



NFIP/CRS UPDATE

April / May 2018

What the Centralized Review Shows

The creation of the CRS central review process in the fall of 2017 has allowed more accurate tracking of Elevation Certificate reviews. This will enable the CRS team to recognize certain trends in various regions around the nation and to be able to respond accordingly.

By the end of March, a total of 2,499 Elevation Certificates had been reviewed through the central review process (see chart), submitted for both recertifications and cycle verifications. About half of CRS communities have had their recertification Elevation Certificates reviewed so far, with an average “correctness” rate of 57%.

Reviews for cycle verifications began in 2018, so only 604 Elevation Certificates for that process have been reviewed, with an average correctness rate of 68% during the first round of review, but 95% during the second. NOTE THAT THE CORRECTNESS RATE FOR ELEVATION CERTIFICATES AT CYCLE TIME MUST BE 90% TO STAY IN THE CRS. As CRS Coordinators know, this means the community must correct the Elevation Certificates that have errors.

The CRS Resource Specialists who conduct the reviews have noted some common errors in Elevation Certificates that have been submitted so far.

- Wrong diagram numbers. Be sure to review Section A, Item (7) of the instructions as it relates to Section C when reviewing Elevation Certificates as they come in.
- When the diagram number (Section A, Item 7) = 1A, 1B, or 5, the “area of crawl space or enclosure” (A8a) should be blank.
- When the diagram number = 8 or 9, the difference between C2a and C2b cannot be greater than five feet. This is because the definition of crawlspace in the *Flood Insurance Manual* says that a crawlspace is no more than five feet from the crawlspace floor to the next higher floor.
- When the diagram number = 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 5, or 7, the difference between C2a and C2b cannot be less than five feet. When the difference between C2a and C2b is less than five feet, it is usually a split level building (diagram 3 or 4) or a crawlspace (diagram 8 or 9).
- B1: Incorrect community number.
- B4: Incorrect map panel.

[continued on next page]

Also in this Issue

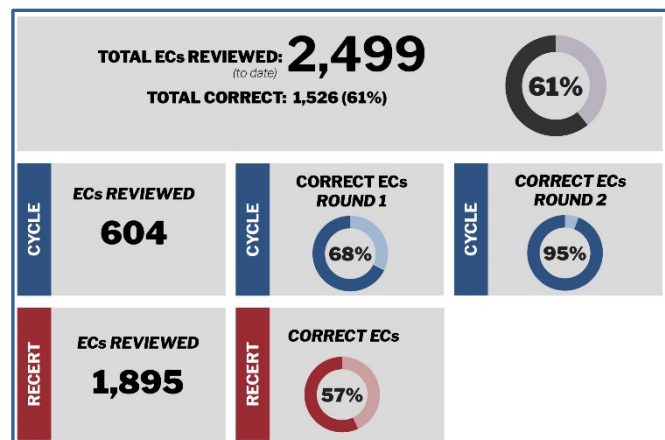
FEMA sets Insurance Coverage Goal	2	Debbie's Dish.....	9
The CRS at ASFPM	5	Online Resources	11
The 4-1-1 on 310.....	6	Training Opportunities.....	11

Centralized Review Findings (cont.)

- Machinery/equipment servicing the building elevation (C2e) has been left blank.
- V-Zone Certificates were not attached to V-Zone Elevation Certificates.

In addition to these common mistakes, the Resource Specialists report seeing possible non-compliance issues with the Elevation Certificates, which are then reported to FEMA Regional Offices. Sometimes these issues look like possible National Flood Insurance Program violations simply because the Elevation Certificate was filled out incorrectly.

Please be sure to review all of your Elevation Certificates and ensure that they are correct before submitting them for CRS review. ≡ ≡ ≡



FEMA sets High Goal for Insurance Coverage

In March 2018, Brock Long, Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), released the FEMA Strategic Plan for 2018–2022. The first goal of the plan is “Build a culture of preparedness.” It includes objective 1.2, “Close the insurance gap,” with an ambitious “moonshot” of doubling the number of properties covered by flood insurance by 2022. Achieving this objective will help individuals recover quickly and more completely from future floods.

