

KANSAS

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT TIPS



December 2017

Recreational Vehicles in the Floodplain

There are recreational vehicles parked in floodplains in Kansas. All too often, those recreational vehicles are propped up on blocks with deflated tires, decks attached to them and appear to have been in the same spot for a few years. The requirements for recreational vehicles were written in a way that it supports the use of floodplains for camping areas as long as recreational vehicles can be driven out of the floodplain when floods are forecast. After all, it is a better use of the floodplain to have some camping spots with recreational vehicles that can be driven away when floods are predicted instead of having homes built in the floodplain.

Standard requirements for recreational vehicles are:

- Be on the site for fewer than 180 consecutive days, *or*
- Be fully licensed and ready for highway use*; *or*
- Meet the permitting, elevation, and anchoring requirements for manufactured homes of this ordinance.

Question was raised about how to enforce the 180 consecutive days requirement? One method is to adopt a requirement that local park administrators keep track of when recreational vehicles arrive in their park and when they leave. Those records can be kept in a log and the dates checked. The community official may have to take a photo and return in 180 days to a location outside of a park.

What does fully licensed and ready for highway use mean? A recreational vehicle is ready for highway use if it is on its wheels or jacking system, is attached to the site only by quick-disconnect type utilities and security devices, and has no permanently attached additions.

Of course, it doesn't do a lot of good to have a recreational vehicle in a location prone to flash flooding. In that situation there is no warning time and no chance to drive the recreational vehicle out of the floodplain.

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Photo from the Newton Kansan of a flood in a park in Harvey County.

Kansas Flood People

Do you know all of the people who work for you in floodplain management in Kansas? Maybe you know them but you don't know enough about them. Here is the Inundation Nation, your floodplain team for Kansas.

Ally Bishop is the Region VII National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP's) regional manager. She has been in her current role for 6.5 years. She has more than 16 years' experience with the NFIP working with WYO (Write Your Own) Companies and vendors. She has presented at many conferences and town hall meetings. She provides training to realtors, agents, lenders, floodplain administrators and city and state officials. One of her greatest joys is providing assistance and guidance to confused and troubled policyholders by providing FIRMettes and assistance with the LOMA process and all aspects of the NFIP.



Sara Henry is the Floodplain Management and NFIP Specialist for the State of Kansas in FEMA Region VII (IA, KS, MO, and NE). As a Regional Specialist, Sara has facilitated numerous training and outreach efforts on NFIP-related topics ranging from general floodplain management requirements and enforcement to substantial damage estimations, impacts on disaster benefits, insurance coverage, and preliminary damage assessments. Sara holds a Bachelor degree in American Political Institutions and a Master's degree in Comparative Politics from American University in Washington, D.C.

Tom Morey is the State NFIP Coordinator for the Kansas Department of Agriculture, where he provides expert technical advice and consultation regarding the implementation of NFIP. He directs the Kansas Floodplain Management team and coordinates with both state and federal agencies to facilitate community activities and implement state and local floodplain management programs.



Sonja Wood is employed by H2O Partners, as an NFIP Subject Matter Expert, Senior NFIP Trainer, and Web Presenter for NFIP Training. Sonja has successfully completed professional designations for the Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) and Associate of National Flood Insurance (ANFI). Ms. Wood has related to a variety of NFIP stakeholders during the past 22 years; insurance professionals, lenders, underwriters, customer service representatives, local, state, and federal officials, real estate professionals, land surveyors, and engineers.. Sonja hopes you will join NFIP Training for webinars on-line <https://training.fema.gov/is/searchis.aspx?search=nfip> .

Chris Parsons has 13 years of experience working with FEMA and the National Flood Insurance Program with both the Write Your Own Program and the NFIP Direct Servicing Agent/Special Direct Facility. He now serves as the FEMA Region VII Insurance Program Specialist. He has a Master's of Business Administration with undergraduate degrees in Communications and Spanish. He also served as a linguist in the Air Force and is a graduate of the Defense Language Institute.



Mitch Roberts was our U.S. Army Corps of Engineers State of Kansas representative for the Silver Jackets program. Mitch recently took a new position and a replacement has not been named yet. The Silver Jackets program has been a valuable partner in the State of Kansas. Silver Jackets helps to leverage participation from other team members and agencies to assist with projects in Kansas. Silver Jackets projects have included flood warning data, studies, levee exercises and signs.

More Kansas Flood People



Steve Samuelson is the Division of Water Resources' NFIP Specialist. He provides technical support to communities and citizens with almost every aspect of floodplain management. A generalist of all things flood related. Prior to working for the State of Kansas, Steve was a local community official tasked with zoning, floodplain management, comprehensive planning, mitigation planning and Community Rating System. Steve has a Bachelor degree from Emporia State University with an emphasis on criminal psychology.

