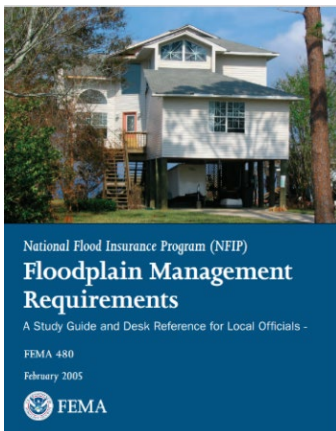


## Illinois and FEMA Floodplain Management Webinars

FEMA will continue their monthly webinar series in 2024. Illinois will resume our series in the fall, we will continue to have trainings on the second Tuesday of the month. Please share this information with your building inspectors, permit staff, engineers, and public work staff. Use the links below to register and add to your calendar.

- 5/29/24, (Wed), 9-10 am, FEMA [Increased Cost of Compliance](#)
- 6/26/24, (Wed), 9-10 am, FEMA [Floodplain Management Higher Standards](#)
- 7/31/2024, (Wed), 9-10 am, [FEMA Managing Map Changes](#)
- 8/28/2024, (Wed), 9-10 am, [FEMA Resolving Potential Violations: Floodway, Low Floor, Vents](#)
- 9/10/2024 (Tuesday) 11:30-12:30, [Illinois Floodplain Permits and Ordinance Administration](#)
- 9/25/2024, (Wed), 9-10 am, [FEMA Accessory and Agricultural Structures](#)
- 10/30/2024, (Wed), 9-10 am, [FEMA Great Lakes Coastal Floodplain Management](#)
- 11/27/2024, (Wed), 9-10 am, [FEMA Natural and Beneficial Functions](#)
- 12/18/2024, (Wed), 9-10 am, [FEMA Community Rating System \(CRS\)](#)

## FEMA NFIP Study Guide and Desk reference for Local Officials



The [NFIP Floodplain Management Requirements, A Study Guide and Desk Reference for Local Officials](#) can help local floodplain administrators and local officials understand their floodplain regulations, permitting in the floodplain, and their overall role in floodplain management. It can be a study guide for anyone wishing to become a Certified Floodplain Manager or be used as a desk reference.

## Annual Community Contact Update Letter

The IDNR sends a letter every year to your local CEO to request an update to the contact information for the CEO and the floodplain administrator. Please be aware that this letter is on its way and respond – even if there are no changes.

This is important information for us to have to ensure that we can stay in touch with your local officials!

## Instructions for How to Drain a Flooded Basement

Pumping a basement out too soon after a flood could result in a broken floor and damaged walls due to pressure from the saturated soil surrounding the foundation. Advise your residents to wait for not only surface waters to recede but also wait for the ground water to recede as well. Provide your residents with instructions to avoid this damage and potentially a substantial damage determination. A plumber or a flood restoration

### In this Issue

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company may be needed to help remove the water. Removing 8 or more feet of water, using the following step-by-step instructions, will take 4 or more days.

Step 1. Make sure the electricity and gas are shut off, call your flood insurance agent or insurance company to start your claim, and take photos.

Step 2. If the floodwater has receded from outside of the home, you can slowly begin pumping the water out of the basement in stages. Mark the height of the water.

Step 3. Pump the water level down only one to two feet. Mark the new water level on a wall and wait overnight to see if water does not seep back in.

Step 4. Check the water level the next day.

- If the water went back up, it's still too early to try to drain the basement. Wait overnight and repeat Step 3.
- If the water has not risen, pump the water down another one to two feet, mark the water level, and again wait overnight.

Step 5. If the water level does rise overnight, pump down at two-to-three-foot increments waiting overnight, until the basement is pumped out.

## Alternative to Sandbags

Not all flood protection needs to be expensive. Protecting window wells, garage doors, or other low entry points for water can be simple and there are numerous options now that don't require filling sandbags. Sandless alternatives include bags that are the same size as regular sandbags but are filled with a material that swells when wet. Other sandbag options include long rubber tubes, which are filled with water to provide a barrier, and can vary from 6 feet to 100 feet in length and from 4 inches to 20 inches in height.