FEMA is calling on its stakeholders to take actions to help close the insurance gap and ensure that Americans are protecting not only the lives they have built but also their homes, which for many are their biggest investments. State emergency managers and floodplain managers are being asked to incorporate flood insurance into preparedness and recovery messages. Industry and private sector partners are being called upon to help customers understand the risk they face from all disasters and take action to protect themselves. The general public is encouraged to contact their homeowners’ insurance agents to see about purchasing a flood insurance policy.

CRS communities, which represent 70% of the NFIP policy base, are well aware of the importance of flood insurance to their residents. FEMA invites CRS communities to join in the moonshot mission over the coming years to increase the number of properties insured against flood losses throughout their communities. The CRS credit available under Activity 370 (Flood Insurance Promotion) is an incentive that can help CRS communities strengthen their efforts in this direction. FEMA is working to provide materials to help stakeholders with the moonshot mission, and the CRS will be pursuing additional moonshot mission incentives for CRS communities, which will be highlighted in future issues of the *NFIP/CRS Update* newsletter. ≡ ≡ ≡

CRS Award for Excellence Recognition

Each year the CRS strives to recognize those individuals who have gone above and beyond in promoting the CRS in their communities, as recognized by their peers. The CRS Award for Excellence recognizes a person who has demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in promoting flood insurance and advancing floodplain management and mitigation in CRS communities. The following two recognitions unfortunately were not highlighted in past *NFIP/CRS Update* articles and are published here to allow other CRS communities to see the kinds of activities and individuals who have worked to make their community programs the successes they are today.

2015 CRS Award for Excellence goes to Joseph C. Gies

Joseph C. Gies, CFM, Project Coordinator, Floodplain Manager, and Zoning Inspector for the City of Shelby, Ohio, was named the 2015 recipient of the CRS Award for Excellence.

Over about 15 years in his three-part role with the City, Gies has accomplished a range of activities that have enhanced Shelby's preparedness for the next flood, minimized flood damage potential, and enhanced local understanding of the flood hazard. His guidance and commitment were instrumental in the City's raising its CRS rating to a Class 8.

Gies zeroed in on public awareness as a key factor in preparing the city for flooding. He created a page on the [City's website](#) that not only supplies a broad sweep of information but also serves as a central point for residents to tap into flood warning information—from stream gage data via the U.S. Geological Survey's Water Alert service, to local road closures, to instructions on how to respond to the local sirens and other warnings. Not stopping there, Gies went on to begin routine dissemination of flyers and other flood-related information to residents, insurance agents, and others.

With Gies's vision and considerable management expertise, the City was able to embark on a complex program to remove flood-prone buildings from its floodplain. Using a combination of funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the State of Ohio, the City, and several other contributors, Gies spearheaded projects that resulted in the removal of 51 structures from the floodprone area and the creation of public, green open space areas, including a downtown park.

The CRS congratulates Joseph Gies on this achievement, and for making a substantial contribution to mitigating flood losses and building resilience in Shelby.

2016 CRS Award for Excellence goes to Ken Evans

Ken Evans, of Ken Evans Agency, Inc., based in Gloucester County, Virginia, was the recipient of the 2016 CRS Award for Excellence.

An insurance agent and long-time member of Gloucester County's Floodplain Management Planning Committee, Evans stepped up to become the local champion for a new CRS-credited program for public information, when County staff were stretched too thin to take on the task. He volunteered to head the committee, shouldered most of the work of generating a draft document, and encouraged and coordinated the input and staff work provided by others in the community.

Evans didn't rest when the "County of Gloucester, Virginia, Program for Public Information" was adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 2015, however. He has become a well-known, energetic participant in the many public outreach activities the County now implements. This has included

[continued on next page]

CRS Award for Excellence (cont.)

sharing his knowledge about the National Flood Insurance Program, insurance coverage, and other aspects of the flood hazard through a variety of venues, including serving as guest speaker at gatherings of building officials, real estate agents, and others. He facilitated the County's day-long floodplain workshop, which brought together surveyors, lenders, title insurance companies, local government officials, and the insurance community.

