



MOKAN CRS USERS GROUP

February 2013

Happy New Year to the MOKAN CRS Users Group! MOKAN is the winning name suggestion for the Kansas and Missouri CRS Users Group. Thank you for your feedback from the survey. The survey results will be utilized this year to help meet and support the needs of our CRS communities and future CRS applicants.

The goals for this year consist of a quarterly news letter, training opportunities, and updates from the Kansas Department of Agriculture, the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency, and ISO. We will facilitate a CRS breakout session at the [Kansas Association for Floodplain Management](#) (KAFM) annual conference in Topeka this September. This breakout session will also serve as a MOKAN planning session for 2014.

We have been added to the growing list of CRS user groups that receive support from Debbie Vascik, CRS Users Group Advisor. Debbie has been involved in CRS in Texas for over 10 years and is dedicated to the program's success and future. She helped to organize the Flood



Awareness Success in Texas (FAST) and the Houston area's users group; which was one of the first in the country. She is very excited to be in this new role serving the users groups of the county and acting as the liaison between the CRS communities, ISO, and FEMA.

As a users group advisor, Debbie is available for assistance with forming users group, assisting with continuing education credits, sharing lessons learned, and finding material experts. We have made the request to Debbie for a webinar training for activity 540-Drainage System Maintenance under the 2013 manual.

Currently, there are 22 formal CRS Users Groups, including MOKAN.

We have asked MOKAN communities to be the point of contact for specific CRS sections/activities. Please do not hesitate to contact them with any questions that you may have in regards to CRS support by activity.

CRS Activity	Contact	Email
310	City of Overland Park Pam Fortun, P.E. CFM (913) 895-6054	Pam.Fortun@opkansas.org
330	City of Lawrence Amy Miller, AICP, CFM (785) 832-3166	amiller@lawrenceks.org
340	If your community is interested in supporting this activity, contact Melissa Mitchell at melmitchell@wycokck.org	
350	City of Lenexa Tom Jacobs, P.E., CFM (913) 477-7644	tjacobs@lenexa.com
360	City of St. Charles, MO Ellie Marr (636) 949-7900 x7235	EMarr@sccmo.org
410	City of Shawnee Jonathan Wiles, CET (913) 742-6292	jwiles@cityofshawnee.org
420	City of Lenexa Tom Jacobs, P.E., CFM (913) 477-7644	tjacobs@lenexa.com
430	Platte County, Mo Gale Cantu, C.B.I. (816) 858-3380	GCANTU@co.platte.mo.us
440	Kansas Department of Agriculture, DWR Dane Bailey (785) 296-7769	Dane.Bailey@KDA.KS.GOV
450	City of Shawnee Jonathan Wiles, CET (913) 742-6292	jwiles@cityofshawnee.org
510	City of Shawnee Jonathan Wiles, CET (913) 742-6292	jwiles@cityofshawnee.org
520	Platte County, MO Gale Cantu, C.B.I. (816) 858-3380	GCANTU@co.platte.mo.us
530	City of St. Charles, MO Ellie Marr (636) 949-7900 x7235	EMarr@sccmo.org
540	If your community is interested in supporting this activity, contact Melissa Mitchell at melmitchell@wycokck.org	
610	City of Overland Park Pam Fortun, P.E. CFM (913) 895-6054	Pam.Fortun@opkansas.org
630	City of Lansing John W. Young, P.S., CFM (913) 727-2400	jyoung@lansing.ks.us

INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR CRS?

If your community is interesting in making application for CRS, your first point of contact will be your State NFIP Coordinator/Specialist to start your CAV and then with your ISO Specialist for your [CRS](#) application.

FEMA or States on behalf of FEMA conduct Community Assistance Visits (CAVs) monitor community floodplain management programs. A CAV is a scheduled visit to an NFIP community for the purpose of conducting a comprehensive assessment of the community's floodplain management program. The CAV is also used as an opportunity to provide technical assistance to the community. A CAV typically involves a tour of the floodplain, a meeting with local floodplain management officials, and an examination of the community's floodplain development permit and variance files. The visit is documented in a follow-up letter to the community. If any issues are identified during the CAV, such as a possible floodplain violation or program deficiency, these issues are also addressed in the follow-up letter. The community is responsible for resolving any program deficiencies or remedying any violations identified.