These alternatives allow homeowners to have the protection available in the home before a flood warning has been issued. These products are available primarily online with some options now available for pick up at home improvement stores. Please note the state does not endorse any of these products. Please advise your residents to research each product to determine if they will meet their needs.

The websites below are for both barriers and sandless sandbags. Other manufacturers may be found.

FloodBreak: <http://floodbreak.com/>

AquaSafe: <http://buyaquasafe.com/>

Quick Dam: <http://www.quickdams.com/>

Presray: <http://www.presray.com/flood-barriers-floodgates/>

FloodSax: <https://www.floodsaxus.com/>

Stormtec: <http://stormbag.co/>

Watershed Solutions: <http://hydrabarrier.com/>



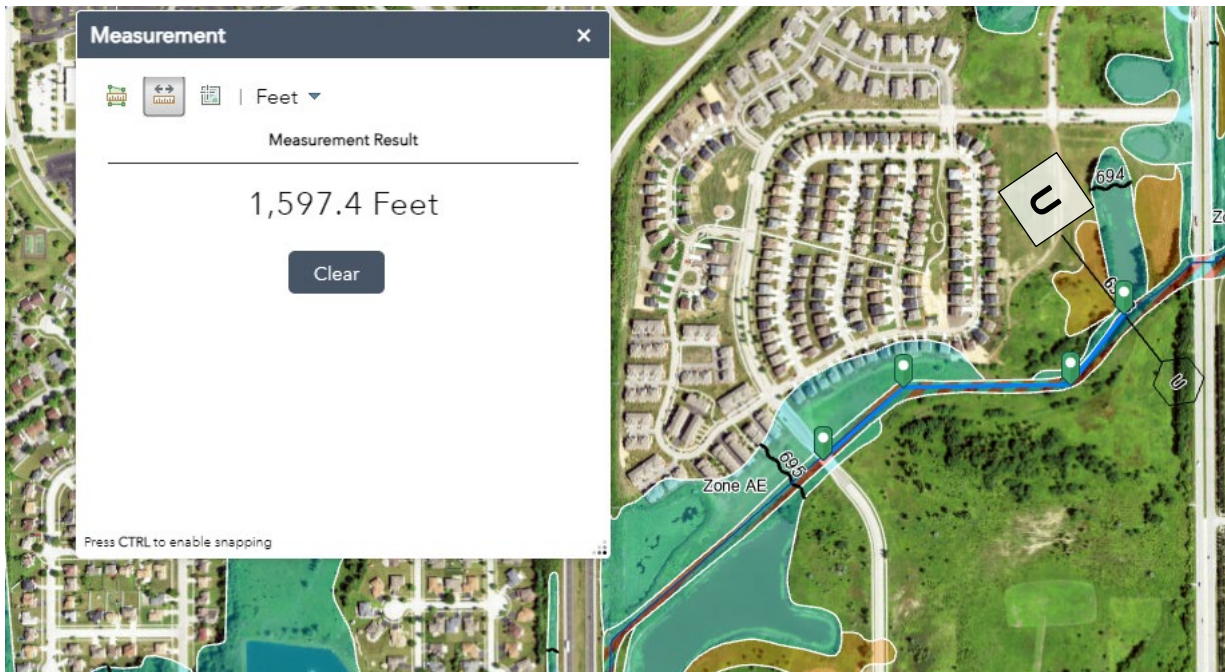
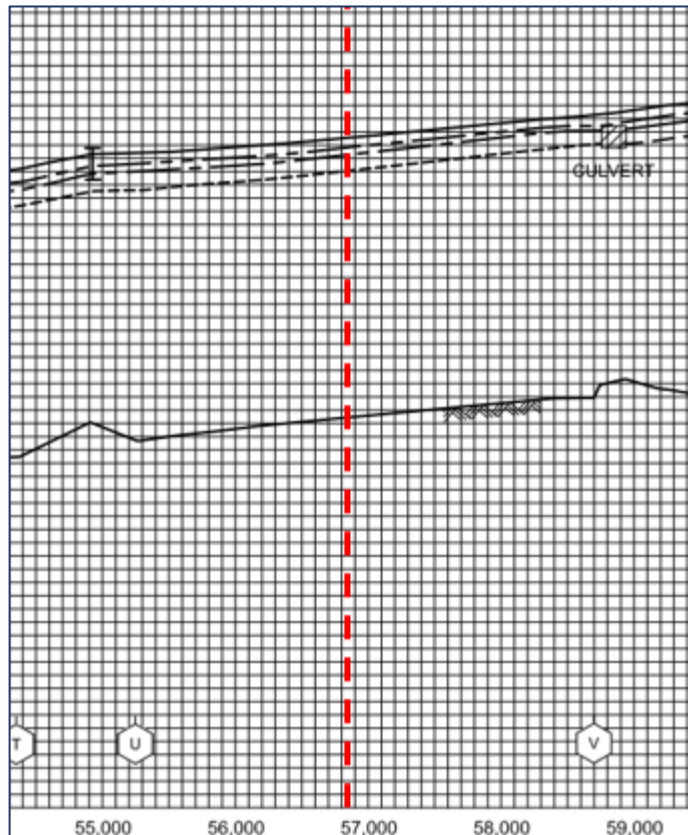
## What is Wrong with this Flood Profile?

