

# KANSAS FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT TIPS



October 2023

## KAFM Conference 2023

The Kansas Association for Floodplain Management held its annual conference on August 29-31 at the Kansas Star Hotel & Event Center in Mulvane. Floodplain managers attended presentations given by the KDA-DWR Floodplain Team who presented on various Floodplain 101 topics such as mapping, calculating base flood elevations, permitting and construction, as well as substantial damage and improvement, and how to prepare for an audit. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) had sessions on how to dry floodproof a non-residential building with Martin Koch, and how to develop a substantial damage plan with Todd Tucker. A presentation on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers funding opportunities was presented by Jennifer Henggeler, while Stephanie Goodman with KDEM presented on Kansas funding opportunities. Attendees also learned about innovative approaches to urban flooding from Thomas Kimes with PEC, a flood risk reduction project in St. Mary's by, Joe File with Benesch,

## In this bulletin...

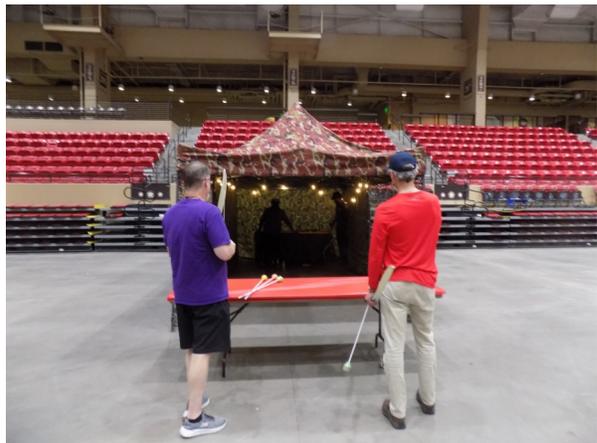
- Announcements
- KAFM Conference 2023
- CRS Plaque Presentations
- Staff Changes and Opportunities
- New Interactive Floodplain Tools
- Learning Opportunities
- Training Registration Form



Successful exam takers receive their CFM pins



Kelly Dixon presents on compliance



Attendees enjoy archery at social event

Story Continued on Next Page

the past, present, and future of floodways by Ben Rufenacht with WSP, as well as certifying compliance for a structure constructed in the floodplain with Kelly Dixon, the floodplain administrator for Sedgwick County. Additional experts presented on 2D watershed modeling, navigating mitigation projects for federal disaster declaration response, and mitigation action using 2D HEC-RAS software. Evening events included entertainment by Allisons Fun, Inc. with mini golf, basketball, archery, bag toss games, and more. The next KAFM conference will be held at the Double Tree by Hilton in Lawrence in August 2024. Follow updates here: [www.kafm.org/](http://www.kafm.org/)

**CRS Plaque Presentations**

The Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program through FEMA that rewards communities with discounts on flood insurance in exchange for reducing flood damage to insurable property, strengthening the aspects of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and fostering comprehensive floodplain management. Communities may inquire about the application process to the KDA-DWR Floodplain Team and find more information about the program here: <https://crsresources.org/>. As part of the CRS program, plaques are awarded to participating communities to reflect the work they have done to make their communities more resilient to flood risk.

The CRS program operates on a system in which communities earn points for various activities such as keeping the floodplain as open space, adopting a mitigation plan, education and outreach, and adopting higher regulatory standards into their floodplain management ordinance. KDA-DWR can assist communities with many of these activities in order to earn points, and many times what a community is



City of Topeka accepts CRS plaque



Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City accept CRS plaque

already doing is enough to enter CRS at a Class 9. A minimum of 500 points is required for each class level, and there is a 5% discount on insurance premiums as you move up in class.

Kansas is a leader in the number of CRS communities within our region with 47 participating communities. Some recent CRS news includes the City of Topeka joining the program, and Kansas City moving up in class. Kansas City and Topeka were presented with plaques in the month of August by State NFIP Coordinator, Tara Lanzrath. The plaque acknowledges the steps they have taken to make their communities safer, and thereby help citizens receive discounts on flood insurance.

Topeka has entered the program at a Class 9, earning their citizens a 5% discount, while Kansas City has progressed in the program to a Class 6, earning their citizens a 20% discount for policies at their actuarial rate. The presentation of a plaque is an opportunity to demonstrate to citizens that community staff are going above and beyond to earn residents' insurance discounts and make the community safer.



