

**Unit 2**

The National Flood Insurance Program and Community Responsibilities for Participation \_\_\_\_\_

*As a matter of national policy, a reasonable method of sharing the risk of flood losses is through a program of flood insurance which can complement and encourage preventative and protective measures.*

National Flood Insurance Act of 1968

**Overview**

This unit provides an introduction to the National Flood Insurance Program, including its purpose and how it works. It describes the roles of the state and local partners, how communities participate, and their responsibilities to remain eligible to participate in the program.

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## **Equipment and Materials for Completing This Unit**

1. Videotape segment, *Regulating Floodplain Development: What Local Officials Should Know* (10 minutes)
2. Video cassette player

## **References**

### **Federal Emergency Management Agency**

- 1997 *Answers to Questions about the National Flood Insurance Program.*  
FIA 2.
- 1994 *National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994, Public Law 103-325.*  
Title V in the Community Development and Regulatory  
Improvement Act of 1994.
- 1989 *Mandatory Purchase of Flood Insurance Guidelines.* FEMA 186.

## **A. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)**

During the 1960s, Congress became concerned with problems related to the traditional methods of dealing with flood damage. Congress concluded that:

- Flood protection structures are expensive and cannot protect everyone.
- People are still building in floodplains and, therefore, risking disaster.
- Disaster relief is inadequate and expensive.
- The private insurance industry cannot sell affordable flood insurance because only those at high risk will buy it.
- Federal flood programs are funded by all taxpayers but they primarily help only those who live in the floodplains.

In 1968, Congress passed the National Flood Insurance Act to correct some of the shortcomings of the traditional flood control and flood relief programs. The act created the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) to:

- Guide future development away from flood hazard areas.
- Require that new and substantially improved buildings be constructed to minimize or eliminate flood damage.
- Provide floodplain residents and owners with financial assistance after floods, especially after smaller floods that do not warrant federal disaster aid.
- Transfer most of the costs of private property flood losses from the taxpayers to floodplain property owners through flood insurance premiums.

Congress charged the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Federal Insurance Administration with responsibility for the program. In 1979, the Federal Insurance Administration (FIA) and the NFIP were transferred to the newly created Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The NFIP is a voluntary program based on a mutual agreement between the federal government and the local community. Federally backed flood insurance coverage is available to any property owner in return for community-based regulation of floodplain development to mitigate flood risks.

Flood insurance, and most types of federal financial assistance, such as mortgage loans and grants, are only available in those communities that participate in the NFIP and adopt and enforce a floodplain management ordinance that meets or exceeds the minimum NFIP standards. Flood insurance coverage is also a condition for receiving federal disaster assistance for buildings located in identified flood hazard areas. All federal agencies must comply with NFIP standards and provisions under Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management.

**The NFIP**  
A voluntary program based on a mutual agreement between the federal government and the local community:  
  
In exchange for adopting and enforcing a floodplain management ordinance, federally backed flood insurance is made available to property owners throughout the community.



Before proceeding, this is a good time to view the next video segment, Regulating Floodplain Development: *What Local Officials Should Know*. It is about 10 minutes in length.



*Although produced by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the description of the NFIP and community responsibilities will be very beneficial to Florida officials. This is one of a number of segments on the tape, so do not rewind after viewing.*

### How the NFIP Works

The NFIP has two parts-Insurance and Floodplain Management. Federally guaranteed flood insurance is made available in those communities which agree to implement sound floodplain management programs to regulate floodplain development. These communities may apply to participate in the NFIP in order to make the insurance benefits of the program available to their residents, property owners, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and governmental agencies. There is no fee to participate.

**Basis for Flood Insurance Premiums**

- For new or substantially improved buildings, based on the flood risk (actuarial)
- Buildings constructed prior to local floodplain management requirements may qualify for nonactuarial rates

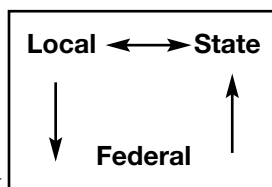
Anyone who owns property, runs a business or nonprofit organization, or lives in a participating community may purchase flood insurance coverage, even for properties not located in mapped floodplains provided the structure or contents are insurable. Insurance provides relief for all floods, including those that are not large enough or severe enough to warrant federal disaster aid. Flood insurance also means that owners of floodprone properties pay more of their share toward flood relief.

