

LFMA Summer Updates

From: Louisiana Floodplain Management Association (lfma@memberclicks-mail.net)

To: melellzey@yahoo.com

Date: Friday, August 4, 2023 at 11:34 AM CDT



LFMA Summer Updates

Upcoming Training Opportunities

LFMA Fall Workshop

FRIDAY, October 20, 2023

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

City of Scott

October 20, 2023

Scott Events Center

110 Lions Club Rd

Scott, LA 70583

Hotel Room Block:

Holiday Inn Scott

736 I-10 S Frontage Rd

Scott, LA 70583

337-232-6845

King Rooms - \$109

2 Double Rooms - \$112

[Register Here](#)

[Reserve Hotel Here](#)

ASFPM Elevation Certificate Webinars

Space is limited to 1,000 attendees per webinar, so please register early. These webinars will not be recorded.

August 9 (1-3pm)

FEMA will walk members through the newly released **Elevation Certificate**. Instruction will include reviewing the newly added sections (H and I), the expanded form sections and more detailed instruction pages. *This webinar is approved for 2 CECs for CFMs.*

August 10 (10-11:30)

FEMA will walk members through the newly released **Floodproofing Certificate**. Instruction will include reviewing the revised format, which requires separate certification of building design, elevation, and construction; and the separate sections to certify the design, as-built elevation, and confirm performance standards. *This webinar is approved for 1.5 CECs for CFMs.*

[Register Here](#)

[Register Here](#)

Workshop Updates

LFMA Avoyelles Workshop

Thanks to our Registration Volunteers. If you want to be involved for future events let our workshop coordinator know!



Nearly 50 individuals gathered in Mansura, LA for the Summer Workshop. We would love to have you join for a future workshop!



Association Updates

2024 Membership Dues Increase

Due to the increase in costs for the online membership and website hosting platform, the LFMA board has voted to increase individual membership fees by **\$5.00** for 2024 for a total of **\$55.00**. Please plan your department budgets accordingly.

2024 Retired Membership

The LFMA Board has voted to create a Retired Membership category starting in 2024. The updated fee will be **\$25.00**. Be on the look out for more information in the coming months on how to register as a Retired Member.

Chairman's Corner

Meet Your New Chairman - Kim Reeves, CFM

Elected the newest LFMA Chairman at our 2023 Annual Conference, Kim Reeves is a face and voice most of you probably recognize. Having been a member of LFMA since 2009, Kim is an integral part of our organization and has served on the LFMA board as the Region 1 representative for several years. Recently, Kim transitioned from her work with Orleans Shoring as a Grant Construction Specialist for 15 years to a Construction Manager position with Atlas in July 2023. While she enjoys working in the construction industry in a capacity that is impactful to floodplain management, Kim is looking forward to shifting toward retirement and traveling with her husband, Tom, and their Cavalier King Charles Spaniels. We hope that you are all as excited as we are for Kim's tenure as Chairman and that you will reach out to her to get acquainted and find out how you can help serve with her this year!



