



# New Hampshire Floodplain Management Program Fact Sheet #1

## New Hampshire's Floodplain Management Program

The New Hampshire Floodplain Management Program is coordinated by the New Hampshire Office of Planning and Development (OPD). OPD is the state coordinating agency for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The NFIP is a Federal program administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) which allows property owners in participating communities to purchase insurance protection against losses from flooding. Communities can voluntarily participate in the NFIP by making an agreement with FEMA and adopting and enforcing floodplain regulations to reduce the flood risks of new construction in FEMA's designated Special Flood Hazard Areas.

The goal of the NH Floodplain Management Program is to ensure that communities participate in the NFIP to the maximum extent possible, and thereby achieve the flood loss reduction objectives of the NFIP.

### Our mission is to...

- create a continuously improving program for floodplain management through effective leadership and partnerships;
- foster an environment to build state and local capabilities; and
- promote floodplain management excellence within the state of New Hampshire.

### Six Strategic Areas

#### Technical Assistance

- Answer questions and provide guidance to all audiences regarding the NFIP, including community officials, residents and property owners, and surveyors and engineers.
- Supply NFIP related materials and act as a liaison with FEMA when needed.

#### Ordinance Assistance

- Review floodplain ordinances and regulations for updating or amendments upon request.
- Review floodplain ordinances of affected communities prior to the release of new Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs).
- Continuously update State model ordinance to ensure consistently with federal and state laws.

#### Community Assistance Visits and Contacts

- Regularly conduct Community Assistance Visits (CAVs) and Community Assistance Contacts (CACs) which participating communities to ensure minimum program requirements are being met.

## Workshops and Training

- Hold workshops and trainings across the state, including but not limited to community officials, engineers, surveyors and architects, and insurance professionals.

## Mapping Assistance

- Provide guidance in obtaining floodplain maps and making floodplain determinations for all communities in the state.
- Coordinate and provide guidance to communities when receiving new Risk MAP Products (FIRMs, Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Reports, and non-regulatory products).

## Coordination with other Governmental Programs and Agencies

- Participate in interagency reviews of state funded projects to assure compliance with floodplain management regulations and to meet the objectives of Federal Executive Order 11988 and State Executive Order 96-4.

## Post-Disaster Assistance

- Offer assistance to communities affected by a flood disaster, other state agencies, and individuals as it relates to flood hazard mitigation and the NFIP.

## Additional Resources

Watch [An Introduction to the NH Floodplain Management Program](#) on YouTube (~5 minutes)

Learn more on the [NH Floodplain Management Program's website](http://www.nhopd.com) ([www.nhopd.com](http://www.nhopd.com)).

## New Hampshire Floodplain Management Program and Resources

The NH Floodplain Management Program is a program of the Office of Planning and Development (OPD) within the NH Department of Business and Economic Affairs. OPD is the state coordinating agency for the NFIP and works in partnership with FEMA. For more information about the Program and the services it provides or to view FEMA resources and guidance documents, please visit the NH Floodplain Management Program's [website](#) or contact the team via 603-271-1755 or [planning@livefree.nh.gov](mailto:planning@livefree.nh.gov).