## **Training Opportunities**

### **How to Issue a Floodplain Permit**

The Kansas Department of Agriculture is offering a free virtual training designed for community officials and covers the process of completing and reviewing a local floodplain development permit. This class will feature a demonstration of the new prototype for the Smart PDF template floodplain development permit. It will be interactive to assist the floodplain administrator in determining permitting requirements for specific types of development. This class is approved for 1 Continuing Education Credit (CEC) toward the Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) credential.

Virtual training to be held on October 12, 2023 from 9:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M. Register [Here](#)

### **Elevation Certificates: Section A**

This class focuses on Section A of the elevation certificate form. This class is approved for 1 Continuing Education Credit (CEC) toward the Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) credential.

Virtual training to be held on November 7, 2023 from 1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M. Register [Here](#)

### **Elevation Certificates: Section B**

This class focuses on Section B of the elevation certificate form. This class is approved for 1 Continuing Education Credit (CEC) toward the Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) credential.

Virtual training to be held on November 8, 2023 from 1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M. Register [Here](#)

### **Elevation Certificates: Sections C, D, E**

This class focuses on Sections C, D, and E of the elevation certificate form. This class is approved for 1 Continuing Education Credit (CEC) toward the Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) credential.

Virtual training to be held on November 9, 2023 from 1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M. Register [Here](#)

Find more information about floodplain management from Kansas Department of Agriculture  
Division of Water Resources online at:

<http://agriculture.ks.gov/divisions-programs/dwr/floodplain>

Email saves money on postage. The electronic newsletter also has links and the photos are in color. In the case that you are getting this newsletter by postal mail and would prefer email please contact Cheyenne Sun Eagle at: [cheyenne.suneagle@ks.gov](mailto:cheyenne.suneagle@ks.gov).

To find and register for upcoming training, as well as recordings of previous trainings, please see our new  
Floodplain Management Training webpage at:

<https://agriculture.ks.gov/divisions-programs/dwr/floodplain/training>

**Kansas Department of Agriculture**  
**Division of Water Resources**  
**Floodplain Program**  
**Training Registration Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name, date and location of training you will attend \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\*Please share this invitation with anyone else who could benefit from the training.

\*\*Classroom locations will be sent to registered participants one week before the training.

\*\*To find and register for upcoming training, as well as recordings of previous trainings, please see our new Floodplain Management Training webpage at: <https://agriculture.ks.gov/divisions-programs/dwr/floodplain/training>

\*\* Any individual with a disability may request accommodation in order to participate in training. Persons who require special accommodations must make their needs known at least five working days prior to training. For more information, including special accommodations, please contact Cheyenne Sun Eagle at 785-296-0854 or by email [Cheyenne.Suneagle@ks.gov](mailto:Cheyenne.Suneagle@ks.gov).

Please scan and email your registration to: [cheyenne.suneagle@ks.gov](mailto:cheyenne.suneagle@ks.gov)

Or mail to:

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM  
1131 SW Winding Road, Suite 400  
TOPEKA, KS 66615

For questions about training, please contact Cheyenne Sun Eagle by email at [cheyenne.suneagle@ks.gov](mailto:cheyenne.suneagle@ks.gov) or by phone at 785-296-0854. You may also contact Tara Lanzrath by email at [tara.lanzrath@ks.gov](mailto:tara.lanzrath@ks.gov) or by phone at 785-296-2513

Please help us keep our records current. If the name that appears on this newsletter is for an individual no longer with your organization, please call 785-296-0854 or email [cheyenne.suneagle@ks.gov](mailto:cheyenne.suneagle@ks.gov) to report the change.

Kansas Department of Agriculture  
Division of Water Resources  
Topeka Field Office  
Floodplain Management  
1131 SW Winding Road, Suite 400  
Topeka, KS 66615

**Kansas Association For Floodplain Management 2024 Conference in Lawrence**

The 2024 KAFM Conference will be August 27-28 at the Double Tree by Hilton in Lawrence, Kansas.

**Association of State Floodplain Managers 2024 Conference in Salt Lake City**

The 2024 ASFPM Conference will be June 23-27, at the Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City, Utah.

**KDA/DWR Water Structures  
Floodplain Program Staff**

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