Kansas contact:

Tom Morey, R.S., CFM, NFIP Coordinator

Kansas Department of Agriculture
Division of Water Resources
(785) 296-5440

tom.morey@kda.ks.gov

Missouri contact:

Dale Schmutzler, CFM

Section Chief & Floodplain Risk Reduction Coordinator
Missouri State Emergency Management Agency
(573) 526-9135

Dale.schmutzler@sema.dps.mo.gov

NEW FEMA CERTIFICATES

The revised [Elevation Certificate](#) and [Floodproofing Certificate](#) have been approved with a new expiration date of July 31, 2015. Communities may continue to use the older forms until July 31, 2013.

The revisions are minor and are described with the new application. Attached is the revised gig list from ISO. The gig list was created to assist communities with ensuring specific sections are completed. Under the new manual activity 310, communities are required to maintain a minimum of 90% accuracy on their certificate of elevations. This is critical for points under activity 310. EC's are reviewed during the cycle verification visit. It benefits the community to correct EC's collected prior to a verification visit.

430 HIGHER REGULATORY STANDARDS



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If you attended the [EMI](#) training session hosted at the Great Wolf

Lodge last fall for E278-The Community Rating System; keep your certification of completion on file. Under the new manual, 432 Regulations Administration, your certification of completion is worth points for this section. Regulatory staff members who administer the community's floodplain management permits may receive up to 25 points for completing EMI classes such as E273-Managing Floodplain Development through the NFIP, E194-Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts I, E282-Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts II, E278-The Community Rating System, and E386-Residential Coastal Construction.

We have made a request to EMI to host E279-Retrofitting Floodprone Residential Buildings this fall at the Great Wolf Lodge in Kansas City, Kansas. This course will cover the concepts of flood-proofing and retrofitting, regulatory framework, design parameters, benefit-cost analysis, and technical feasibility considerations. Under Activity 360, completion of this course is worth up to 5 points.

Activity 430 discusses the importance of coordinating floodplain management with local building officials. To promote collegial efforts, we have requested for [Heart of America, International Code Council](#), to sponsor this training session, which would make continuing education credit available to building officials/inspectors that attend the training session. Completion of this course will also count as continuing education credit for CFM's. More information will be made available in the next newsletter.

ISO SPECIALIST UPDATE

Being part of the Community Rating System recognizes a sound and effective floodplain management program on the local level where it all begins. As we continue to grow the number of participants in the CRS Program, it will be tools such as this newsletter that will provide opportunity to enhance and further develop your programs.

Since we brought 2012 to a close without the implementation of the new manual, it has sustained a name change to the *2013 CRS Coordinator's Manual*. It is expected to be approved in the very near future. As we wait for that, we will continue to practice under the current manual. Download of the draft manual is still available at www.crs2012.org.

Each of you whom are participating in the Users Group deserves to be commended. It is your first steps that have put this group together and will ultimately benefit not only the current participating communities, but also those that will join in the future.

-Christina Groves, CFM, CRS Specialist

SUCCESS STORIES



The Wildcat Creek Watershed Working Group was formed by the Manhattan City Commission and Riley County Board of County Commissioners as an ad-hoc committee to research and

present findings and recommendations to the governing bodies on how to lessen the impacts of flooding on Wildcat Creek. This committee was formed as an effort to address outcries from property owners who were impacted by flooding on the creek in the last several years.

The committee is headed up by a City Commissioner and a County Commissioner. Members of the committee include selected residents, business owners, property owners who were impacted by the recent floods, experts in fields related to flooding and a representative from Ft. Riley Army Base. Several other members of the community also attended the meetings regularly because they also have been impacted by the flooding or look to assist these residents and owners. The group typically meets once every two months.

The committee's purpose and structure has garnered a pilot project grant from the Silver Jacket program and other assistances projects from Kansas State University, the Division of Water Resources, and the Corps. of Engineers. The Silver Jacket project initiated the placement of three stream gauges on the creek that monitor's the flow and stream depth. These gauges have been used to model the flooding on the creek by the National Weather Service and are graphically and visually shown through GIS on the [NWS AAHPS website](#). The [Silver Jackets program](#) also provided a flood warning sign that has been placed on a bridge crossing Wildcat Creek and a template and expertise in creating a floodplain management plan for Wildcat Creek. The floodplain management plan will be the culmination of the working group's efforts.

