be written using the best rates if heat pumps and other utilities and equipment are lower than the lowest floor, even if the lowest floor is several feet above the BFE. See my columns in the 2012 September and November editions of *The Insider* for more on "minus-rated" policies.



Heat pumps elevated, but lower than the lowest floor.
Photo by Liz Roll/FEMA



Floodplain Manager's Notebook

www.RCQuinnConsulting.com

NFIP Regulations: 44 CFR § 60.3(a)(3) Review all permit applications to determine whether proposed building sites will be reasonably safe from flooding. If a proposed building site is in a flood-prone area, all new construction and substantial improvements shall (i) be designed (or modified) and adequately anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, or lateral movement of the structure resulting from hydrodynamic and hydrostatic loads, including the effects of buoyancy, (ii) be constructed with materials resistant to flood damage, (iii) be constructed by methods and practices that minimize flood damages, and (iv) be constructed with electrical, heating, ventilation, plumbing, and air conditioning equipment and other service facilities that are designed and/or located so as to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of flooding. [underlining added for emphasis]

International Residential Code: R322.1.6 Protection of mechanical and electrical systems.

Electrical systems, equipment and components; heating, ventilating, air conditioning; plumbing appliances and plumbing fixtures; duct systems; and other service equipment shall be located at or above the elevation required in Section R322.2 (flood hazard areas including A Zones) or R322.3 (coastal highhazard areas including V Zones). If replaced as part of a substantial improvement, electrical systems, equipment and components; heating, ventilation, air conditioning and plumbing appliances and plumbing fixtures; duct systems; and other service equipment shall meet the requirements of this section. Systems, fixtures, and equipment and components shall not be mounted on or penetrate through walls intended to break away under flood loads.

Exception: Locating electrical systems, equipment and components; heating, ventilating, air conditioning; plumbing appliances and plumbing fixtures; duct systems; and other service equipment is permitted below the elevation required in Section R322.2 (flood hazard areas including A Zones) or R322.3 (coastal high-hazard areas including V Zones) provided that they are designed and installed to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components and to resist hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and stresses, including the effects of buoyancy, during the occurrence of flooding to the design flood elevation in accordance with ASCE 24. Electrical wiring systems are permitted to be located below the required elevation provided they conform to the provisions of the electrical part of this code for wet locations. [underlining added for emphasis]

Link:

Flood Excerpts from the I-Codes and Highlights of ASCE 24: <http://www.fema.gov/building-science/building-code-resources> [RCQ]

Texas Sea Grant and the Mission-Aransas Reserve Bring Community Rating System Assistance to the Coastal Bend

By Heather Wade

Texas Sea Grant partnered with the Mission-Aransas Reserve to address issues related to community resilience to coastal hazards. Using the Coastal Resilience Index (CRI), a self-assessment tool developed by the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium, Texas coastal communities were able to identify technical assistance needs that would increase coastal resilience. One of the most common identified needs was increasing the capacity to join and participate in the Community Rating System (CRS), a program out of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). This program allows communities to earn discounts on flood insurance premiums if they agree to participate in flood mitigation activities that go beyond minimum NFIP requirements.

A workshop was developed to inform local community floodplain managers and city officials on how to join the Community Rating System, the benefits of joining the program, and how to maximize those benefits for their communities at large. The Community Rating System workshop was funded by the Texas General Land Office, through the Gulf of Mexico Alliance Community Resilience Priority Issue Team. In addition to funding, workshop assistance was provided through the Sea Grant Coastal Storms Program. The Community Rating System workshop was held on March 21, 2013 at the University of Texas Marine Science Institute in its Estuarine Research Center. Participants in the workshop represented eight different communities along the Texas coast. Topics covered during the workshop included: an introduction of the Community Rating System; presentation of an updated "Quick App", developed by FEMA for communities joining the CRS, a presentation of the Coastal Resilience Index; a national scale perspective of effective CRS implementation techniques across the United States; a local community perspective on CRS implementation; and a presentation of the benefits to joining a CRS User's Group.