A Message from our Vice Chairman

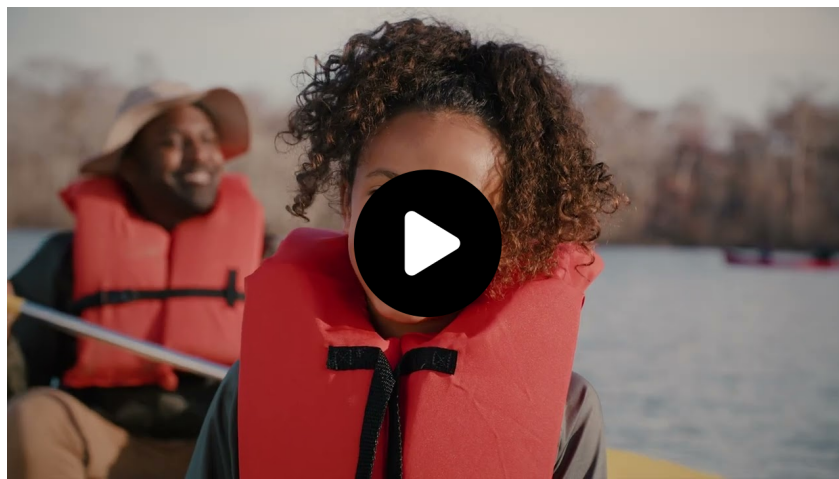
Since moving into my current role as the Ecosystem and Coastal Management Director three years ago I've become much more aware of the amount of litter that is ending up in our rivers, streams, lakes, and gulf. I really enjoyed the presentation at our conference in 2022 when Ouachita Green explained the efforts their group was working on in the North West side of our state. This led me to further look at clean-up events in our community and hope your communities will also. My office team has been planting trees, cleaning up parks, and placing storm drain markers in the fall and winter when weather is cooler and more volunteers are able to participate.

I wanted to bring your attention to [Keep Louisiana Beautiful](#) and their [Clean Biz Partnership](#) program. I would love to see more of our LFMA business on the list of businesses that have pledge to keep their businesses clean of litter. Check out this video with greater reminders of the steps we can all take to cut down on litter in our communities.

