



MOKAN CRS USERS GROUP

mokan.stormsmart.org

March 2014

Watch Out World – We Are Growing!

We are excited to announce that the State of Nebraska has joined MOKAN!!



though conference calls. We look forward to what 2014 will bring!

Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska will work together to deliver support and shared resources to our CRS communities. Future MOKAN training sessions will be made available to all

Nebraska Introduction

Six communities in Nebraska participate in CRS: Lincoln, Valley, Papillion, DeWitt, Omaha, and Fremont. These six communities cover nearly 40% of the NFIP policies in the state. Combined, Nebraska NFIP policyholders save over \$500,000 per year on flood insurance. Lincoln currently has the best rating at a Class 6, saving policyholders nearly \$300,000. Lincoln also is the only community in the country to receive points in category 620 “Levees.”

Helping communities join CRS is a priority of the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NDNR), which provides technical assistance on floodplain management to communities in the state, including on CRS. We, NDNR, are excited to be a new member of the MOKAN CRS Users Group. Joining the group will help us provide better resources to Nebraska communities currently participating or interested in joining CRS.

Mitch Paine, CFM

Flood Mitigation Planning Coordinator
Floodplain Management, Nebraska Department of Natural Resources
p. (402) 471-9252 | Mitch.Paine@nebraska.gov

MOKAN Website and LinkedIn

The website is up and under construction! Visit us at mokan.stormsmart.org for MOKAN contact information, CRS resources, and training information. THANK YOU [Storm Smart](#) for sponsoring our site! Take a moment to visit the website of other CRS Users Groups; there is a wealth of information.

- [Texas F.A.S.T CRS Users Group](#)
- [Volusia County CRS Users Group](#)
- [Illinois Users Group](#)
- [Colorado Association of Stormwater and Floodplain Management \(CASFM\) CRS Committee](#)
- [Southern California Users Group](#)
- [San Joaquin County Users Group](#)
- [Northwest Regional Floodplain Managers Association \(NORFMA\) CRS committee](#)
- [Hillsborough County Local CRS User Group](#)
- [Monmouth County User Group \(New Jersey\)](#)

[Join the MOKAN CRS Users Group LinkedIn Group!](#)

MOKAN ISO Training Sessions

MOKAN will be hosting quarterly meetings and training opportunities for 2014. We invite everyone to come and participate! Our training sessions usually received CECs from ASFP. CFM’s are required to participate in 16 Continuing Education Credits (CECs) within the previous 24 months, with a maximum of 12 CECs earned in any one year to maintain their certification.

June 14, 2014, 1-4pm – This ISO session will cover the CRS annual re-certification requirements. RSVP is required by May 30th. RSVP to melmitchell@wycokck.org. FEMA Region VII will be hosting the session and for those who can not attend, a conference call phone number will be provided to you.

FEMA Region VII
9221 Ward Parkway, #300, Kansas City, MO 64114

MOKAN 2014 – First Quarter

In January, Christina Groves with ISO presented MOKAN with a session on the manual updates and areas possible for additional credit. This session was geared towards new CRS applicants and communities scheduled for a 5 year cycle review. Thank you Christina for your assistance and support! Check out www.CRSresources.org for documents supporting your application or cycle and the [NEW training link](#).

City of Shawnee hosted the February session provided by Sherry Harper with ISO. Sherry provided us with a great power point and break down of how to create a repetitive loss area analysis report. Her assistance has already helped to generate a RLAA report from the City of Bonner Springs. Thank you Sherry! Power point is available on the MOKAN website.

In February, the City of Kansas City, Kansas hosted a webinar by French Wetmore on Activity 330, Outreach. The webinar clarified the targets and goals of outreach material and how they are scored. The webinar power point is available on the MOKAN website later this year. This webinar will be available on April 16th. To register, [click here](#) and type “CRS” in the search field to view webinars that are now open for registration.

HR 3370 Update

The “Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014” (HR 3370) is off to the White House for the Presidents consideration and signature.

HR 3370 repeals portions of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 that removed Pre-FIRM rate subsidies for properties not insured by the program as of July 6, 2012 or, for policies that were purchased after July 6, 2012. It also repeals increases for some policyholders who experience a lapse in coverage. These repeals are retroactive and the Act directs FEMA to make premium refunds to impacted policyholders within stated time frames.

The Act also restores Grandfathered rates and rules for all post-FIRM properties that were built to code at the time of construction and, sets new limits on annual rate increases to 15% within a single property class and 18% on a single property with exceptions for CRS retrogrades, deductible selections, coverage changes and the like. Properties newly mapped into a SFHA after the date of enactment will be allowed to purchase a Preferred Risk Policy for their first policy year.