Workshop participants spent the most time with the Quick App, and were able to experience what an actual community goes through in the Quick App process. Participants saw how easy the process was for the community, and were able to have an instant idea of how much their community might save by joining the program. Several participants commented that the application process was a barrier to their community joining, and now had much more interest in applying. Workshop participants were also interested in the Galveston CRS User's Group, FAST, and agreed that forming a User's Group for South Texas would be beneficial. The Mission-Aransas Reserve and Texas Sea Grant agreed to serve as coordinating partners for the South Texas User's Group.

Texas Sea Grant's mission is to improve the understanding, wise use and stewardship of Texas coastal and marine resources. Texas Sea Grant develops and supports research, education and outreach programs and partnerships and relies on the public for knowledge, advice and guidance. www.TexasSeaGrant.org

The Mission-Aransas National Estuarine Research Reserve brings together scientists, landowners, policy-makers, and the public to ensure that coastal management decisions benefit flora and fauna, water quality, and people. www.missionaransas.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS PROJECT, COASTAL COMMUNITY RESILIENCE OR COASTAL PLANNING, PLEASE CONTACT:

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Making the Transition to the 2013 CRS Coordinator's Manual

Reprint from CRS Newsletter; May 2013, pg. 2

The 2013 *CRS Coordinator's Manual* (available at www.CRSresources.org) became effective in April 2013. From now on, all community verification visits will be based on the 2013 *Manual*.

However, until a community has its next verification visit from ISO/CRS Specialist, all annual recertifications will be based on the 2007 *CRS Coordinator's Manual*. A community that is not being visited by ISO this year will receive recertification forms (AW-214) from the 2007 *Coordinator's Manual*, and its recertification items will be based on its last verification visit.

Communities will not receive the new CRS Program Data Table (Section 213, Figure 210-2 of the 2013 *CRS Coordinator's Manual*) or be required to submit copies of all Elevation Certificates (a 2013 requirement, as noted in the last *NFIP/CRS Update*) until their next verification visit from an ISO/CRS Specialist.

Here are some examples of how the transition will work.

- **A community not visited in 2013 but scheduled for a verification visit in 2014 or beyond**

These communities will receive an AW-214 from their ISO/CRS Specialist in August and recertification requirements will be based on the last verification visit and the 2007 *Coordinator's Manual*. These recertifications are due October 1. A community may want to begin organizing Elevation Certificates now, but it will not need to submit them until the next verification visit. The next verification visit will be based on the 2013 *Coordinator's Manual*. At the next verification visit, the ISO/CRS Specialist will assist the community with understanding what is required for the Program Data Table.

- **A community that had a verification visit based on the 2007 *Coordinator's Manual* between January 1 and April 22, 2013**

These communities WILL NOT receive an AW-214 in 2013 since they just had a verification visit. In August 2014, and annually until its next visit from its ISO/CRS Specialist, the community will receive an AW-214 in August and recertification requirements will be based on the last verification visit and the 2007 *Coordinator's Manual*. A community may want to begin organizing Elevation Certificates now, but it will not need to submit them until the next verification visit. The next verification visit will be based on the 2013 *Coordinator's Manual*. At the next verification visit, the ISO/CRS Specialist will help the community with understanding what is required for the Program Data Table

- **A community scheduled for a verification visit between April 22, 2013 and the end of 2013**

These communities' verifications will be based on the 2013 *Coordinator's Manual*. Recertification for 2013 will not be required. The community will need to provide all Elevation Certificates since the previous verification visit, if not two months before. The ISO/CRS Specialist will help the community understand what is required for the Program Data Table.

Direct questions about the 2013 *Coordinator's Manual* to your ISO/CRS Specialist. Their names and contact information are posted at www.CRSresources.org/100.

A Changing World of Communication – Targeting the Whole Community through On-line Workshops

Submitted by: Diane Howe at FEMA, Region 6

Changes to the Flood Insurance Program make it imperative that FEMA communicates with the Whole Community through targeted outreach to increase awareness and encourage mitigation practices and higher standards to reduce risk.

