

## **Connecticut Association of Flood Managers**

# NEWSLETTER

JUNE, 2015 VOL. 2, ISSUE 2

### CAFM NOW AN OFFICIAL CHAPTER OF ASFPM

Congratulations! The Connecticut Association of Flood Plain Managers (CAFM) is the newest state chapter of ASFPM.

CAFM received unanimous approval on its application by the Board of Directors at ASFPM's February 25, 2015 annual retreat. Also, during the national conference held on May 31-June 5, 2015, ASFPM publicly announced that CAFM had been approved as a bona fide state chapter! Many thanks to the CAFM members who dedicated the time and energy to make this goal a reality!

### IN THIS ISSUE

Recap of 2015 FEMA 273 Course

**West Haven Coastal Resiliency** 

Upcoming Tour of Hartford's Flood Control System

Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Flood Plain Mgmt.

**Upcoming CAFM Events** 

# CAFM MEMBERS TOUR WEST HAVEN WEST HAVEN COASTAL RESILIANCY INITIATIVES

On June 11, 2015, CAFM and UCONN's Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) sponsored a session with the City of West Haven including a discussion and tour of the City's coastal resiliency initiatives. The City of West suffered extensive damages as a result of both Tropical Storm Irene and Superstorm Sandy, and is taking steps to address coastal flooding.



The City has been successful in securing grant funds for resiliency projects, notably the buyout of flood damaged and vulnerable properties. CAFM and CIRCA were given a guided tour of the sites where resiliency measures have been undertaken, or are planned to be implemented. (See full details on page 3)





Visit our website at http://ctfloods.org

# CAFM Chapter & State Alert: Bachelor's and Master's Degrees Now Available in Floodplain Management

The ASFPM Higher Education Committee is pleased to announce there are now two U.S. universities offering degrees in Floodplain Management:

- Western Kentucky University offers a Bachelor's of Interdisciplinary Studies degree with concentration in Floodplain Management. For more information contact Warren Campbell at warren.campbell@wku.edu
- The University of Washington in Seattle offers a Master's degree in Infrastructure Planning and Management with a Floodplain Management Degree Option. The program is a hybrid distant learning program and the majority of the courses taken online with the exception of 2 summer Seattle based resident sessions. For more information contact Bob Freitag at bfreitag@uw.edu. Accepting registrations now for summer 2015.

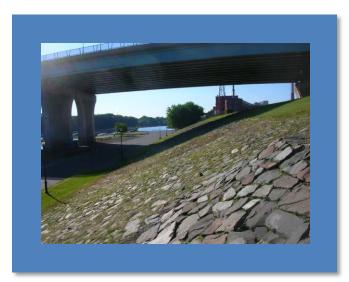
**Please share!** ASFPM is asking our chapters and state contacts to help get the word out about these new programs to interested parties via your newsletters, emails, Listservs, and social media outlets. Chapters with higher education scholarships are encouraged to share this announcement with their contacts as well.

Please see flyer posted on the Higher Education Committee page on ASFPM's website.

## Walking Tour of City of Hartford Flood Control System.

On August 19, 2015, CAFM member John McGrane will lead a tour of the Hartford Flood Control System. Hartford's system is considered the largest of its kind in New England and consists of a 7 mile levee, 6 storm water pump stations, and several miles of large diameter underground conduits.

John was formerly Hartford's City Engineer, and is currently a project manager with GEI Consultants' Glastonbury, CT office. The tour will begin with an overview of the system's function and operation, and will include visits to key components and viewing points. Information on the levee tour will be posted on the CAFM website in the near future.



To become a member or to join our distribution list, email contactcafm@gmail.com with the subject line "Sign me up"

2

# CAFM MEMBERS TOUR WEST HAVEN COASTAL RESILIANCY INITIATIVES (contin.)

The tour began with a presentation at West Haven City Hall and a welcome from Mayor Edward O'Brien. West haven staff members presented an overview of the City's flood impacted areas, and provided a summary of the projects that have been undertaken, or are in the planning stages. In addition to property buyouts and home elevations, various infrastructure projects have been initiated. These include self-regulating tide gates (top photo) which allow for normal daily exchange of tidal waters into bay areas, but incorporate floats to close the gates during times of extreme high tide. Other projects include elevation of coastal roadways above flood elevations to minimize damage and provide reliable access during floods. Also in the planning stages are improvements to the main Sewage Treatment Plant effluent line which has suffered from coastal erosion and is vulnerable to further damage by coastal flooding.

**Important Note:** If you are a CFM, please note that attending the West Haven session makes you eligible for CEC credit. CAFM has obtained approval to issue 1 CEC for this session. If you do not receive your certificate by mail, please email us at:

contactCAFM@gmail.com.

## **UPCOMING CAFM EVENTS:**

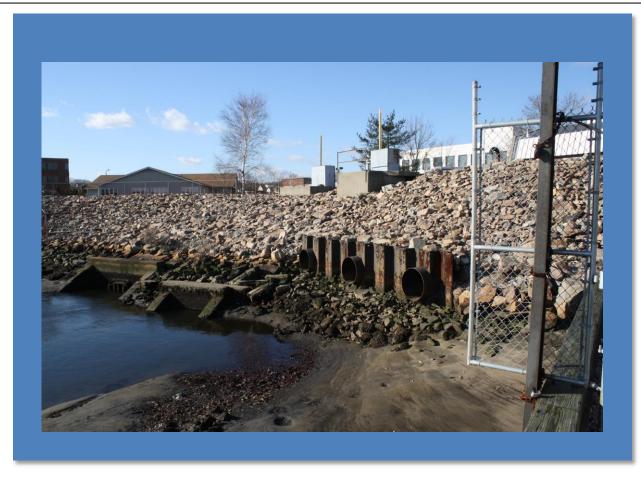
CAFM Regular Meeting, July 8, 2015,10:00 AM at Margaret Egan Center, Room 155, 35 Mathew Street, Milford, CT 06460

CAFM 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference October 21, 2015, at Water's Edge in Westbrook, CT



#### RECAP OF FEMA 273 COURSE HELD ON MARCH 9-12, 2015

This past March, CAFM partnered with the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to provide the 4-day course, E273: Managing Floodplain Development through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) at DEEP's Marine Headquarters in Old Lyme. This course is normally only offered at the Emergency Management Institute in Maryland, but CAFM & DEEP were selected to provide this course in CT. The course is designed to provide an organized training opportunity for local officials responsible for administering their local floodplain management ordinance. The course focused on the NFIP and concepts of floodplain management, maps and studies, ordinance administration, and the relationship between floodplain management and flood insurance. Instructors included a CRS Coordinator and insurance specialist from FEMA Region I in Boston and the DEEP's Diane Ifkovic, who serves as CT's NFIP Coordinator. Attendees ranged included people from CT towns and cities, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts.



City of New London, Hurricane Barrier at extreme low tide. Note 2 Gravity discharges with tide gates (I), and 3 storm water pump station discharges (r)

## VISIT CAFM'S UPDATED WEBSITE TO STAY INFORMED

Visit <u>www.ctfloods.org</u> for announcements, events, training opportunities, links to publications, CEC courses, and professional webinars.

#### SEND US YOUR PHOTOS AND NEWS!

CFM encourages all to submit their photos and news stories for use in our future issues. If you have an event, announcement, current news story, historical fact to share, or cool photos related to flood management, please email them to us at <a href="mailto:contactCAFM@gmail.com">contactCAFM@gmail.com</a>.

4