Let's all do our part to #LetLouisianaShine

Sincerely,
Michelle Gonzales, CFM
LFMA Vice-Chairman

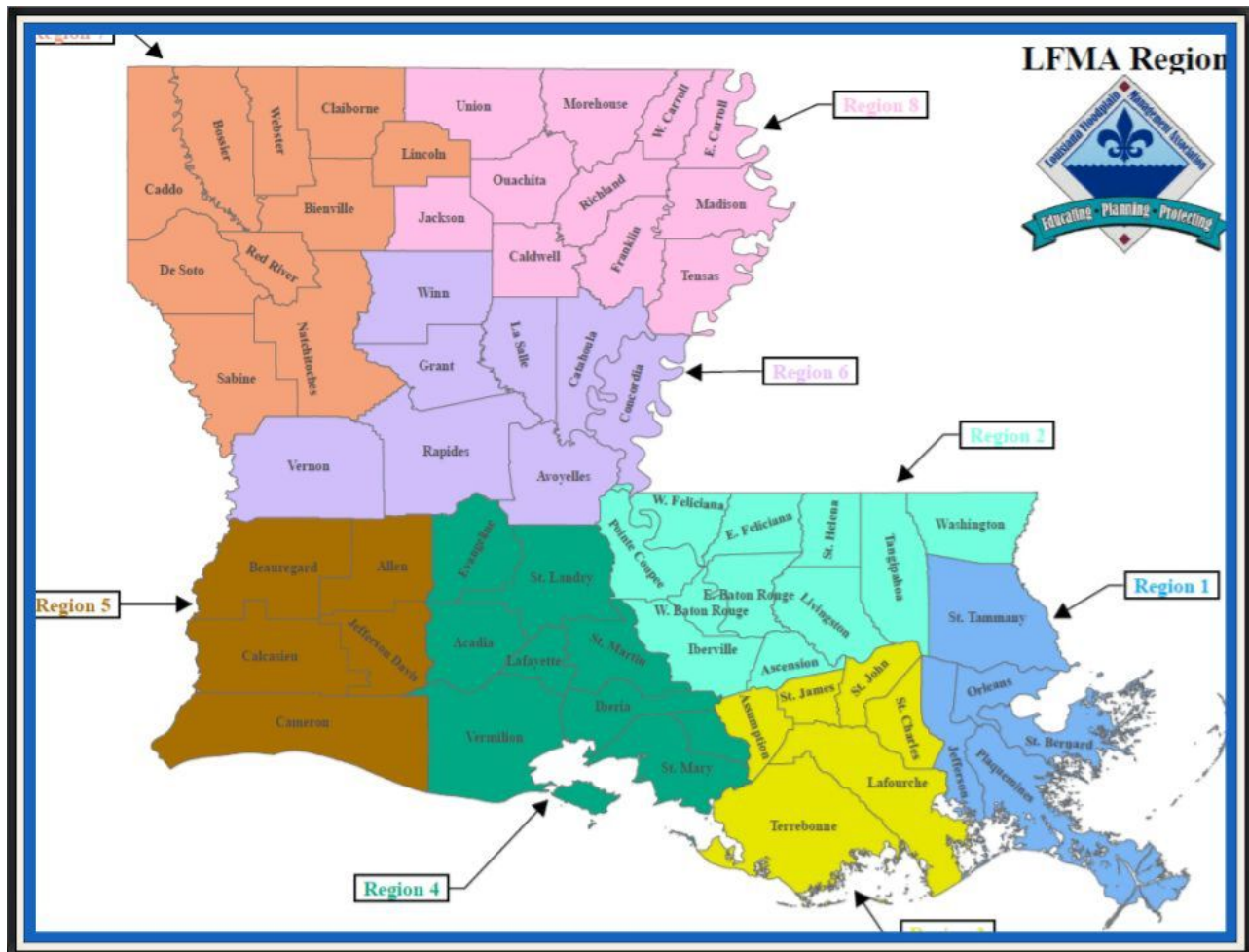
Business Sign Up



Reminders about litter:

- Bag your trash, tie the bag tight, and cover your bin to prevent your trash from entering the environment and harming wildlife.
- Keep a bag in your vehicle for garbage and dispose of your trash properly when you get home.
- Check the bed of your truck to ensure it's free of trash and debris that could fly out and become litter.
- When transporting large items, secure your load with tarps, nets, or tie-downs.
- Whether you are hiking or boating, keep a bag with you for trash. Take out what you brought in, and always leave it better than you found it.
- When you see litter in your neighborhood, pick it up with gloves or grabbers. You can also organize a litter cleanup or volunteer for one in your community.
- Use a reusable grocery bag to reduce the number of plastic bags that become litter.

What's Happening Around The State

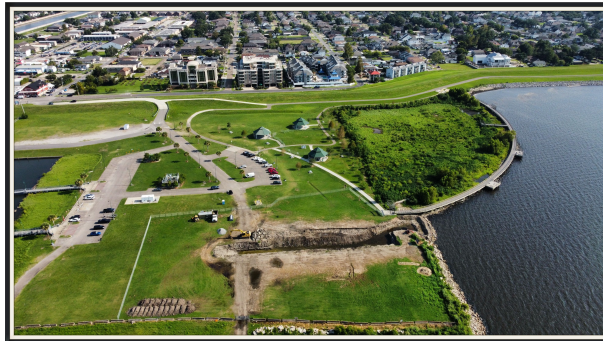


Region 1

From the July FLOAT meeting (Flood Loss Outreach & Awareness Task Force) LFMA region 1 representative Seamus Riley noted updates to various programs impacting floodplain management. Some of these changes could be significant to standards being implemented in your region and could impact your community. Please reach out to Seamus if you have questions about any of these items or if you'd like information on where you can learn more: smriley@jeffparish.net.

- FEMA Region 6 to update all modeling ordinances
- New accessory structure requirements starting in August: Zone AE – no more than 600 sqft, Zone VE – no more than 100 sqft
- LADOTD Floodplain Management Office working to get several higher regulation standards (e.g., 432b FRB, 432c FDN, and 432i LDP) as state-based automatic CRS credits
- LADOTD Floodplain Management Office will check ordinances before CAV visits
- FEMA Region 6 to review all ordinance definitions before CAV visits to ensure they have not been modified inappropriately
- LADOTD Floodplain Management Office is working with ISO to find work-around for new Elevation Certificate issues (ability to enter "N/A" in fillable fields, etc . . .)
- All State Hazard Mitigation Plan update meetings will now be hybrid

Jefferson Parish has started construction on two transformational projects on the Lake Pontchartrain shoreline. The Living Shoreline will provide protection and habitat while the kayak launch will provide access into the lake. Funding for the projects is provided by NFWF, NOAA, Capital Outlay, CPRA, GOMESA, and NPS/LWCF.