On July 6, 2012, the President signed into law the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 (BW-12). The bill extends the authorization for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) through September 30, 2017, and provides reforms to the NFIP. Among other things, this law requires FEMA to take immediate steps to eliminate a variety of existing flood insurance subsidies.

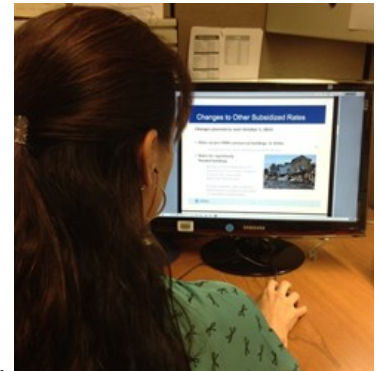
Some of these changes were implemented on January 1, 2013. Others are proposed to be implemented in 2013 and later, but all will affect residents, business owners, community leaders and stakeholders.

As FEMA moves forward into the next phase of the implementation of the Biggert-Waters NFIP Reform (BW12), Region 6 would like to highlight the October 2013 changes, the next steps for agents, the effects of these changes on property owners and where to find more information. In an effort to clearly communicate with our state, local, and regional partners, as well as stakeholder groups throughout the FEMA Region 6 five-state area, FEMA Region 6 has launched a second round of Adobe Connect meetings to address the October 2013 changes in the bill.

Stakeholder groups are being contacted through GovDelivery, the FloodSmart agent database, and stakeholder associations to register for the sessions. Local officials, Insurance agents, Lenders and Real Estate Professionals can register through the following link: <https://octbw12changes.eventbrite.com>. The on-line sessions will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays in September.

Key Messages include:

- *Reform to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is expected to strengthen the call for mitigation actions, return the NFIP to the self-supporting program it once was, and balance flood risk with appropriate flood insurance.*
- *Whole Community partners, including federal, state, tribal, local, and the private sector must work together to ensure there is a coordinated and collaborative transition to the reformed NFIP.*
- *Flooding continues to be the #1 natural disaster in the U.S. and yet many communities, businesses and residents do not have flood insurance, or do not take actions to reduce or mitigate their flood risks. With the phasing out of insurance rate subsidies, now is the time to champion a renewed call for mitigation.*



In Memoriam – Les Bond

It is a sad day this past September for many of the ASFPM family. One of their valued and honored members passed away. Les Bond, a resident of New Mexico and former NFIP State Coordinator for New Mexico passed away on Sunday, September 15th.

We all were very fortunate to have known Les and many reconnected with him at many ASFPM conferences over the years. He was always ready to talk "flood" and was happy to help newcomers in the profession. Les was also very instrumental in the formation of the New Mexico Floodplain Management Association and served as their Executive Director for numerous years. Les will be missed by his family, many friends and colleagues. Following is a tribute by ASFPM to Les:

Memories of Les Bond—from Larry (and Chad and all at ASFPM)

My first recollection of Les is in 1982, when he attended the ASFPM annual conference in Madison, Wis. We had our meeting in Phoenix the year before, but Les came into floodplain management just after that with AZ DWR and missed the Phoenix meeting.

Les became active in ASFPM, and was Vice Chair in 1985 and 86. He was on track to become Chair when he decided to leave the state and go out on his own. That did not slow his involvement in ASFPM though, as he went on to book the hotel for the 1988 conference in Nashville, and worked with the conference team of Bill Trakimas in Indiana and Jim Wright of TVA. It was a memorable conference as the hotel fire alarm went off in the middle of the night (two different nights) and everyone had to evacuate the hotel at 2:00 AM. I still remember most of the attendees standing outside in their nightgowns, but some of us were still up and in heavy floodplain management (FPM) discussions. After all, we ate, drank and slept FPM. It was also memorable in that we were not able to get a park for the Tuesday night bash, so the event, with band, was on the top of the hotel's concrete parking lot. Les and crew made sure the band played a song for Jennie and I, since we got married at Nashville at the start of the conference.

Les then booked the hotel for the 1989 conference in Scottsdale. This was probably the most luxurious hotel we ever stayed at, because he booked a fine resort when they were in bankruptcy and got fabulous rates. Here, we sat outside in the pools all night having our FPM discussions.

