



NEWSLETTER
Fall 2021



ABOUT CAFM

The mission of the Connecticut Association of Flood Managers (CAFM) is to promote education, policies, and activities that mitigate current and future flood losses, costs, and human suffering caused by flooding and to protect the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains – all without causing unreasonable adverse impacts.

<https://ctfloods.org/>

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Our 8th Annual Conference will be virtual again and we want to hear from you! Abstracts due November 10.

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Connecticut Institute for Resilience
and Climate Adaptation

CIRCA: RESILIENT CONNECTICUT

Resilient Connecticut provides the state with a Planning Framework piloted in the Superstorm Sandy impacted regions of New Haven and Fairfield Counties.

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MORE!

CFM Exam

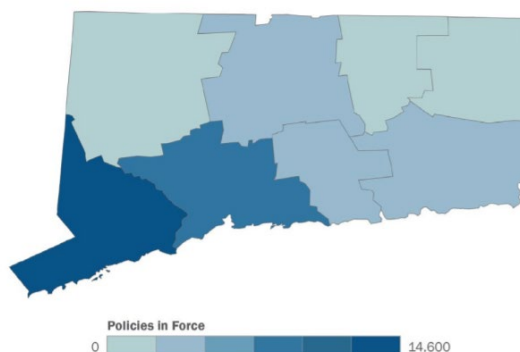
HMGP and BRIC Grants

Risk Rating 2.0

NFIP Technical Bulletins

Starting on PAGE 4

NFIP Policies in Force by County in Connecticut





Annual Conference

& MEETING

8th Annual Conference & Meeting: December 7–9, Virtual.

Our eighth Annual Conference and Meeting will be held virtually in three 2-1/2 hour sessions over three days: December 7, 8, and 9, featuring approximately four 30-minute presentations per day.

The Summer of 2021 presented unprecedented flooding challenges for municipalities throughout Connecticut, leaving no portion of the state unaffected. CAFM seeks a broad range of professionals to discuss the events of the Summer of 2021, along with the many other issues and problems associated with managing flood risk, making communities more sustainable, disaster recovery, and protecting floodplain and fragile natural resources. This conference will examine the challenges facing Connecticut, and share experiences and lessons learned as flood managers and municipal officials.

We look forward to hearing your flood management presentation! Presentations can run in lengths of 15 and 25 minutes. **Please submit the following to contactCAFM@gmail.com by November 10, 2021:** (1) abstract of your presentation; (2) 100-word biography; and (3) Presentation length in minutes.

Proposers will be notified by November 17, 2021.

Registration for the conference grants membership in CAFM for the year. Not a member?

Become a member today! <https://ctfloods.org/become-a-member/>

If you are interested in joining the board or just volunteering, please email ContactCAFM@gmail.com.

7th Annual Conference...

CAFM convened its seventh Annual Conference and Meeting in a virtual format on December 8-10, 2020 with approximately 35 CAFM members attending all three days and approximately 20 additional attendees attending portions of the conference, earning up to 3.0 CFM CECs. Presenters covered a broad range of riverine and coastal topics, including project case studies, hazard mitigation planning, municipal grants overview, and field enforcement of floodplain regulations.

...And Meeting

We also elected the 7th Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting portion of the conference. Congratulations to Scott Bighinatti in your position as Secretary, and thank you to John McGrane for your years of service.