It also instructs the Administrator to “strive” to minimize the number of policies where the premium exceeds one percent of the total coverage provided by the policy and, in

cases where this threshold cannot be met, FEMA is to report to certain congressional committees.

The Act directs FEMA to charge an annual premium surcharge of \$25 for single family primary residences and \$250 for all other property types. These surcharges are to be deposited in the Reserve Fund created under Biggert-Waters and are meant to partially offset the slower phase in of rate increases. Other highlights include:

- Implement installment payment plans
- Offer optional higher deductibles for residential properties
- Rolls back the substantial improvement percentage to 50%
- Excludes detached structures from the mandatory purchase requirements for residential properties
- Authorizes FEMA to reimburse homeowners for successful map appeals
- Reinstates residential flood proofing exceptions

Please note that as of the writing of this overview that this legislation is still a bill and has not become law. The bill contains numerous other studies, reports, requirements and direction. A complete copy of the bill can be found [online](#).

Robert Butler, Insurance Specialist

Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region VII
p. (816) 283-7980 | robert.butler@fema.dhs.gov

MOKAN Month of Sharing

Activity 332.a and 332.b is specific to outreach material and pre-flood material. There are 6 topics that are required to be covered for points, worth up to 250 points for OP and FRP. We would like to ask communities to share their outreach documents with MOKAN though the KDA ftp site.

Copy and paste the ftp address into the address bar at the top of WINDOWS Explorer (not Internet Explorer), hit enter. Right click in the folder area and select “Login As,” enter username and password. Folder is titled MOKAN.

<ftp://kda-ftp.kda.ks.gov>

Login: floodplain

Password: Needh2o

The goal is to not reinvent the wheel, but to share documents so that MOKAN users can alter them to fit their community needs for points. Material will be posted on the website for access.

Risk Map Progress

The [Risk MAP progress website](#) might be a resource of interest for Risk MAP communities.

The Risk MAP progress website is an interactive geoportal site that was developed to communicate FEMA's investments towards achieving its vision and goals for the Risk MAP program. The website provides stakeholders an interactive means to retrieve information related to Risk MAP and Map Mod projects. The website displays projects that have been funded across the Nation and provides users with the ability to drill down to a specific Region, State, watershed, or County. Users may filter and export data by the Fiscal Year (FY) a project was funded or by specific project types, which include watershed, coastal, levee, other riverine, and elevation projects.

NFIP/CRS Update Newsletter

Check out the February [NFIP/CRS Update Newsletter](#). There is a great article by the Colorado Association of Stormwater and Floodplain Managers on the how floodplain management and CRS activities contributed to a reduction in flood losses from the 2013 Colorado flood event.

MOKAN received a lovely spotlight under [Debbie's Dish](#) on page 7. GO TEAM!

Community Spotlight – City of Florissant, MO



Congratulations to the City of Florissant, MO for achieving a Class 8. [Mayor Thomas R. Schneider and City Engineer Tim Barrett were presented with a plaque on behalf of the City of Florissant from FEMA in January.](#)

MOKAN Education Committee – JOIN US!

The Education Committee is comprised of volunteers from our communities and State offices. The committee's goal this year is to explore activity 330, [Program for Public Information](#), to see if MOKAN can be a vessel of assistance to our communities interested in forming a PPI. Activities that can potentially receive bonus points from having a PPI include 320, 340, 350, 360, 370, 420, 510, 540, 610, 620, and 630; so there are **A LOT** of extra points available if you have a PPI.

Another avenue MOKAN would like assistance in is identifying outreach material used for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ([NPDES](#)) and Stormwater Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems ([MS4s](#)). There may be outreach activities in place by your Engineering or Public Works Department that are worth CRS 330 Outreach points.

If you are interested in participating in one of the committees, please contact Jonathan Wiles, CET, at (913) 742-6292 or jwiles@cityofshawnee.org.

Who is MOKAN?

MOKAN's distribution list has reached 70+ contacts. Our newsletter reaches all areas in Region VII and our distribution list is continuing to grow. **Your participation in MOKAN is greatly encouraged and greatly appreciated.** We are in search of committee participants, updates, spotlights, and article contributions for the next newsletter. We know there is amazing work going on in our communities...so let's talk about it! Contact us if you would like to contribute to a committee or future newsletter.