Congratulations to Ken Evans, whose tireless work to expand local understanding about the flood hazard and how a community can cope with it has been a principal factor in Gloucester County's rising in CRS rating to a Class 6 community. ≡ ≡ ≡

CRS Guidance now Posted

Several new and updated guidance documents recently have been added to the CRS Resources website.

“CRS Credit for Drainage System Maintenance” is the slightly updated four-page handout that gives background and details on what communities need to do to ensure that their programs for keeping debris out of their natural streams and detention/retention basins earn CRS credit. In particular, the handout provides detailed instructions for calculating credit for element CDR—channel debris removal, and element SBM—storage basin maintenance under Activity 540 (Drainage System Maintenance). Several “problem” situations that communities may face in trying to keep their drainage systems clear are posed and possible solutions given. Download it from the 500s page of the [CRS Resources website](#).

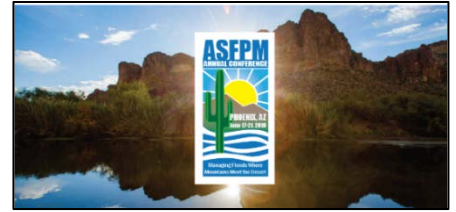
“Impact Adjustment Maps,” a 20-page CRS Handout, is the document referred to in the CRS webinar, Preparing an Impact Adjustment Map. The handout has step-by-step instructions for five types of impact adjustment maps that may be needed for CRS purposes. Readers can pick the instructions that apply to what their community needs to prepare: an appropriate base map, a map depicting an open space impact adjustment, a map showing an impact adjustment based on buildings, a map based on watershed area, or a map based on other areas. Many examples and sample calculations are included. Find it under General Materials on the 400s page of the [CRS Resources website](#).

Four items that are referred to in the *CRS Coordinator's Manual* may no longer be available at the links listed, so they have been posted on the CRS website for your convenience.

- Two versions (MS WORD and PDF) of a template for a real estate agents' brochure disclosing flood hazard can now be found under Activity 340 on the 300s page of the [CRS Resources website](#). This brochure is an example of a disclosure method creditable for element REB—real estate agents brochure under Activity 340 (Hazard Disclosure). It is described on page 340-8 of the 2017 *Coordinator's Manual*.
- “Living with Levees,” is a color brochure produced by the California Department of Water Resources and other agencies. It is an example of an outreach project to people and property owners affected by levees, required for CRS credit under Activity 620 (Levees) (see page 620-4 of the 2017 *Coordinator's Manual*). It can be downloaded from the 600s page of the [CRS Resources website](#).
- “Know Your Flood Risk,” is a single-page (front and back) mailer sent to owners of properties behind levees by the California Department of Water Resources. It is another example of an outreach project required for credit under Activity 620 (Levees) (see page 620-4 of the 2017 *Coordinator's Manual*). It is available at the 600s page of the [CRS Resources website](#). ≡ ≡ ≡

Connect with CRS at ASFPM Conference

Find out more about the CRS at the annual conference of the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) in Phoenix, Arizona, June 17–21, 2018. Described below are opportunities for community officials, consultants, private citizens, or others to learn and share. Check the ASFPM website at www.asfpmconference.org.



CRS-related Presentations

The ongoing work of CRS communities will be shared throughout the conference. The first concurrent session devoted to the CRS will be Tuesday morning at 10:30 and is entitled, “State and Local Initiatives in the CRS.” It will feature presentations about state-level projects in Louisiana and in Florida, and also about Tulsa, Oklahoma’s repetitive loss strategy. The second, “Guidance for Local CRS Administration,” will be Thursday afternoon at 2:00. Phoenix will report on its CRS experiences, and FEMA staff will discuss the role of the CRS Coordinator and how to combine mitigation planning with the CRS.