2021 CAFM Board of Directors

Chair: Joseph Canas, P.E., LEED AP, CFM

Vice-Chair: Douglas Colter, CFM

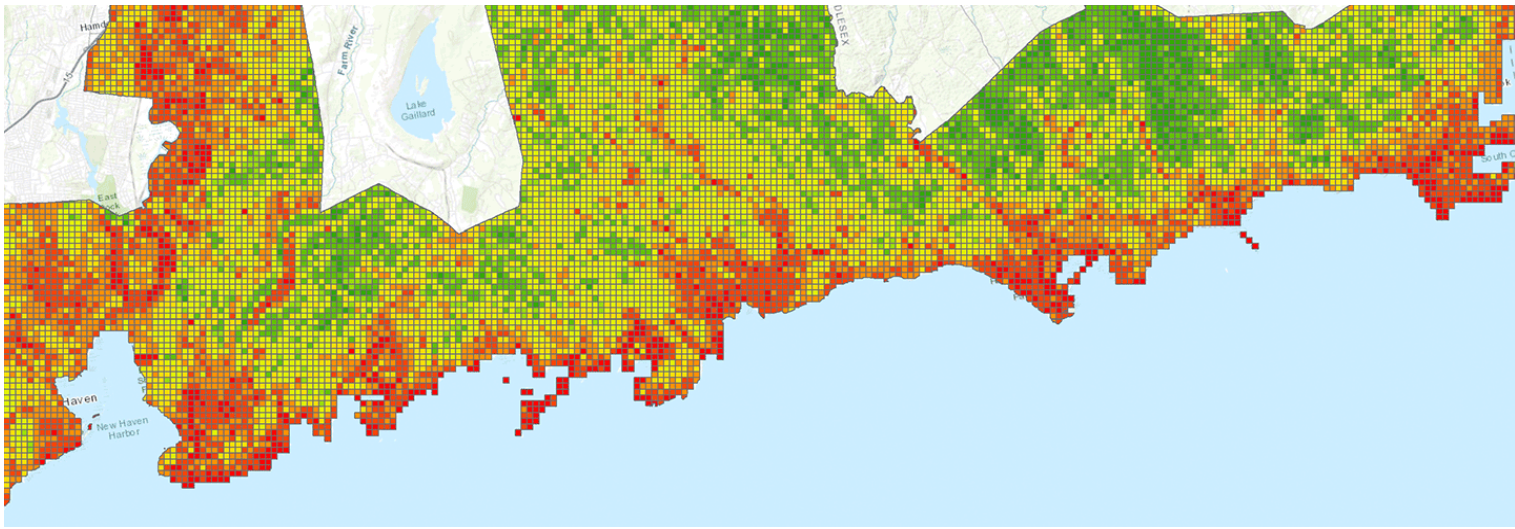
Treasurer: Dave Murphy, P.E., CFM

Secretary: Scott Bighinatti, CFM

At-Large: Scott Choquette, CFM

At Large: Diane Ifkovic

At-Large: Deanna Rhodes, AICP



RESILIENT CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT INSTITUTE FOR RESILIENCE & CLIMATE ADAPTATION (CIRCA)

[CIRCA](#) initiated the *Resilient Connecticut* planning process in 2019 as a result of an award from the HUD [National Disaster Resilience Competition](#). *Resilient Connecticut* provides the state with a [Planning Framework](#) piloted in the Superstorm Sandy impacted regions of Fairfield County and New Haven County. Resilient Connecticut's guiding principle is to establish resilient communities through informed planning that incorporates economic development framed around transit-oriented development, conservation strategies, and critical infrastructure improvements. The planning process, known as "Phase II" of *Resilient Connecticut*, included targeted engagement and regional-scale risk assessments that are informing regional adaptation and resilience pilot projects in the unique risk typologies of Connecticut.

CIRCA has wrapped up Phase II of Resilient Connecticut with a public comment period following the release of a draft report in early October 2021. The report includes an executive summary, a narrative report describing the vulnerability assessment tools and findings, and a series of "opportunity area" maps focused on topics such as transit oriented development, affordable housing, wastewater treatment, and public water supply. Want to see maps in your community and better understand local heat and flood vulnerability? Visit the [public comment website](#) to review products in both English and Spanish and provide your feedback!

Want to learn more?

Visit <https://resilientconnecticut.uconn.edu/> to read more about the project, discover planning and technical tools, and download fact sheets.

What else is CIRCA up to?

Visit <https://circa.uconn.edu/> to learn about other projects including 10 Steps to Municipal Resilience, Connecticut Climate Fact Sheets, and Sea Level Rise Projections for Connecticut.

ASFPM NEWS

Annual Conference

[Annual Conference \(May 15-19, 2022\)](#). The 2022 ASFPM Annual Conference is back in-person this year in Orlando, Florida. We invite you to share your experiences with local, state, regional, tribal and federal officials, industry leaders, consultants and a wide variety of subject matter experts from diverse fields.

CFM Exam

[Take Your CFM Exam Online!](#) Big changes are coming to the Certified Floodplain Managers exam. After two years of planning, we're excited to announce the transition to a digital CFM® exam has begun and starting September 1 exam candidates can begin scheduling their online exams.

Registering for the online CFM exam is quick and easy. When you register here to take the exam, you will receive a Notice to Schedule email from Scantron that includes a username/password and instructions to register at a testing center that meets your preferred location and timeframe.

OTHER NEWSLETTERS

- [CIRCA Announcements and Resilience Roundup](#)
- [NFIP CRS Update Newsletter](#)
- [FEMA govDelivery Updates \(Select from many programs including Building Science and Mitigation Minute\)](#)
- [ASFPM News & Views](#)

Got CAFM newsletter ideas?

[Email](#) Laura Ghorbi, PE, CFM

STATE NEWS

Apply Now: HMGP

There are two open application periods for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP): DR-4580 (Tropical Storm Isaias) is open until January 12th 2022. The application period for DR-4500 (Covid-19 Pandemic) is open until August 5th 2022. For guidance and sub-application forms, visit:

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEMHS/Grants/Hazard-Mitigation-Grant-Program>.