Excavation of the Paddler's Canal



Current view from Bucktown to Bonnabel prior to rock and marsh installation.



Region 2

View of rock barges arriving at the site to build breakwaters that are the 1st part of the project.

New Sewage Treatment Plant Coming to St. Francisville

The second contract needed to replace St. Francisville's frequently flooded sewage treatment plant has been approved by the town's Board of Alderman. The completion of the new plant on higher ground will end the moratorium on major new residential construction that is currently in place until the new system is operational.



Region 3

St. Charles Parish to Celebrate Ama Pump Station Improvements

President Matthew Jewell, the St. Charles Parish Council, and the St. Charles Parish Department of Public Works are proud to celebrate the completion of significant upgrades to the Ama Pump Station, located at 20 Pats Court. The ribbon cutting will take place on Thursday, July 13, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. with remarks by President Jewell and Parish Council Members.

Region 4

Southwest Coastal Louisiana Storm Risk Reduction Efforts Gain Traction

A project partnership agreement has been signed between CPRA and Army Corps of Engineers - the execution of this joint effort makes way for flood mitigation projects in Cameron, Calcasieu and Vermilion Parishes to possibly begin by mid-2024.



Region 5

Restore Louisiana Homeowner Assistance Program

Homeowners in Lake Charles who have been grappling with how to deal with storm-damaged homes years after Hurricanes Laura and Delta may benefit from recent changes to the Restore program's eligibility criteria. Lowering the FEMA-determined damage threshold and raising the allowable maximum of insurance received could potentially serve more property owners in the Lake Charles area as well as storm-blighted properties statewide. [RestoreLa.gov](https://www.restorela.gov)



Region 6

Rapides Parish Flood Risk Project

Kick off meeting was held March 16, 2023 for LaDOTD CTP FY22 Flood Risk Project for Rapides Parish. Rapides Parish FIRMs are currently not modernized and Effective studies date back to the early 1980's. Although preliminary studies were completed in 2007, they were not finalized due to

levee accreditation and the Parish was placed on a mapping hold. This project will complete the Rapides Parish update in a multi-part study, leveraging completed levee work, BLE and data from a recent RAPC Transportation Resiliency Study. We are excited to be working with LaDOTD, Halff, the community, and FEMA on this project.



Summer Workshop

The LFMA Summer Workshop was held in Avoyelles Parish with over 50 participants, including the Parish President, Police Jurors, and Planning Commissioners. Braydon Williams with FEMA Region 6 stayed after the workshop to meet with local officials and the Floodplain Administrator to discuss hot topics directly affecting Avoyelles Parish.



FY 2021 FMA Funding

The Rapides Area Planning Commission (RAPC) received notification of approval and funding of the FY 2021 Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program to elevate 4 more structures in Rapides Parish. This would bring the total number of structures approved for mitigation up to 27 (including 1 acquisition). RAPC is also working with Avoyelles Parish and Allen Parish on mitigation projects.

Region 7

LA Tech Team Brings Home Numerous Awards in 2023 Competition

Much success was attained at this year's ASCE Gulf Coast Regional Competition where 12 first place and 6 second place awards were brought home to Ruston, Louisiana. Concrete Canoe Captain Noah

Savoie is proud of his team who won every concrete canoe race in their Outpaw canoe (pictured at right).



Region 8

Ouachita Green provides organization and planning for beautification project, litter abatement, fundraising events, and educational efforts in Ouachita Parish. Visit their [website](#) to read about the impact they are having across the Parish and get ideas for ways you can make a difference in your own community.

Sign Up

**OUACHITA PARISH
WATER SWEEP 2023**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
SEPTEMBER 16 | 8 AM - 11 AM
Sign up at ouachitagreen.org or email
info@ouachitagreen.org for more information.

