## **Community Rating System (CRS) - Application Process in New Hampshire**

A New Hampshire community interested in joining the FEMA Community Rating System (CRS) must complete the following:

- 1. Complete a <u>letter of interest</u> that states that the community is interested in joining CRS; the name of the community's CRS coordinator; the community will cooperate with the verification process; and the community understands that approval from FEMA Region 1 is needed for the ISO/CRS Specialist to visit the community and verify creditable activities. The letter must be signed by the community's chief executive officer.
- 2. Complete the <u>CRS Quick Check</u> that can shows the community is implementing activities that total at least 500 points.
- 3. Submit the letter of interest, CRS Quick Check and its accompanying documentation to Chris Markesich, FEMA Region 1, 99 High Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02110 or <a href="mailto:christopher.markesich@fema.dhs.gov">christopher.markesich@fema.dhs.gov</a> and copy NH's NFIP Coordinator (Jennifer.gilbert@nh.gov).

## **Next Steps:**

- 4. If the community's submittal is complete (including items to be attached to the CRS Quick Check) and shows that 500 or more credit points are likely, the FEMA Region 1 Office must ensure that the community is meeting the minimum standards of the NFIP, which is determined by a Community Assistance Visit conducted by FEMA (or State NFIP Coordinator).
- 5. Upon receiving FEMA approval, a community verification visit is scheduled by FEMA's CRS management contractor, Insurance Services Office (ISO). At this verification visit, the ISO/CRS Specialist reviews all of the community's activities that may deserve credit, even those not in the community's submittal. All CRS credit is verified according to the credit criteria in the CRS Coordinator's Manual in effect at the time of the visit.
- 6. After the verification visit, ISO submits its findings to FEMA. FEMA sets the CRS credit to be granted and notifies the community, the state, insurance companies, and other appropriate parties. The classification is effective on either May 1 or October 1, whichever comes first, after the community's activities are verified.

For further assistance and questions, please contact Jennifer Gilbert, NH NFIP Coordinator, at the NH Office of Energy and Planning, 107 Pleasant Street, Johnson Hall, Concord NH 03301 at <u>Jennifer.gilbert@nh.gov</u> and (603) 271-2155.