At present, there are over 4.2 million flood insurance policies in force nationally, of which 1.7 million are in Florida. In Florida, 67 counties, the

Reedy Creek Improvement District, and 354 municipalities participate in the NFIP. The insurance aspects of the NFIP are discussed in Unit 11.

### Roles and Responsibilities

The federal government has agreed to underwrite flood insurance coverage only in communities that adopt and enforce local floodplain regulations that meet or exceed NFIP criteria. Because the communities ensure that future development will be less susceptible to flood damage, the federal government is willing to make flood insurance available at affordable rates. Floodplain management regulations are explained in Unit 6.



Success in meeting the goals and objectives of the National Flood Insurance Program requires a sharing of roles and responsibilities among local, state, and federal governments, as well as private insurance companies.

### The Community Role

As stated earlier, the National Flood Insurance Program is a voluntary program based on a mutual agreement between the federal government and the participating community. A “community” is a governmental body with the statutory authority to enact and enforce development regulations. The authority of each unit of government varies by state. Eligible communities can include cities, town, villages, townships, counties, parishes, special districts, states, and Indian nations.

The community’s role in the National Flood Insurance Program is of paramount importance. The floodplain management measures required for participation in the NFIP are developed and implemented by the community. These measures must, at a minimum, meet NFIP criteria and state regulations. The community issues and denies floodplain development/building permits, inspects all development to assure compliance with the local ordinance, and maintains records of floodplain development permits. *Only those residing, owning property, or operating a business or nonprofit organization in a community that participates in the NFIP may purchase flood insurance.*

**Local Role**

- Adopt local floodplain management laws in compliance with federal/state laws
- Issue or deny development/building permits
- Inspect development to ensure compliance and maintain records

*Each identified floodprone community must assess its flood hazard and determine if the NFIP’s flood insurance coverage and floodplain management standards would*

*benefit the community's residents and economy.* The specific actions that must be taken by a community to become eligible to participate in the NFIP are covered later in this unit.



### The State Role

The governor of each state is responsible for identifying a state coordinating agency for the NFIP. Funds from the NFIP are available to each state on a 75/25 percent cost share through the Community Assistance Program (CAP) to operate a state assistance office. The role of the designated state agency varies from state to state. It usually includes:

- Regulating floodplain development or providing local governments with the authority to do so

**State Role**

- Establish development and building standards
- Provide technical assistance to local communities and agents
- Under contract with FEMA, evaluate and document community or agency floodplain management activities

- Providing floodplain management-related technical and specialized assistance to local governments
- Coordinating the activities of various state agencies that affect the NFIP

In Florida, the governor has designated the Department of Community Affairs as the state coordinating agency for the NFIP. The State Assistance Office for the NFIP is housed in the Division of Emergency Management.

### The Federal Role

The NFIP is administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Three components of FEMA are involved in the NFIP:

*FEMA's Mitigation Directorate*, located in Washington, D.C., sets national policy for floodplain regulations, researches floodplain construction practices, and administers the flood hazard mapping program. This includes hazard identification and risk assessment.

*FEMA Regional Offices* assist state NFIP coordinating agencies, assess community compliance with the minimum NFIP criteria, advise and assist local officials responsible for administering the ordinance, answer questions from design professionals and the general public, and help in the review and adoption of new maps and data. Each regional office has a Mitigation Division that coordinates the NFIP with states and communities. These offices provide information, training, and interpretation for

**Federal Role**

- Risk identification
- Establish development and building standards
- Provide affordable flood insurance coverage

writing flood insurance policies, lender compliance, and federal mandatory flood insurance purchase requirements. Each FEMA regional office covers four to eight states and territories. A list of the regional offices, their addresses, and the states they cover are shown on page 2-8 of this unit.

