

Resources for Municipal Staff

Flooding in Southwestern PA

This factsheet is part of our Flooding in Southwestern PA series.

To access this series and many other educational resources, please visit: spcwater.org.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA): fema.gov

FEMA is the federal regulating agency for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). This voluntary program provides flood insurance to residents while regulating development in the floodplain.

Region III: Richard Sobota (215) 931-5514
richard.sobota@fema.dhs.gov

Resources:

- Maps: <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>
- Regulations: <https://www.fema.gov/floodplain-managementrequirements>
- Flood Insurance: <https://www.fema.gov/flood-insurance-manual> or <https://www.floodsmart.gov>

PA Emergency Management Agency (PEMA): pema.pa.gov

PEMA is the state regulating agency for the NFIP and general flood mitigation efforts. They provide technical assistance and grants for hazard mitigation.

Tom Hughes (717) 651-2726
thughes@pa.gov

Bill Bradfield (717) 651-2141
wbradfield@pa.gov

Resources:

- PA Emergency Preparedness Guide: <https://www.pema.pa.gov/planningandpreparedness/readypa/Documents/English%20EP%20Guide%20April%202014.pdf>
- Ready.gov: <https://www.ready.gov/>

Insurance Services Office (ISO)

ISO is contracted by FEMA to provide assistance to communities on the Community Rating System (CRS), which is a method for communities to reduce their residents' flood insurance premiums by practicing proper or exceptional floodplain management.

Amanda Gowans (443) 743-7993
agowans@iso.com

PA Insurance Department (PID): insurance.pa.gov

The PA Insurance Department provides information and resources on both public (National Flood Insurance Program) and private flood insurance for property owners.

Insurance Commissioner: Jessica Altman
(717) 787-3289

Resources:

- PA Flood Insurance: <https://www.insurance.pa.gov/Coverage/Pages/Flood.aspx>

PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP): dep.state.pa.us

DEP handles permitting and natural resource protection.

SW Region: Allegheny, Beaver, Fayette, Greene, Washington, Westmoreland - Regional Director: Ronald Schwartz (412) 442-4000

NW Region: Armstrong, Butler, Indiana, Lawrence - Regional Director: James Miller (814) 332-6945

PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED): dced.pa.gov

DCED used to be the state enforcement agency for the NFIP, but this responsibility has since moved to PEMA. DCED has resources on hazard mitigation grants and other planning resources. See SPC's Funding Resources handout for more information on these grants.

Marita Kelley (717) 720-7301
markelley@pa.gov

Silver Jackets: silverjackets.nfrmp.us

Silver Jackets is a national organization, with regional/state chapters, that brings together federal, state, and local organizations to develop and implement flood hazard solutions. They offer many resources such as funding solutions, workshops, and educational material.

Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM): floods.org

ASFPM is a national organization that brings floodplain management professionals together for collaboration and education. They provide a plethora of resources to communities and professionals on floodplain management, from trainings to regulation to funding.

PA Association of Floodplain Managers (PAFPM): pafpm.org

PAFPM is the Pennsylvania state resource for floodplain managers. They support public education of floodplain management, provide educational events and meetings for professional education, and hold local events to encourage collaboration and dialogue between floodplain managers and other interested parties.

Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD): nvoad.org

The National VOAD brings together organizations that work to provide support to communities affected by disasters. They provide communities with disaster relief guidance at all stages of a disaster – preparedness, response, and recovery.



For more information please contact:

Water Resource Center
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www.spcwater.org