Lunch with CRS

“Lunch with CRS” will be held on Wednesday. CRS Users Group leaders, NFIP State Coordinators, and CRS State Coordinators are invited to gather with members of the CRS team from FEMA. Plan to bring your own lunch and join us in Room 123C. The discussion will begin around 12:20 pm. Local CRS Coordinators and floodplain managers are welcome, too.

CRS Booth in the Exhibit Hall

The CRS will have its booth in the Exhibits Hall during the conference. The booth features an array of printed CRS brochures, handouts, and other information. Best of all, the booth is always staffed with a CRS expert who can answer your questions.

Reserve your Spot in One-on-Ones

On behalf of FEMA, a CRS expert from Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO) can meet with you any time from 7:00 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Monday through Thursday, in Room 123C. Make an appointment by contacting Sherry Harper at (850) 902-5075 or sharper@verisk.com. ≡ ≡ ≡

New ISO/CRS Specialist

The Community Rating System is pleased to announce its newest ISO/CRS Specialist, Donna Fabry, CFM, who is now in training. Fabry previously was a Community Planner/ Environmental Planner for the Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, Planning Commission. Her educational background is in communications, and she also holds an M.S. in Community and Regional Planning, with emphasis on environmental planning and coursework in soils, economic development, and geographic information systems. Her impressive array of professional experience will make her a valuable addition to the CRS.

From her home in Pennsylvania, Fabry will cover a yet-to-be designated CRS territory in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, beginning this fall.

The entire CRS team welcomes you, Donna! ≡ ≡ ≡

The 4-1-1 on 310

EDITOR'S NOTE: This column explores issues related to a community's successful implementation of CRS Activity 310 (Elevation Certificates).

Part 1. Permit Lists at Cycle Time

Since the 2013 *CRS Coordinator's Manual* became effective, Activity 310 (Elevation Certificates), element EC, requires communities to submit a list of all permits issued for new buildings and substantial improvements in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) since the last cycle verification visit. This list must be submitted two months before the verification visit. The *Coordinator's Manual* also requires the community to submit the "Finished Construction" Elevation Certificates that go along with the Permit List. Once you submit your Permit List, your ISO/CRS Specialist will look through the list and tell you which Elevation Certificates to send.

Maintaining Elevation Certificates on all new buildings and substantial improvement constructed in the SFHA has always been a Class 9 prerequisite for the CRS. What to maintain, and how to maintain, the Elevation Certificates and other certificates have always been explained in Activity 310 of the *Coordinator's Manual*. Simply put, a community must provide the Permit List and the requested Elevation Certificates in order to stay in the CRS. Many communities have found that the Permit List for CRS purposes is not necessarily the same list they keep for themselves—this has caused some difficulty in submitting the correct information. To help everyone understand exactly what should be submitted and how the Permit List should be formatted, we have created a template, available on the 300s page of the [CRS Resources website](#).

CRS Activity 310 Elevation Certificate Permit List										
Permit #	Permit Issued		Bldg Type (Res, Non-Res, Addition, Accessory, etc.)	New Bldg or SI/SD	FIRM Zone	Permit Final	Finished Const. EC?	Floodproofing Certificate Required?	V Zone Design Certificate Required?	Comments
	Date	Address								

Using the template is not required, because we realize you may have your own permitting software, but it is a great guide to all the information that needs to be on your Permit List for CRS purposes. If you can incorporate this information into your permit tracking, we strongly recommend it. The column headings in the template are the only items needed by the CRS for your Permit List.

Things to Remember about your Permit List

- (1) The Permit List must be submitted two months before your verification visit.
 - (2) The Permit List should only include permits issued for new construction or substantial improvement of buildings within your Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) (not your regulatory
- [continued on next page]*

The 411 on 310 (cont.)

floodplain, as was incorrectly stated in the last newsletter). Do not include fences, fill, cell towers, pools, electrical/plumbing service, etc., or permits for buildings outside your SFHA. Do not include permits for any areas that are inside your regulatory floodplain but outside your SFHA, if there are any.