Locations:

- Black Bayou Canal @ Tinseltown
- Lazarre Park
- Sterlington Boat Dock
- Black Bayou Wildlife Refuge
- ULM @ Bayou Desiard
- 165 N. @ Bayou Desiard
- Forsythe Boat Dock
- Bawcomville Rec
- Moon Lake Boat Dock
- Restoration Park Canal

Logos: ULM, drax, US Army Corps of Engineers Vicksburg District, KEEP WEST MONROE Beautiful, KEEP MONROE Beautiful, WASTE CONNECTIONS, OUACHITA GREEN, KEEP OUACHITA PARISH BEAUTIFUL.

Committee Updates

Awards Committee

[Ted Debane Award](#)

Now is the time to start thinking about who you want to nominate for the new LFMA award for a business or firm who has advanced floodplain management in the state of Louisiana. If you have questions about eligibility reach out to Colin Sternhell for more information.

[More Information](#)

Conference Committee

We all love gifts and door prizes at our annual conference. The conference planning team would like you to be involved this year with donating gift baskets from your area of the state. We would like to have at least 25 gift baskets/prizes for a silent auction at our 2024 annual conference.

Start planning now what your community or company can donate!



Continuing Ed Committee

Workshop continuing education credits have been sent to ASFPM for processing. Individual Certificates will be emailed to those who attended.

If you have questions about Continuing Education Credits contact Danielle at dhonor@stcharlesgov.net



Disaster Resources Team

If you are interested in discussing pre-disaster steps to take to be ready for substantial damage estimates and enforcement contact nleblanc@tangipahoa.org.

FEMA has released a Substantial Damage Quick Reference Guide that can be found [HERE](#).



The SDE is a tool to help local officials administer the Substantial Damage requirements of their floodplain management ordinances in keeping with the minimum requirements of the NFIP.



Legislative Committee

The Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code Council (LSUCCC) recently completed its code cycle update. Along with major changes to several sections of the code, the LSUCCC included the recommendations called for in the ICC with respect to Freeboard. As of August 1st, 2023, the minimum elevation standard throughout the State of Louisiana will change to 1' Freeboard.

For both the IRC (Section R322.2.1, General) and the IBC (Section 1612.42, Design and Construction), the minimum elevation for new construction will include 1' Freeboard.

See below for specific sections of the code:

International Building Code:

Amend	Section 1612.42, Design and Construction.	Effective August 1, 2023--The design and construction of buildings and structures located in flood hazard areas, including coastal high hazard areas and coastal A zones, shall be in accordance with Chapter 5 of ASCE 7 and ASCE 24. The local jurisdictions, utilizing flood plain manager, shall have the authority to adopt higher freeboard amounts as needed (CRS, etc.) but shall not have the authority to adopt freeboard amounts less than those required in ASCE-24.
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International Residential Code:

Amend	Section R322.2.1, General	Effective August 1, 2023--Buildings and structures constructed in whole or in part in flood hazard areas, including A or V Zones and Coastal A Zones, as established in Table R301.2, and substantial improvement and repair of substantial damage of buildings and structures in flood hazard areas, shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the provisions contained in this section. Buildings and structures that are located in more than one flood hazard area shall comply with the provisions associated with the most restrictive flood hazard area. Buildings and structures located in whole or in part in identified floodways shall be designed and constructed in accordance with ASCE 24. The local jurisdictions, utilizing flood plain managers, shall have the authority to adopt higher freeboard amounts as needed (CRS, etc.) but shall not have the authority to adopt freeboard amounts less than those required in ASCE-24
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Membership Committee