AMEC
Butler County, KS
City of Anthony, KS
City of Basehor, KS
City of Bonner Springs, KS
City of Cedar Falls, IA
City of Cedar Rapids, IA
City of Chapman, KS
City of Cheney, KS
City of Coffeyville, KS
City of Coralville, IA
City of Davenport, IA
City of Derby, KS
City of Des Moines, IA
City of Ellis, KS
City of Fremont, NE
City of Haysville, KS
City of Iowa City, IA
City of Kansas City, MO
City of La Porte City, IA
City of Lansing, KS
City of Lawrence, KS
City of Lenexa, KS
City of Liberty, MO
City of Lincoln, NE
City of Lindsborg, KS
City of Manhattan, KS
City of Maryland Heights, MO
City of Merriam, KS
City of Newton, KS
City of Olathe, KS
City of Omaha, NE
City of Overland Park, KS
City of Papillion, NE
City of Sedgwick, KS
City of Shawnee, KS
City of Valley Center, KS
City of Valley, NE
City of Wamego, KS

Dickinson County, KS
Douglas County, KS
FEMA Region VII
French and Associates
Harvey County, KS
Insurance Service Offices
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Jefferson County, KS
Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources
Linn County, IA
Lyon County, KS
Planning Branch, Civil Works, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District
Platte County, MO
Shawnee County, KS
St. Charles County, MO
State of Missouri Emergency Management Agency
State of Nebraska, Department of Natural Resources
Story County, IA
Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, KS
Village of DeWitt, NE

Community Rating System Application/CAV

If your community is interesting in making application for Community Rating System (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.

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

Kansas Department of Agriculture
Division of Water Resources
p. (785) 296-5440 | Tom.morey@kda.ks.gov

Dale Schmutzler, CFM

Section Chief & Floodplain Risk Reduction Coordinator
Missouri State Emergency Management Agency
p. (573) 526-9135 | Dale.schmutzler@sema.dps.mo.gov

Mitch Paine, CFM

Flood Mitigation Planning Coordinator
Floodplain Management, Nebraska Department of Natural Resources
p. (402) 471-9252 | Mitch.Paine@nebraska.gov

Activity Point of Contact

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. If you are interested in supporting an activity, please let us know and we will add you to the contact list.

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	Dale Schmutzler, CFM, MO State NFIP Coordinator (573) 526-9135	Dale.schmutzler@sema.dps.mo.gov
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
370	FEMA Region VII Robert Butler Insurance Specialist (816) 283-7980	robert.butler@fema.dhs.gov
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	City of Lawrence Matt Bond, P.E., CFM (785) 832-3142	mbond@lawrenceks.org
610	City of Overland Park Pam Fortun, P.E. CFM (913) 895-6054	Pam.Fortun@opkansas.org
620	Ben Higgins, City of Lincoln (402) 441 – 7589	watershed@lincoln.ne.gov
630	City of Lansing John W. Young, P.S., CFM (913) 727-2400	jyoung@lansing.ks.us

Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule

Sometimes, those of us immersed in the Community Rating System process don't have an opportunity to step back and view the big picture. Part of that picture is ISO, a provider of community mitigation services who administers FEMA's CRS program. However, ISO's community mitigation services go well beyond CRS and floodplain management. Our Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS®) program helps distinguish between communities with effective building code enforcement and those with less favorable enforcement overall.

Participating in ISO's BCEGS program is a prerequisite for achieving a CRS classification of 6 or better. However, program participation also helps communities by encouraging the most current code adoption and rigorous enforcement efforts. It promotes catastrophe-resistant buildings, which reduce property losses and the economic and social disruption that results from catastrophes.

With the Kansas Department of Insurance approving BCEGS in 2012, every jurisdiction in the state now has an opportunity to participate — at no cost to the community. The program produces classifications that insurance companies can use in underwriting and developing premiums for property insurance policies. If your community participates in the program, property owners may be eligible for premium discounts and/or reduced deductibles. Your community's classification could benefit people selling or buying property in your community. A good classification could add to the value of a home or commercial building and could attract businesses to your community.

The BCEGS concept is simple: jurisdictions with well-enforced, up-to-date codes should demonstrate better loss experience, and insurance rates can reflect that. CRS credit is available under Activity 430 Higher Regulatory Standards; 432.h Building Code.

For more information, visit the ISO mitigation website at www.isomitigation.com. If your community is interested in participating in the BCEGS, please contact:

Dale K. Thomure, CBO, CFM

Field Representative, ISO Community Hazard Mitigation
 ISO – Commercial Property
 4B Eves Drive, Suite 200, Marlton, NJ 08053
 p. (573)760-0350 | dthomure@iso.com

Announcing the 2014 Tools of Floodplain Management workshop schedule!