Les continued to be active, not only with ASFPM national, but with the Arizona and New Mexico Chapters, and with a number of Policy Committees, including the Arid Regions, Mapping and Engineering and others. His work with CRS provided him the opportunity to dig into a number of key issues, including dam safety and similar issues that were not within the expertise of many others dealing with the NFIP and CRS.

Les worked with us on a project with the Organization of American States (OAS) following Hurricane Mitch. He helped put together the project, and despite not being fluent in Spanish, was a key person on the project team who went to Honduras and worked with the locals to set up flood warning systems. I have heard many a story about Les and the local mayor sitting around at the end of the day having a beer discussing floods. Now surprisingly, neither of them spoke the others language, but if you know Les, that was not a problem—he could communicate with anyone.

Les also worked with us and the Natural Hazards Center on a number of activities and publications. He was always exploring new ideas and approaches to address the flood risk issues. His latest project, to write a book on national flood policy, aimed at changing the paradigm of how we manage flood risk to reduce damages and human suffering.

Finally, in 2005 Les was deservedly awarded ASFPM's highest honor, the Goddard-White award for outstanding lifetime achievement to promote effective floodplain management. What I remember most about him getting the award was his concern this was the only year he did not wear a suit to the awards luncheon, because he had on the host team t-shirt promoting the 2006 conference in Albuquerque. To us, it didn't matter; the right person got the award.

Les, you will be missed.

Association News

Upcoming Training

National Flood Workshop

October 23-24, 2013.....Houston

Floodplain Management Training & Ethics in Floodplain Management

October 30, 2013.....Tyler

NHWC 5th Annual Texas Workshop

November 11-12, 2013.....Conroe

Manufactured Housing and Other Floodplain Issues

November 14, 2013.....Lampasas

Disconnect Between NFIP Regulations & Insurance and NFIP Flood Insurance Principles

November 18, 2013.....El Paso

NFIP Program Update Ethics in Floodplain Management

December 4, 2013.....Fort Worth

Mark your Calendars

2014 Annual TFMA Spring Conference

May 27—30, 2014

Irving Convention Center and

Omni Mandalay Hotel, Irving, TX

Excellent educational tracks, exciting venue, great fun and some surprises. Don't miss it!



2014 TFMA Membership Renewals

Online Membership Renewals for 2014 is now open and the TFMA Executive Office is ready for you. Some things to remember:

For CFMs

- ⇒ 8 hours of CECs are required annually
- ⇒ Update your membership information
- ⇒ No more than 4 hours can be carried over from the previous year if you have extra hours to do so
- ⇒ Annual Renewal Fees: \$90 which covers your TFMA Membership fee of \$45 and your CFM Renewal Fee for \$45

Non-CFM's

- ⇒ Annual Renewal Fees: \$45
- ⇒ Update your membership information

Only individuals who work for a federal or state agency are exempt from membership fees. A federal or state agency constitutes an entity of the U.S. Federal Government i.e., FEMA, US Dept. of Transportation, etc., or State of Texas employee, i.e., TWDB, TxDOT, etc. A city, municipality, county, etc. does not qualify for this category.

Please submit all your documentation and pay your annual dues **on or before December 31, 2013**. You can email your documentation to the TFMA office at tfma1@att.net and pay your fees online at www.tfma.org. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Markie or Selina at the TFMA Executive Office at 512-260-1366.

TFMA is now on Facebook!

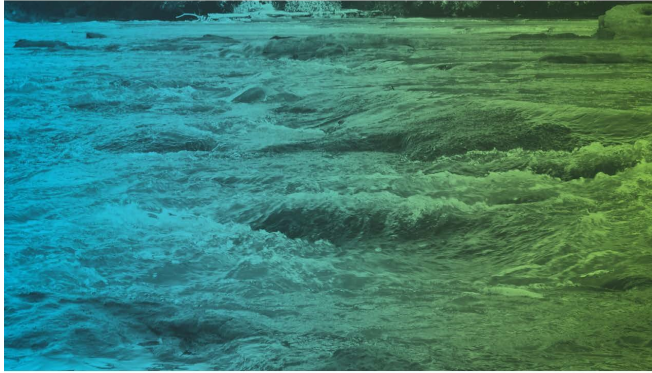
[Texas Floodplain Management Association](#)

TFMA is Also on Twitter! Check us out!