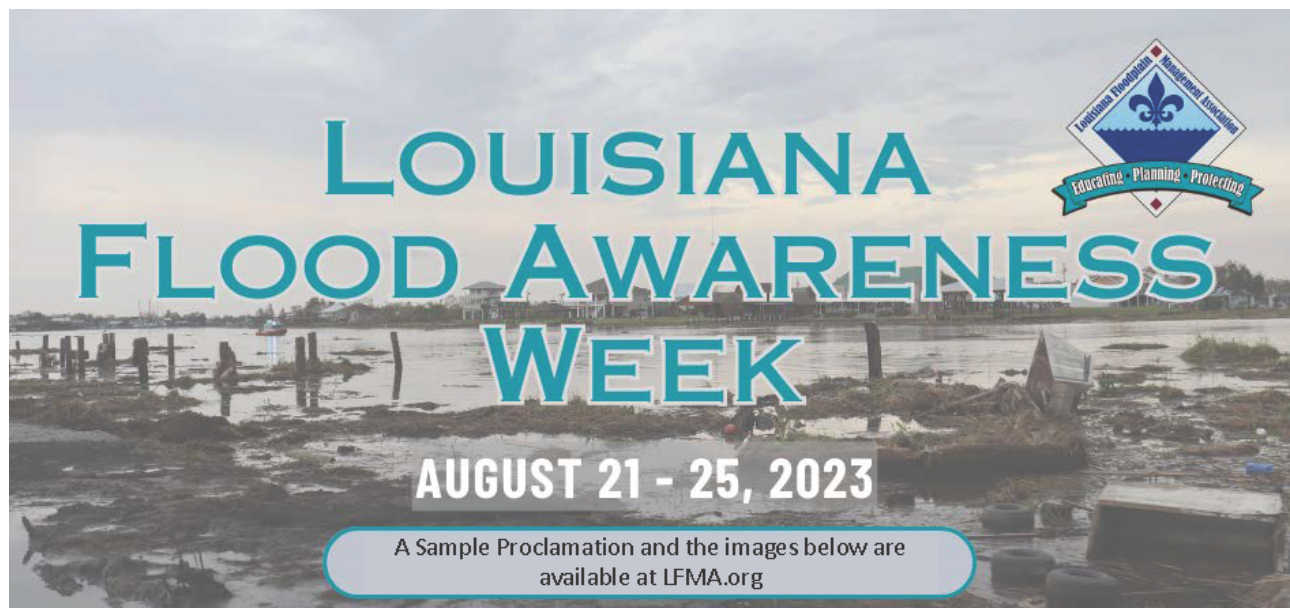
2024 Membership renewals will be sent out in the last quarter of 2023 via the email address listed in the online membership portal. Please plan ahead as our membership fees will increase by **\$5.00** which will result in an annual individual membership fee of **\$55.00**.

****NEW for 2024 will be a retired member option for \$25.00****

Newsletter Committee

If you have a project, program, or information about your region please provide the information to Melonie Ellzey at mellzey@bha-engineers.com. Newsletters will be sent out quarterly and we need your input to make them fun and informative for our members.

LFMA's Flood Awareness Week will be August 21 to August 25, 2023. Start thinking now of what topics you want to highlight in your community for this week. If you or your community post on social media please use #floodaware and/or tag LFMA in your post so we can share!



Monday - General Awareness

LOUISIANA FLOOD AWARENESS WEEK AUGUST 21 - 25, 2023

TOPIC: **General Awareness**

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

EXAMPLE 1
Ask your elected officials to sign a proclamation for Flood Awareness Week.

LFMA will provide a template as part of the Flood Awareness Week toolkit.



EXAMPLE 2

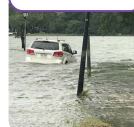
Share Flood Awareness Week graphics on your community website or social media throughout the week. Print a sign for your office or local business to hand out during the week that says it's Flood Awareness Week.

LFMA will provide some graphics as part of our toolkit for Flood Awareness Week.



EXAMPLE 3

Create an exhibit at a local library or museum that showcases historic flood information for your community.