The 2014 Tools of Floodplain Management workshop is a 2-day course

designed for local floodplain administrators. It covers various important issues as well as day-to-day activities. This course is designed to provide basic knowledge of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). There is no registration fee for this workshop. The 2014 Tools of Floodplain Management course is being offered at the State

Emergency Management Agency Operation Center (SEOC) on the following dates:

March 27, 2014 - 1st day	1:00pm - 5:00pm
March 28, 2014 - 2nd day	8:00am - 3:00pm
July 22, 2014 - 1st day	1:00pm - 5:00pm
July 23, 2014 - 2nd day	8:00am - 3:00pm
Sept. 4, 2014 - 1st day	1:00pm - 5:00pm
Sept. 5, 2014 - 2nd day	8:00am - 3:00pm

The application to register for any of the 2014 Tools of Floodplain Management workshops is available online at: www.mfsma.org/training.

Preparing for Post-Disaster Responsibilities

Early disaster preparedness is crucial for the efficient and effective administration of any Floodplain Administrator's duties. This two-hour long training workshop, "Preparing for Post-Disaster Responsibilities," highlights the local floodplain administrator's tasks and offers guidance for a quick and well-organized response.

Substantial Damage Estimator (SDE) 2.0

When structures located within the SFHA are damaged, substantial damage determinations must be made. When a structure is deemed substantially damaged, specific flood hazard reduction regulations become effective. FEMA has developed an excellent software tool - SDE 2.0 - to assist State & local officials in determining substantial damage for residential & non-residential structures. This is used in coordination with the community's local floodplain management ordinance, which meets the requirements of the NFIP. The tool can be used to assess flood, wind, wildfire, seismic, & other forms of damage. It helps communities provide timely substantial damage determinations so that reconstruction can begin following a disaster. Both workshops are being offered at the State Emergency Management Agency Operation Center (SEOC):

Preparing for Post-Disaster Responsibilities

May 22, 2014	10:00am - 12:00pm
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Substantial Damage Estimator 2.0

May 22, 2014	1:00pm - 3:00pm
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If you have any questions, please contact Karen McHugh at karen.mchugh@sema.dps.mo.gov or (573) 526-9129.

Training Opportunities

- [Kansas Floodplain Management Resources](#)
- [CRS Resources – Webinars](#)
- [Association of State Floodplain Managers](#)
Annual conference, June 1-6, Seattle, WA
- [Nebraska Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association](#)
Annual Conference, July 17th in Kearney, NE
- [Kansas Association for Floodplain Management](#)
Annual Conference, September 3-4, 2014

Certified Floodplain Manager



Activity 430, Higher Regulatory Standards; 432.o Regulations Administration, offers 5 points per [CFM](#) for administering its community's floodplain management regulations. If

you are interested in the CFM exam, please contact your State:

Tom Morey, R.S., CFM, NFIP Coordinator
Kansas Department of Agriculture
Division of Water Resources
p. (785) 296-5440 | tom.morey@kda.ks.gov

Karen L McHugh, CFM
Floodplain Management Officer
State Emergency Management Agency
p. (573) 526-9129 | karen.mchugh@sema.dps.mo.gov

Bill Jones, CFM
Floodplain Management Specialist
Nebraska Department of Natural Resources
p. (402) 471-3932 | bill.jones@nebraska.gov

MOKAN FTP Site

Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources has offered to host a FTP site for MOKAN to utilize for sharing information and documents. Instead of reinventing the wheel each time, we can share floodplain development applications, brochures, instructions, community outreach material, CRS documents, etc. If you would like to share with the group, please send an email indicating what you have loaded to the FTP site.

To access the FTP site, copy the FTP link and paste it in the "My Documents" window which is available in the "Start Menu." The link will not open in an internet window.

<ftp://kda-ftp.kda.ks.gov>
Login: floodplain
Password: Needh2o

Sources and Contributions

Thank you to DWR, ISO, SEMA, Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, and FEMA Region VII for your contributions to this quarter's newsletter.

Additional information can be found online at www.FEMA.gov and www.crsresources.org. If your community has a success story or topic they would like to contribute to the newsletter, please contact us:

Melissa Mitchell, CFM

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DRC Coordinator/Floodplain Administrator
Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City,
Kansas - Department of Urban Planning and Land Use
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Stormwater Program Specialist, NFIP CRS Coordinator
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MOKAN Logo



Special thank you to Phillip Henderson, License Administrator for the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas. Phil has donated his time and talent to create MOKAN's logo. We greatly appreciate your contribution!