The clues are all provided in the images provided. **The road crossing is missing from the profile!** This means a new road was locally permitted and constructed but no Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) was issued.

In the last newsletter we covered when a LOMR and Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) are required. We also discussed that this situation has been found too often across the state. New road crossings and creeks being enclosed with no correction to the maps and the FIS is too common. **THIS IS AN EXPENSIVE MISTAKE.** Do not let this happen in your community. **It is community's responsibility to maintain the accuracy of the maps.**

The cost of securing a LOMR will include the [LOMR fees](#) of around \$8,000. The cost of surveying and floodplain modeling will vary greatly but budgetting should start at \$30,000.

To avoid this happening to you, require the developer to secure a CLOMR before the work begins. Then require the necessary security to cover the cost of the final LOMR application, as-builts, and any final floodplain modeling . If this is a community road project, budget up front for this work, secure the CLOMR before construction, and complete the LOMR. Remember the requirements in 44 CFR 65.3 to provide new technical data to FEMA no later than six months after the data is available to correct the maps and Flood Insurance Study.





## Has Your Community Adopted Their Local Hazard Mitigation Plan?

[FEMA's Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guidance](#) (effective April 19, 2023) requires all local hazard mitigation plan participants to adopt and submit adoption documentation within a year of their plan receiving Approved Pending Adoption (APA) status. This is usually in the form of a resolution by the plan participant's governing body.

Plan adoption is essential because it is one of the conditions for applying for and/or receiving FEMA mitigation grants from the following programs:

- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
- HMGP Post-Fire
- Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)
- Flood Mitigation Assistance
- High Hazard Potential Dams Grant Program
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation-Congressionally Directed Spending

**Plan participants with APA status in a local hazard mitigation plan is not the same as being APPROVED. Plan participants must adopt the plan to be APPROVED.**

Jurisdictions, participating in a hazard mitigation plan, that do not adopt their plan within one year after APA status has been issued must either:

- Validate that their information in the plan remains current with respect to both the risk assessment (no recent hazard events, no changes in development) and their mitigation strategy (no changes necessary); or
- Make the necessary updates before submitting the adoption resolution to FEMA.

For any questions concerning plan adoptions or for a sample adoption resolution, please contact Meg Burrows, Hazard Mitigation Community Planner, FEMA R5 at [meghan.burrows@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:meghan.burrows@fema.dhs.gov)

### Statewide Contact for Floodplain Management Questions

If you have questions please direct them to Erin Conley, State Floodplain Manager, [Erin.C.Conley@illinois.gov](mailto:Erin.C.Conley@illinois.gov). The Northeastern Illinois Floodplain Manager position is currently vacant.