- (3) The list needs to include, at minimum:
 - Address of each building;
 - Type of building (e.g., residential, commercial, house, etc.);
 - FIRM zone;
 - Whether it's a new building or substantial improvement;
 - Date of the permit; and
 - Whether the permit is final or not.
- (5) The Permit List should cover the time period from the date of its creation back to the date of your most recent verification visit.
- (6) Do not send your Elevation Certificates with the Permit List. Wait for your ISO/CRS Specialist to tell you which Elevation Certificates to send in *[see Part 2, below]*.

We have also created the two-page “310 Permit List Template Instructions,” which explains the template and how to submit your Permit List and Elevation Certificates. It is found right next to the Permit List template on the 300s page of the [CRS Resources website](#). Please take the time to read through this two-page document as it will answer many of your questions for what type of SFHA development we are looking for, what Elevation Certificates we will be looking for, required attachments, and how to submit both electronically and via hard copy. If you should still have any questions, please contact your ISO/CRS Specialist.

Part 2. Submitting Elevation Certificates at Cycle Time

As noted above, to remain in the CRS a community must provide a Permit List and the required Elevation Certificates at the time of its cycle verification. To meet this requirement, at least 90% of the Elevation Certificates submitted must be correct. The centralized review process has improved the way the CRS receives, reviews, and stores Elevation Certificates. However, it has also necessitated that communities get better at submitting their Elevation Certificates.

The helpful guide, “310 Permit List Template Instructions,” found at the 300s page of the [CRS Resources website](#), is suggested reading for all communities. In the meantime, here are some tips on how to submit your Elevation Certificates most effectively to ensure you meet all CRS requirements, achieve the highest score you can for element EC, and make sure the buildings on your Elevation Certificates are not viewed as possibly non-compliant during the review.

- (1) Once your ISO/CRS Specialist specifies which Elevation Certificates will be needed, based on your Permit List, be ready to submit them immediately. Usually, all your Elevation Certificates will be required, but if you have more than 70 Elevation Certificates for reporting period, we will request a random sample of 70. But note that this means you need to have all of them prepared for submittal anyway. *[continued on next page]*

The 411 on 310 (cont.)

- (2) Make sure the Elevation Certificates you are sending are for “finished construction” and that you have reviewed them to ensure that they are complete and correct.
- (3) Elevation Certificates can be hard copy or digital, but digital is preferred.
- (4) To submit digital copies, please follow these guidelines:
 - If you are scanning hard copy Elevation Certificates, please scan at the “grayscale” setting, 300 dpi resolution.
 - Save them as PDFs. Keep a copy in your files.
 - You can group all Elevation Certificates into one large PDF or send them in separate files if there are not that many of them. If you’re creating one large PDF, place them in the same order as the addresses on your Permit List. If you are not sending one large PDF, then name the individual Elevation Certificate files by address.
 - Send all Elevation Certificates at one time—not in small batches over time, unless otherwise directed by your ISO/CRS Specialist.
 - Be sure to include anything that needs to be attached to each Elevation Certificate:
 - Memo of Correction,
 - Flood Opening Engineering Certification,
 - V-Zone Certificate,
 - Non-Residential Floodproofing Certificate, and/or
 - Basement Floodproofing Certificate.
 - Be sure to include all the pages of the Elevation Certificate form. There should be at least two pages for the 2012 Elevation Certificate forms and either three or four pages for the 2015 form (depending on which 2015 form is used).
- (5) If you are submitting hard copies, please send all your Elevation Certificates at one time, unless your ISO/CRS Specialist tells you otherwise.
- (6) Only submit the Elevation Certificates that your ISO/CRS Specialist asks for, as noted above.

Part 3. Permit Lists & Elevation Certificates at Recertification

One last reminder: at recertification time, you submit the Permit Lists and Elevation Certificates at the same time, along with the rest of your recertification documentation. The Elevation Certificates are part of the recertification. At recertification time, you will hear from the CRS Resource Specialist (instead of your ISO/CRS Specialist) informing you of the specific requirements. ≡ ≡ ≡

Let us Know How to Find You

Remember to let your ISO/CRS Specialist know any time your contact information changes. With new telephone systems, office re-organizations, and staff turnover, it is sometimes hard for the CRS team to get the recertification packet and other information to the right person, in the right place. Please help us keep our lists of phone numbers, addresses, and emails current.