Apply Now: BRIC

The Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities program (BRIC) application period is open now. Applications must be submitted into FEMA GO System by 3:00 PM on November 29, 2021. Sub-applicants must have a FEMA approved Mitigation Plan by January 28, 2022 to be eligible. For application guidance visit:

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEMHS/Grants/Building-Resilient-Infrastructure-and-Communities/Apply>.

Connecticut Updating Building Codes

The State Building Inspector, State Fire Marshal, and the Codes and Standards Committee intend to adopt the 2022 State Building and Fire Safety codes based on the 2021 editions of the International Codes (I-Codes).

Technical review of the codes is coming to a close and there will be a public comment and legislative approval phase at a yet to be determined time. Anyone interested in receiving informational and update emails may request to be included by e-mailing

DAS.CodesStandards@ct.gov.

The 2021 I-Codes generally meet or exceed NFIP requirements for buildings and structures. FEMA has compiled the flood-resistant provisions of the I-Codes and a summary of changes from 2018 to 2021:

<https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/risk-management/building-science/building-codes/flood-resistant-provisions-2021-international-codes-2021>

FEMA NEWS

NFIP Regulation Reform

[Request for Information on the National Flood Insurance Program's Floodplain Management Standards for Land Management and Use, and an Assessment of the Program's Impact on Threatened and Endangered Species and Their Habitats.](#)

FEMA has issued a Request for Information to receive the public's input on revising the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) floodplain management standards for land management and use regulations to better align with the current understanding of flood risk and flood risk reduction approaches. Specifically, FEMA is seeking input from the public on the floodplain management standards that communities should adopt to result in safer, stronger, and more resilient communities. Additionally, FEMA seeks input on how the NFIP can better promote protection of and minimize any adverse impact to threatened and endangered species, and their habitats. Written comments are requested on or before December 13, 2021. For more information about this exciting step forward, read ASFPM's article, [FEMA Moves to Update Flooding Rules for Homes.](#)

Risk Rating 2.0

[Risk Rating 2.0 Equity in Action.](#) FEMA is updating the National Flood Insurance Program's pricing methodology to communicate flood risk more clearly, so policyholders can make more informed decisions on the purchase of adequate insurance and on mitigation actions to protect against the perils of flooding.

Risk Rating 2.0 provides actuarially sound rates that are equitable and easy to understand. It transforms a pricing methodology that has not been updated in 50 years by leveraging improved technology and FEMA's enhanced understanding of flood risk.

According to the Connecticut [State Fact Sheet](#), 37% of current policyholders will see immediate decreases and 54% will see on average \$0-\$20 per month increase.

Technical Bulletins

[Updated Guidance: NFIP Technical Bulletins.](#) The bulletins are changing to modernize and streamline their content and presentation. These changes are intended to improve the usability, credibility and content of the bulletins while presenting them in a streamlined format. The following Technical Bulletins have been updated:

- Technical Bulletin 0, *User's Guide to Technical Bulletins* (2021)
- Technical Bulletin 1, *Requirements for Flood Openings in Foundation Walls and Walls of Enclosures* (2020)
- Technical Bulletin 3, *Requirements for the Design and Certification of Dry Floodproofed Non-Residential and Mixed-Use Buildings* (2021)
- Technical Bulletin 4, *Elevator Installation* (2019)
- Technical Bulletin 5, *Free-of-Obstruction Requirements* (2020)
- Technical Bulletin 6, *Requirements for Dry Floodproofed Below-Grade Parking Areas Under Non-Residential and Mixed-Use Buildings* (2021)
- Technical Bulletin 8, *Corrosion Protection for Metal Connectors and Fasteners in Coastal Areas* (2019)
- Technical Bulletin 9, *Design and Construction Guidance for Breakaway Walls* (2021)

Community Rating System

[CRS Update: Addendum to the CRS Coordinator's Manual.](#)

In January 2021, an addendum to the CRS Coordinator's Manual became effective. The 2021 Addendum and the 2017 Coordinator's Manual together constitute the official statement of CRS credits and procedures. These two documents will remain effective until a fully revised edition of the Coordinator's Manual is issued in the future.

Free Classes at EMI

Earn those CECs! FEMA offers free resident courses at the Emergency Management Institute (EMI) in Maryland for state, local, and even private sector employees. Students only pay for travel and meals (registration and lodging are free of charge). Check out what EMI has to offer: <https://training.fema.gov/emicourses/>. EMI also has free independent study courses: <https://training.fema.gov/is/>.