Jacob Gray is the State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO) for Kansas Division of Emergency Management (KDEM). He currently is in charge of 3 FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant programs that the state administers. One of those being the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA), this is the only grant administered that utilized funding from the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) the other two can have flood projects applied for but are not flood specific. Before becoming the SHMO, Jacob worked for Kansas Homeland Security as a vulnerability analyst. Jacob served 5 years on active duty in the US Navy as a Gunners Mate, serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF). Jacob is a native of the Topeka area and currently resides in Perry, KS with his wife, Sonja. Jacob and Sonja have 4 children. A daughter, Katelyn, 13, sons Tyler, Walker, and Coy ranging in age from 11 to 8.



Tara Lanzrath is a Floodplain Mapping Specialist with the State of Kansas. She is a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) and has been in her current position for 3.5 years. Tara teaches classes on how to use ArcMap or QGIS to look at floodplain data, and she provides technical support to her team and Kansas residents by providing web maps and pages at various stages of the mapping process. Tara also assists with base flood elevation requests and the development of the Base Flood Elevation Portal. In her spare time, Tara enjoys spending time with her dog and son while exploring the outdoors.

Dane Bailey is the Floodplain Mapping Coordinator for the Division of Water Resources. Dane and the mapping staff at DWR work with communities and FEMA to develop new Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and to identify local flood risk. Dane has a Master's degree in Geography from The University of Kansas and has career experience in cartography, geomorphology, and environmental science.



Martin Koch is a Floodplain Mapping Specialist for the Division of Water Resources. He contributes to Risk MAP project reporting, planning, and outreach efforts. He helps surveyors and floodplain administrators with base flood elevation determinations, and helps community officials earn CRS credits through GIS mapping projects. Martin holds a Master's degree in Geography from the University of Kansas, a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Sustainability from the University of Oklahoma, and has completed a CTP Special Topics course at the U.S. Emergency Management Institute. In his spare time, he enjoys drone-flying, horticulture, and attempting to train his dog.

Along with these people you also have all of the staff with the Division of Water Resources Water Structures Program and the Dam Safety Program. State of Kansas regulations for dams and stream obstructions support local communities with the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program. There are a great many good people you can go to for help with floodplain management.

Training Opportunities

The Floodplain Management Program will host the following training sessions throughout Kansas. If you are interested in any of the no-cost training opportunities, please contact Tom Morey at 785-296-5440 or Steve Samuelson at 785-296-4622. A training registration form is in this newsletter.

Post Flood Responsibilities

This free class is intended for community officials responsible for administering floodplain management regulations. The course focuses on what to do during and after a disaster event. Topics include substantial damage, permitting, Increased Cost of Compliance and violations. Allowed 3.5 hours for certified floodplain managers. Limited to 20 participants.

- Salina – Feb 22, 2018 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Violations and Enforcement in Floodplain

This free class is intended for community officials responsible for enforcing floodplain management regulations. The course will focus on various types of violations, how to correct violations and enforcement procedures. Allowed 3.5hours toward CFM. Limited to 20 participants.

- Abilene– Feb. 14, 2018 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Basics of the National Flood Insurance Program

This class is for officials responsible for administering their local floodplain management ordinance. The focus is on the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and concepts of floodplain management, maps and studies, ordinance administration, and the relationship between floodplain management and flood insurance. Allowed 3.5 hours toward CFM. Limited to 20 participants.

- Manhattan – March 8, 2018 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Find more information about floodplain management from Kansas Department of Agriculture
Division of Water Resources on line 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. If you are getting this newsletter by postal mail and would prefer email please contact Steve Samuelson at steve.samuelson@ks.gov.

Mark your calendar. The Kansas Association for Floodplain Management 2018 conference will be September 5 and 6 in Wichita. More information will be posted at the website: www.kafm.org. Registration will be done through a link on the website. If you have questions about registration please contact Don Slone, Chairman, at 913-667-1708.

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.

Please mail or fax your registration to:

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
6531 SE Forbes Ave., Suite B
TOPEKA, KS 66619
Fax to: 785-296-8298

For questions about training, please contact Steve Samuelson by email at steve.samuelson@ks.gov or by phone 785-296-4622, or contact Tom Morey at tom.morey@ks.gov and 785-296-5440.

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 785-296-4622, or email steve.samuelson@ks.gov to report the change.

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Kansas Department of Agriculture
Division of Water Resources
Topeka Field Office
Floodplain Management
6531 SE Forbes Ave., Suite B
Topeka, KS 66619

ASFPM 2018 National Conference in Phoenix

The 2018 Association of State Floodplain Managers National Conference will be June 17-22, 2018 in Phoenix, Arizona. This conference is an excellent opportunity for floodplain managers to receive training on mapping technologies, regulations, permitting, outreach and best practices. It is estimated the conference will be attended by more than 1,000 floodplain management professionals. This conference is great chance to meet people for networking and to learn the latest news in floodplain management.

KDA/DWR Water Structures Floodplain Program Staff

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