Debbie's Dish . . . on CRS Users Groups

Debbie Cahoon Vascik, CFM
Users Groups Liaison

The Five Cs of the CRS

Spoiler alert: Not one of the five Cs stands for “community.”

The first “C” of CRS is for **comprehension**. The *CRS Coordinator's Manual* can be a little daunting at first glance. The large, three-ring binder explains prerequisites, descriptions, requirements, impact adjustments, and calculations. Take another look—it's also full of step-by-step guidance, explanations, and examples. The *Coordinator's Manual* is your friend. It helps you navigate the program, in the company of your ISO/CRS Specialist. To succeed in the CRS you do not need to understand everything in that book, but you do have to comprehend WHY you're in the program. Do you want to lessen the impact of flooding to your community? Make your citizens aware of flood dangers? Save them money on their flood insurance? Whatever the reasons, you are halfway to your goal if you know why you are in the CRS and strive to improve, based on that purpose.

The next C stands for **commitment**. It takes commitment from all sides to make the program work, from staff and resources to time and effort. Once they joined the CRS, communities made a commitment to their citizens to uphold the efforts necessary to increase flood protection that, in turn, achieved policy savings. This was shown vividly starting in 2013, when changes were made to the CRS. Many CRS Coordinators were challenged to think of new ways, new activities, and new resources that they could bring to bear to compensate for reductions in some activities' credit points and to take advantage of the opportunities presented by newly credited activities. Committed communities rose to that challenge and proved their dedication to the program.

Another C is for **coordination**. If you've ever been through a CRS cycle visit, you know that everything does not rest solely in the hands of the CRS Coordinator. A successful reverification takes coordination among departments and staff well in advance. A well-rounded program means meeting and maintaining the requirements year-round, and not simply for the cycle visit. Waiting until crunch time to contact other departments and compile documentation puts added stress on the CRS Coordinator whose responsibility it is to maintain the class rating. Being the CRS Coordinator is like a juggling act. It takes coordination to keep all those balls in the air.

C also stands for **collaboration**. This goes hand-in-hand with internal coordination, but is a little broader. Successful CRS communities collaborate with each other, and that's when being a part of a CRS Users Group really comes in handy. Sharing ideas and working together on strategies to make communities safer is what drives CRS Users Groups to develop, maintain momentum, and serve their members. After all, common and cohesive messages make greater impacts when they're delivered and received from multiple sources. Collaborating with fellow communities ensures a broader approach and a more successful one.

Speaking of fellow communities, the last “C” is for **competition**. It's human instinct to want to be the best at something. In the CRS world, everyone wants to be a Class 1, but it's not always feasible to achieve it. Competition among neighboring communities can be a friendly

[continued on next page]

DEBBIE'S DISH (cont.)

rivalry. You end up with a little more motivation to get at least as good as the “other guys.” CRS Users Groups help in the contest by gathering communities together to show examples of what others have done that maybe you can do, too. In the end, just by being in the CRS, you’re already ahead in the game of the bigger fight against flooding.

My next column will examine one of the Cs in detail. Which one? Stay tuned! ≡≡≡

EDITOR’S NOTE: In the last Debbie’s Dish, a typographical error inadvertently gave the wrong CRS Users Group as the source of the second bulleted comment. It should have been attributed to the Maryland CRS Users Group.

Reminder on Recert Schedule

As a reminder, both the central review service and revised recertification schedule are now in effect. Starting with the recertifications that were due October 15, 2017, the schedule for everyone’s recertifications was changed. Please refer to the table below to see when your annual recertification is due, along with the name of Resource Specialist (bottom of table) who will be handling your state’s recertifications.

You will be notified 45 days ahead of your state’s deadline and informed whether you are required to recertify at that time or not. You can assume you will be required to unless you recently went through your cycle verification, currently are going through your cycle verification, or have your cycle verification due later this year.