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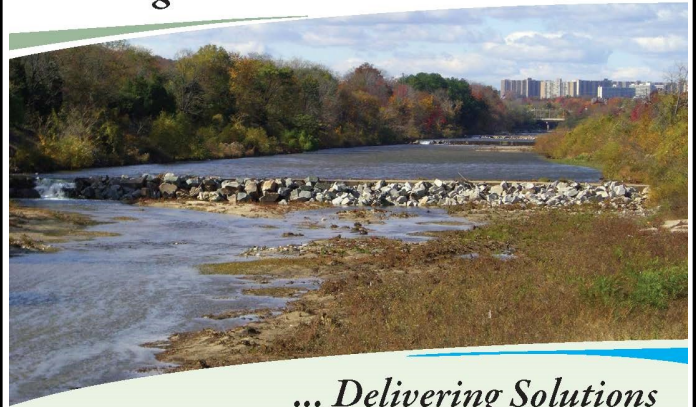


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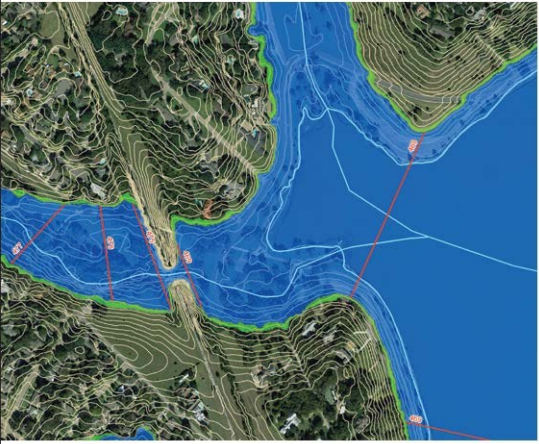


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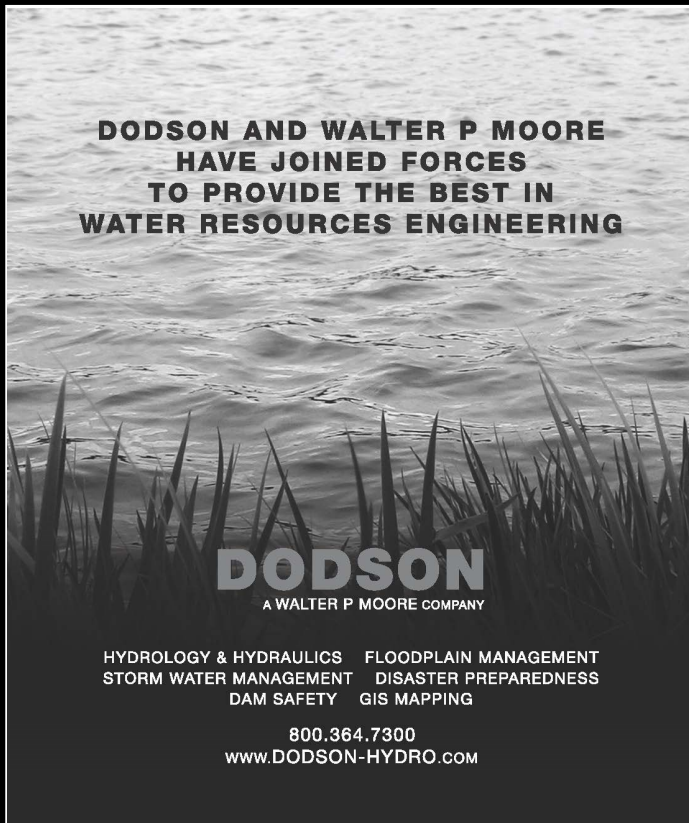
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