SHARE

SHARE LFMA'S FLOOD AWARENESS WEEK POSTS ON FACEBOOK



Tuesday - Flood Risk

LOUISIANA FLOOD AWARENESS WEEK AUGUST 21 - 25, 2023

TOPIC: Flood Risk

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

EXAMPLE 1
Share social media posts for the public to learn where they can find flood hazard information, such as the LSU's Flood Mapping Portal or your local mapping platform.




EXAMPLE 2
Do you have areas in your community with known flood issues (flash flooding, high tide or a major storm)? Put up temporary or permanent signs to educate residents of this risk.

Messaging ideas:





EXAMPLE 3
Host an open house for the public to learn about flood risk, flood maps and whether their property is in a flood zone. Share information about flood insurance and your local floodplain management program.



SHARE SHARE LFMA'S FLOOD AWARENESS WEEK POSTS ON FACEBOOK



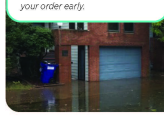
Wednesday - Flood Insurance

LOUISIANA FLOOD AWARENESS WEEK AUGUST 21 - 25, 2023

TOPIC: Flood Insurance


OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

EXAMPLE 1
Work with local insurance agents, realtors and lenders to distribute brochures about flood insurance in their offices.
FEMA has multiple brochures that can be ordered for free. These take about four to six weeks to arrive, so make sure you place your order early.



EXAMPLE 2
Share information with local insurance agents about agent-specific resources related to flood insurance.
Let them know about FEMA's agent-specific resources at agents.floodsmart.gov.

EXAMPLE 3
Educate residents that anywhere it can rain, it can flood, and flood insurance is financial protection. Anyone in a National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) participating community can purchase NFIP flood insurance. This includes homeowners, renters and businesses.



Share information about flood insurance through social media and your website, host an open house, put brochures out in community buildings, etc. FEMA has information and resources available at www.floodsmart.gov.

SHARE SHARE LFMA'S FLOOD AWARENESS WEEK POSTS ON FACEBOOK



Thursday - Safety & Preparedness

LOUISIANA FLOOD AWARENESS WEEK AUGUST 21 - 25, 2023

TOPIC: Safety and Preparedness

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

EXAMPLE 1
Facilitate a workshop in your community about how to prepare for flooding. Work with your emergency manager to share information about preparing for floods, creating go-bags, evacuation plans, etc.

Check Ready.gov/floods for more ideas.



EXAMPLE 2
Use the "Turn Around, Don't Drive" phrase to educate your community of the dangers of driving through flooded roads. This might be accomplished by sharing through social media or your community website, or hosting a workshop. Consider hosting a training for your coworkers or through a driver's education program. It only takes 12 inches of water to float away most cars.

View National Weather Service's **policy** for using the phrase, as well as videos and print materials.



EXAMPLE 3






What's the difference?
It can be confusing to keep up with all the different weather alerts. Make sure your community knows what each means and what actions to take.
The National Weather Service provides **language** you can use.

SHARE SHARE LFMA'S FLOOD AWARENESS WEEK POSTS ON FACEBOOK



Friday - Mitigation

TOPIC: **Mitigation**

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

EXAMPLE 1

Partner with local businesses, such as a hardware store and local builders, to teach residents about flood resistant materials, flood vents, elevating utilities and more.

EXAMPLE 2

Hold a community event for residents to learn about ways they can mitigate against flooding. There are many low-cost options that may reduce their flood damages and insurance premiums.



EXAMPLE 3

Does your community have homes that could be mitigated through a Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant program? Have a workshop or share information with residents about their options for elevation, relocation or acquisition.



Workshop Committee

SHARE

SHARE LFMA'S FLOOD AWARENESS WEEK POSTS ON FACEBOOK



If you would like to present at a workshop please contact Darla Duet at DuetDA@lafourchegov.org

October Workshop

City of Scott

October 20, 2023

Scott Events Center

110 Lions Club Rd

Scott, LA 70583



Connect with Us:

Facebook

This email was sent to melellzey@yahoo.com by mellzey@bha-engineers.com

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