<p><b>FEMA Regional Office Role</b></p> <p>Technical assistance</p>
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*The Federal Insurance Administration (FIA)* located in Washington, D.C., administers the insurance portion of the program. It sets flood insurance rates, establishes coverage, and monitors applications and claims. Private insurance companies through an arrangement with the FIA, called the Write-Your-Own Program, conduct most of the work of processing applications and claims. There are also regional insurance assistance offices, contracted by the FIA. A list of the regional offices, their addresses, and the states they cover are shown on page 2-9. A number of major FIA functions are carried out under contractual arrangements with corporations listed in Appendix G.

<p>Florida Division of Emergency Management State Assistance Office for the NFIP 2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399- 2100 (850) 413-9959 (850) 410-1582 (fax)</p>	<p>NFIP Bureau and Statistical Agent Region IV Office 1532 Dunwoody Village Pkwy. Suite 200, Office B &amp; C Dunwoody, GA 30338 (770) 396-9117</p>	<p>FEMA Region IV Mitigation Division 3003 Chamblee-Tucker Road Atlanta, GA 30341 (770) 220-5400 (770) 220-5440 (fax)</p>
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## Contacts

### FEMA Regional Offices

#### Region I

Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire,  
Rhode Island, Vermont

#### FEMA Region I

J.W. McCormack Post Office and Court House  
Room 442  
Boston, MA 02109-4595  
(617) 223-9559

#### Region II - New Jersey, New York

##### FEMA Region II

26 Federal Plaza, Room 1337  
New York, NY 10278-0002  
(212) 225-7200

#### Region II - Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands

##### FEMA Region II

P. O. Box 70105  
San Juan, PR 00936  
(787) 729-7600

#### Region III

Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland,  
Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia

##### FEMA Region III

6th Floor  
615 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
(215) 931-5508

#### Region IV

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi,  
North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee

##### FEMA Region IV

Room 270  
3003 Chamblee-Tucker Road  
Atlanta, GA 30341  
(770) 220-5400

#### Region V

Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio,  
Wisconsin

##### FEMA Region V

536 South Clark Street  
Chicago IL 60605-1521  
(312) 408-5200

#### Region VI

Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico,  
Oklahoma, Texas

##### FEMA Region VI

Federal Regional Center, Room 206  
800 N. Loop 288  
Denton, TX 76201-3698  
(817) 898-5165

#### Region VII

Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska

##### FEMA Region VII

2323 Grand Blvd., Suite 900  
Kansas City, MO 64108-2670  
(816) 283-7002

#### Region VIII

Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah,  
Wyoming

##### FEMA Region VIII

Federal Center, Building 710  
Box 25267  
Denver, CO 80225-0267  
(303) 235-4713

#### Region IX

Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada

##### FEMA Region IX

Building 105  
Presidio of San Francisco  
San Francisco, CA 94129-1250  
(415) 923-7177

#### Region X

Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington

##### FEMA Region X

Federal Regional Center  
130 228th Street, SW.  
Bothell, WA 98021-9796  
(206) 487-4678

## **NFIP Bureau and Statistical Agent Regional Offices**

### **Region I**

Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New  
Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont

140 Wood Road  
Suite 200  
Braintree, MA 02184  
(617) 848-1908

### **Region II**

New Jersey, New York

33 Wood Avenue South  
Suite 600  
Iselin, NJ 08830  
(908) 603-3875

Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands

1407 J.T. Pinero  
Caparra Terrace, PR 00921  
(809) 782-2733

### **Region III**

Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland,  
Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia

1930 East Marlton Pike  
Building T, Suite 3  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08003-4219  
(609) 489-4003

### **Region IV**

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky,  
Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina,  
Tennessee

1532 Dunwoody Village Parkway  
Suite 200, Offices B & C  
Dunwoody, GA 30338  
(770) 396-9117

### **Region V**

Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio,  
Wisconsin

Suite 209  
1111 East Warrenville Road  
Naperville, IL 60563  
(630) 577-1407

### **Region VI**

Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico,  
Oklahoma, Texas

11931 Wickchester Road  
Suite 304  
Houston, TX 77043  
(713) 531-5990

### **Region VII**

Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska

The Courtyard  
Suite 13-B  
601 N. Mur-Len Road  
Olathe, KS 66062-5445  
(913) 780-4238

