WHAT is SCAHM?

The South Carolina Association for Hazard Mitigation (SCAHM) is a professional organization dedicated to educating South Carolina communities about hazard mitigation and loss prevention. Our members represent various professions, including but not limited to: building code enforcement officials and inspectors, company Presidents and Vice Presidents, emergency managers, engineers, floodplain managers, GIS technicians, hydrologists, planning and/or zoning officials, and project managers.

Each year in the spring, SCAHM sponsors an annual educational conference where we present educational sessions on multiple types of hazards. SCAHM also sponsors training courses on various hazard mitigation subjects throughout the year.

SCAHM is a Chapter Member of the Association of State Floodplain Managers, Inc. (ASFPM), the primary professional association of floodplain managers in the US.
Are you hurricane ready?

Hurricanes are dangerous and can cause major damage because of storm surge, wind damage, and flooding. They can happen along any U.S. coast or in any territory in the Atlantic or Pacific oceans. Storm surge is historically the leading cause of hurricane-related deaths in the United States.

Know your Hurricane Risk

Hurricanes are not just a coastal problem. Find out how rain, wind, water could happen where you live so you can start preparing now.

Make an Emergency Plan

Make sure everyone in your household knows and understands your hurricane plan. Discuss the latest Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance on Coronavirus (COVID-19) and how it may affect your hurricane planning. Don’t forget a plan for the office, kids’ daycare, and anywhere you frequent.

Gather Supplies

Have enough supplies for your household, include medication, disinfectant supplies, cloth face coverings, pet supplies in your go bag or car trunk.

Those with Disabilities

If you or anyone in your household is an individual with a disability identify if you may need additional help during an emergency.

Know your Evacuation Zone

You may have to evacuate quickly due to a hurricane. Learn your evacuation routes, practice with household, pets, and identify where you will stay.

Recognize Warnings and Alerts

Have several ways to receive alerts. Download the FEMA app and receive real-time alerts from the National Weather Service for up to five locations nationwide. Sign up for community alerts in your area and be aware of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA)- which requires no-sign up.

Review Important Documents

Make sure your insurance policies and personal documents like ID are up to date. Make copies and keep them in a secure password protected digital space.

Strengthen your Home

Declutter drains and gutters, bring in outside furniture, consider hurricane shutters.

Get Tech Ready

Keep your cell phone charged when you know a hurricane is in the forecast and purchase backup charging devices to power electronics.

Help your Neighborhood

Check with neighbors, senior adults, or those who may need additional help securing hurricane plans to see how you can be of assistance to others.

Prepare your Business

Make sure your business has a continuity plan to continue operating when disaster strikes.

HELPFUL LINKS

https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes

https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1494007144395-b0e215ae1ba6ac1b556f084e190e5862/FEMA_2017_Hurricane_HTP_FINAL.pdf
CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE

SCAHM.org

- Pay Membership Fees
- Find Information on Upcoming Events
- See Current Job Listings
- Easily Locate Commonly Used Website Links
- And Much More...

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER

You don't have to be a Floodplain Manager to join the SC Association for Hazard Mitigation!

Click JOIN at SCAHM.org to become a member today.
2020 Conference Recap

We want to give a big THANK YOU to all our members and more importantly our Sponsors! With your continued support, our event was a huge success! We look forward to seeing everyone for the 2021 Conference!
NOAA – Spring Outlook: Historic, widespread flooding to continue through May
by News Editor | Mar 19, 2020 |

ASFPM, What's New

Nearly two-thirds of the Lower 48 states face an elevated risk for flooding through May, with the potential for major or moderate flooding in 25 states, according to NOAA’s U.S. Spring Outlook issued today. The majority of the country is favored to experience above-average precipitation this spring, increasing the flood risk.

Portions of the United States – especially in the upper Mississippi and Missouri River basins including Nebraska, Minnesota and Iowa – have already experienced record flooding this year. This early flooding was caused by rapid snow melt combined with heavy spring rain and late season snowfall in areas where soil moisture is high. In some areas, ice jams are exacerbating the flooding. Offices across the National Weather Service have been working with local communities, providing decision-support services and special briefings to emergency managers and other leaders in local, state and federal government to ensure the highest level of readiness before the flooding began.