Please pay attention to the emails you receive about this. Direct any questions to your ISO/CRS Specialists. They will be glad to assist you. ≡≡≡

CRS Annual Recertification Schedule			
CC-213 Recertification and Required Documentation Due to ISO By:			
First Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
February 1	May 1	August 1	October 15
Connecticut Florida: Miami-Dade County Florida: Monroe County Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Maine Michigan Minnesota Mississippi New Hampshire New York North Dakota Ohio Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Dakota Vermont Wisconsin	Colorado Delaware Florida: All Others Kentucky Massachusetts Missouri Nebraska Puerto Rico West Virginia	Alaska Arkansas California Idaho Louisiana Montana North Carolina South Carolina Utah Virginia Wyoming	Alabama Arizona Georgia Hawaii Maryland Nevada New Jersey New Mexico Oklahoma Oregon Tennessee Texas Washington
Annual Recertification Information Distributed to Community By:			
December 15	March 15	June 15	September 1
Resource Specialist Responsible for Each Quarter:			
Keith Harper	Christina Turpin	Keith Harper	Christina Turpin



Online Resources

At CRSresources.org

Check frequently at the [CRS Resources website](#) to see what's been added in the way of CRS materials. All documents referred to in the *Coordinator's Manual* are posted here as soon as they are available. If you cannot find a piece of information or document, please notify your ISO/CRS Specialist or NFIPCRS@iso.com. Here are some recent additions to the website.

- **Various guidance documents**, including a slightly updated “CRS Credit for Drainage System Maintenance” handout; another handout entitled “Impact Adjustment Maps”; a sample real estate agents’ brochure; a sample brochure about levees; and a mailer for property owners behind levees. [See article on page 4.]
- **Webinar Schedule**—A schedule for the rest of 2018 is posted under the Training & Videos page of the [CRS Resources website](#). This link has registration information. Also, see the webinar schedule below.
- The most recent issue of the *NFIP/CRS Update* newsletter, (February/March 2018), in case you missed it, along with all other past issues, can be found under the 100s page of the [CRS Resources website](#).
- **Success with CRS** is a page on the [CRS Resources website](#) with articles about the many ways in which communities have found their own brand of success through the CRS. ≡≡≡



Training Opportunities

Webinars

The CRS offers webinars to help communities understand and meet their CRS requirements. Many will be recorded, so they can be accessed later. Registration is free but required, as space is limited. Some courses provide continuing education credits for Certified Floodplain Managers (CFMs). See the [CRS Resources website](#). The one-hour webinars listed below are on the calendar, and others will be scheduled. All webinars begin at 1:00 pm EST / 10:00 am PST.

- **Preparing an Annual Recertification** — July 17, 2018
- **Repetitive Loss Properties and the CRS** — July 18, 2018
- **Introduction to the CRS** — August 21, 2018
- **Flood Insurance Promotion (Activity 370)** — August 22, 2018
- **Preparing an Annual Recertification** — September 18, 2018
- **Activity 410 (Floodplain Mapping)** — September 19, 2018
- **Preparing for a Verification Visit** — October 16, 2018
- **Developing a CRS Program for Public Information** — October 17, 2018

[continued on next page]

Training Opportunities (cont.)

- **Preparing an Annual Recertification** — December 18, 2018
- **Flood Insurance Promotion (Activity 370)** — December 19, 2018

If you'd like to have a webinar on the FEMA Elevation Certificate, or a particular CRS activity, contact your ISO/CRS Specialist. For more on the CRS webinars, go to the Training page of the [CRS Resources website](#). If you have questions about or suggestions for the CRS Webinar Series, contact Becca.Croft@atkinsglobal.com.

Workshops and Training related to the CRS

- **The Community Rating System (E0278)** (field-deployed course is L0278)
.....June 25–28, 2018; March 25–28, 2019;
..... June 24–27, 2019

This is the all-purpose training course for the CRS. It is taught at both the Emergency Management Institute (see below) and at sites throughout the country at the request of interested communities, groups, or states, pending available funding.