With the help of the Kansas Division of Water Resources, the City of Manhattan contracted with AMEC Environment and Infrastructure to create a future prediction flood model based on the future build out of the Wildcat Creek watershed using the City and County's comprehensive land use plan. A similar flood model was

also created on the east side of town near the Blue River. This future conditions flood model will be shown on the upcoming Riley County Flood Plain study and FIRMs and the City and County are working on higher standard floodplain regulations related to this new floodplain boundary and elevations.

Other agencies, such as Kansas State University, have begun ongoing student and faculty research on alternatives and innovative ways to reduce and mitigate the impacts of flooding on Wildcat Creek for County and City residents.

CERTIFIED FLOODPLAIN MANAGER



CFM test is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 21 from 9-12:00 pm. The test will be in the Dickinson County offices, Basement meeting room at 109 E. 1st, Abilene. If you are

interested in taking the [CFM exam](#) in Kansas, please contact:

Tom Morey, R.S., CFM, NFIP Coordinator

Kansas Department of Agriculture

Division of Water Resources

(785) 296-5440

tom.morey@kda.ks.gov

CFM Pre-exam workshop and CFM Exam in Missouri:

- April 10/April 12 in Osage Beach, MO
- July 22/July 23 in Jefferson City, MO
- November 7/November 8 in Jefferson City, MO

If you are interested in taking the CFM exam in Missouri, please contact:

Karen L McHugh, CFM

Floodplain Management Officer

State Emergency Management Agency

PO Box 116, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

(573) 526-9129

karen.mchugh@sema.dps.mo.gov

Cities hosting CFM exams nationwide are available [online](#).

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

- [Missouri Floodplain & Stormwater Mangers Association](#) (MFSMA), annual conference, April 18-20, 2013 in Osage Beach, MO
- [Association of State Floodplain Managers](#) (ASFPM) Annual conference, June 9th-14th in Hartford, CT
- [Kansas Association for Floodplain Management](#) (KAFM), annual conference, September 4-5th in Topeka, KS
- [The Community Rating System](#) (E278) Emergency Management Institute, Emmetsburg, MD
- [Kansas Association for Floodplain Management](#) (KAFM), annual conference, September 4-5th in Topeka, KS
- [FEMA Region VII. Online Training for Local Officials](#)
- [EC Made EZ](#) provided by [H2O Partners, Inc.](#)
- [2012 CRS Manual website](#) has a series of webinar presentations available online.
- 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.
 - Elevation Certificates and Letters Of Map Amendment, Emporia, February 12
 - Post Flood Responsibilities, Iola, February 27 and Topeka, April 4
 - Basics of the National Flood Insurance Program, Pratt, April 2
- [Floodplain Management and the NFIP for New Floodplain Administrators](#). This course is designed for new floodplain administrators as well as those who do not have a basic knowledge of floodplain management or of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). This class covers a floodplain administrator's basic duties, including all pertinent NFIP fundamentals. This 3-hour training course is presented locally to new area floodplain administrators as well as any other parties interested in learning floodplain management. If you are interested in having the "NFIP for New Floodplain Administrators" course presented in your community, please contact Tami Soncrant at (573) 526-9115 or attami.soncrant@sema.dps.mo.gov.
- [Flood Insurance Essentials Seminar for Agents in Missouri and Kansas](#). Seminar conducted by the National Flood Insurance Program. This seminar addresses basic flood insurance issues as well as some more detailed components. At the conclusion of this seminar, attendees with little or no prior NFIP experience will understand how to build a flood insurance policy from the ground up. Topics to be covered include:

- * Standard Flood Insurance Policy's major coverage areas
- * FEMA's elevation certificate
- * Grandfather Rules
- * Increased Cost of Compliance coverage
- * Preferred Risk Policy
- * Rating elements
- * Condominiums
 - [March 26, O'Fallon, MO](#)
 - [March 28, North Kansas City, MO](#)

SOURCES & CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you to DWR, ISO, and City of Manhattan for your contributions to this quarter's newsletter.

Additional information can be found online at www.FEMA.gov and www.crs2012.org.

If your community has a success story or topic they would like to contribute to the newsletter, please contact Melissa Mitchell at (913) 573-8664 or melmitchell@wycokck.org.