Additional spring rain and melting snow will prolong and expand flooding, especially in the central and southern U.S. As this excess water flows downstream through the river basins, the flood threat will become worse and geographically more widespread.

Read full article here.

FEMA Releases Updated Preliminary Damage Assessment Guide
by News Editor | May 14, 2020 | What's New

FEMA announces the release of the agency’s updated Preliminary Damage Assessment Guide (PDA Guide) and its accompanying Preliminary Damage Assessment Pocket Guide (PDA Pocket Guide). The PDA Guide will be effective on June 8, 2020 and will have a one-year public comment period until June 8, 2021. The purpose of the public comment period is to give state, local, tribal, and territorial government partners and stakeholders who participate in preliminary damage assessments (PDAs) an opportunity to provide feedback to FEMA on the PDA process.

The PDA Guide and its accompanying PDA Pocket Guide establish a framework for how emergency management officials, at every level of government, document and validate details of damage following a disaster. The guide includes a concept of operations, defined roles and responsibilities, recommended methodologies and the documentation and data required to validate damage. The PDA Guide supersedes FEMA’s 2016 Damage Assessment Operations Manual.

NFIP Resources to Help Residents Prepare for Hurricane Season

by News Editor | Jun 17, 2020 | What's New

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and its National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) are encouraging residents in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas to purchase a flood insurance policy ahead of hurricane season. We want to alert you of this effort and invite you to help spread the word about the vital protection and peace of mind flood insurance offers in the event of flood damage.

You can help your community’s residents prepare for hurricane season by following these four easy steps:

- Encourage members of your community to reach out to their local agent to purchase a flood insurance policy before peak hurricane season.
- Share NFIP materials including resources, brochures, posters, flyers, and videos on your website, via e-mail, and through your network’s newsletter or listserv.
- Use our sample media content to post on platforms such as Twitter and Facebook.
- Embed the NFIP Cost of Flooding Tool and other engaging materials such as Survivor Stories to your website.

Watch a video to learn more about how to use the outreach materials to help residents and businesses prepare for this year’s hurricane season at https://vimeo.com/42849606977/a002440083.

Find downloadable community outreach materials on the FloodSmart site.

ASFPM Comments on HUD Proposed Information Collection: Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands

by News Editor | Apr 20, 2020 | ASFPM, What’s New

ASFPM has responded to a notice by the Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) for comments on proposed information collection related to Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands.

HUD sought comments on the decision-making procedures prescribed by Executive Order 11988 on floodplains and Executive Order 11990 on wetlands, with which applicants must comply before HUD financial assistance can be approved for projects that are located within floodplains.

The purpose of these Executive orders is explained in 24 CFR 55, as follows:

(a)(1) The purpose of Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, is “to avoid to the extent possible the long and short-term adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of floodplains and to avoid direct or indirect support of floodplain development wherever there is a practicable alternative.”

(2) The purpose of Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands, is “to avoid to the extent possible the long- and short-term adverse impacts associated with the destruction or modification of wetlands and to avoid direct or indirect support of new construction in wetlands wherever there is a practicable alternative.”

READ FULL ARTICLE HERE

VISIT ASFPM.ORG for more News, Info & Upcoming Trainings Opportunities
SAVE THE DATE

2021 SCAHM Conference
Embassy Suites
Downtown Columbia, SC
March 18th—19th, 2021
Visit SCAHM.org for more information

2021 ASFPM Conference
Raleigh, North Carolina
May 9 - 13, 2021
UPCOMING SCAHM TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

August 21st, 2020
Webinar - Additional info to be sent out

December 11th, 2020
Location/2020

Annual Conference
March 18 & 19th, 2021
Embassy Suites Columbia

We want to hear from you!!
Are there topics that you would be interested in for upcoming trainings?
Are there areas you would like more information on? We are seeking to find what current SCAHM members would be interested in.

If you have an idea, email us here.

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