- Attendees of E0278 CRS courses based on previous *Coordinator's Manuals* may want to repeat this course. Therefore, restrictions on repeat attendance have been waived.
- For continuing education credit for Certified Floodplain Managers, the ASFPM will award CECs earned at the E0278 CRS course.
- No more than two persons per community may attend at one time.

Prerequisite: To enroll in the CRS course, you must be a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM®), have completed the National Flood Insurance Program course (E0273), or be a full-time floodplain manager with over two years of floodplain management experience.

- **Managing Floodplain Development through the NFIP (E0273)**
..... August 27–30, 2018; November 26–29, 2018;
.....March 18–21, 2019; June 17–20, 2019; August 26–29, 2019

E0273 is also field deployed periodically. Contact your State NFIP Coordinator for more information [see the [ASFPM's website](#)].

- **Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance—
Quality Application Elements (E0212)**July 23–26, 2018; May 6-9, 2019
- **Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance—
Application Review and Evaluation (E0213)**June 25–26, 2018; July 29-30, 2019
- **Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance—
Project Implementation and Programmatic Closeout (E0214)**.....June 27–28, 2018;
.....July 31—August 1, 2019
- **Retrofitting Floodprone Residential Buildings (E0279)**May 13–16, 2019
- **Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts I (E0282)**July 9–12, 2018
- **Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts II (E0283)**July 30—August 2, 2018;
.....July 15–18, 2019

[continued on next page]

Training Opportunities (cont.)

- **Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts III** (E0284)February 4–7, 2019
- **Residential Coastal Construction** (E0386) August 13–16, 2018; August 12–15, 2019
- **Fundamentals of Building Science** (E0312) September 24–27, 2018;
..... September 23–26, 2019

CRS communities can receive CRS credit points after their staff members complete certain training sessions. Under Section 432.o, regulations administration (RA) of the *Coordinator's Manual*, five points are provided for each member of a community's floodplain permit staff who graduates from courses E0194, E0273, E0278, E0282, E0284, or E0386 (up to 25 points). Graduating from E0279 is worth up to five points under Activity 360 (Flood Protection Assistance).

About the Emergency Management Institute

FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI), in Emmitsburg, Maryland, offers training on topics related to floodplain management, mitigation, and construction, including the basic CRS course (E0278). These are oriented to local building, zoning, planning, and engineering officials. Tuition is free for state and local government officials, travel stipends are available, and on-campus lodging is free. Free transportation is provided from the airport to the campus and back to the airport. The only out-of-pocket expense is a meal ticket—all-you-can-eat breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Go to the welcome page of the [EMI website](#) for specific details. The application to attend can be found at this page on the [EMI website](#), or call EMI at 1-800-238-3358 or (301) 447-1035. Signed applications should be submitted through the state's Emergency Management Training Officer.

Bring the CRS to Your Home Town

The CRS conducts the field-deployed CRS course (L0278, the same as EMI's E0278) throughout the year, depending on funding availability. A state, CRS Users Group, or organization that would like to host a course or discuss CRS training opportunities should contact its FEMA Regional CRS Coordinator (see the [CRS Resources website](#)). ≡ ≡ ≡

Statement of Purpose

The *NFIP/CRS Update* is a publication of the National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System. It provides local officials and others interested in the CRS with news they can use.

The *NFIP/CRS Update* is produced in alternate months by the Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO), which is the Lead Service Provider to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the CRS. The newsletter is distributed electronically, at no cost, to local and state officials, consultants, and other interested persons. Communities are encouraged to copy and/or circulate the *Update* and to reprint its articles in their own local, state, or regional newsletters. No special permission is needed.

To become a subscriber or to suggest a topic that you would like addressed, contact

NFIP/CRS Update
P.O. Box 501016
Indianapolis, IN 46250-1016
(317) 848-2898 fax: (201) 748-1936 NFIPCRS@iso.com

You can also sign up for the newsletter at the [CRS Resources website](#).