### **Region VIII**

Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah,  
Wyoming

Suite 300  
2801 Youngfield Street  
Golden, CO 80401  
(303) 275-3475

### **Region IX**

Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Nevada

5777 Madison Avenue  
Suite 810  
Sacramento, CA 95841  
(916) 334-1720

### **Region X**

Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington

1611 116th Avenue, NE  
Suite 116  
Bellevue, WA 98004  
(206) 646-4908

## B. Community Responsibilities

### How Do Communities Become Eligible To Participate?

There are a number of actions that must be taken by a community in order to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program. These are listed in Section 59.22 of Part 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). Forms and guides have been developed to address these requirements and to assist in submitting a formal application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).



The Division of Emergency Management (DEM) has developed the following instructions on how to apply to participate in the NFIP:

1. Fill out FEMA Form 81-64, "Application for Participation in the National Flood Insurance Program" (Figure 2-1) which may be obtained by contacting DEM or the FEMA regional office.
2. Adopt and certify the "Resolution of Intent" (Figure 2-2) committing the community to carry out certain floodplain management activities.
3. Adopt and certify an ordinance establishing minimum floodplain management standards consistent with minimum NFIP criteria for floodprone areas. The "Sample Ordinance" contained in Appendix D of this document can be adopted to satisfy this requirement.
4. Prepare a cover letter expressing the intent of the community to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program.
5. Mail two copies of the completed application packet to:

Florida Division of Emergency Management  
State Assistance Office for the NFIP  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

The State Assistance Office for the NFIP will forward one copy to the Fema Region IV Office.

6. Maintain one copy of the complete application for your records.

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY <b>APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM</b>	<i>See the reverse for          Paperwork Burden          Disclosure Notice</i>	
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You are not required to respond to this collection of information unless a valid OMB control number is displayed in the upper corner of this form.

<b>1. APPLICATION (City, Town, etc.)</b> Ocean County, Florida Town of Oceanview, Florida	<b>DATE:</b> September 1, 1995
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<b>COUNTY, STATE</b>  Ocean County, Florida
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<b>2. COMMUNITY OFFICIAL - CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO)</b>  Town Manager	<b>TELEPHONE NO.</b> <i>(Include area code)</i> 904-987-1000
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<b>ADDRESS (Street or box no., city, state, zip code)</b>  PO Box 1234, Oceanview, Florida 32111
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<b>3. PROGRAM COORDINATOR (Official, if different from above, with overall responsibility for implementing program)</b> A.R. Ange, Planning / Land Records Director	<b>TELEPHONE NO.</b> <i>(Include area code)</i> 904-987-1234
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<b>ADDRESS (Street or box no., city, state, zip code)</b>  PO Box 1234, Oceanview, Florida 32111
--

<b>4. FIRST FLOOR ELEVATION INFORMATION WILL BE RECORDED BY:</b>  Ed Ifice, Building Inspector	<b>TELEPHONE NO.</b> <i>(Include area code)</i> 904-987-5678
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<b>ADDRESS (Street or box no., city, state, zip code)</b>  PO Box 1234, Oceanview, Florida 32111
--

<b>5. LOCATION OF COMMUNITY REPOSITORY FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION OF FIA MAPS</b>  Planning and Mapping Department
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<b>ADDRESS (Street or box no., city, state, zip code)</b>  300 E. Easy Street, Oceanview, Florida 32111
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6. ESTIMATES FOR ONLY THOSE AREAS SUBJECT TO FLOOD AND/OR MUDSLIDES AS KNOWN AT THE TIME OF APPLICATION				
AREA	POPULATION	NO. OF 1-4 FAMILY STRUCTURES	NO. OF SMALL BUSINESS STRUCTURES	NO. OF ALL OTHER STRUCTURES
Ocean County Town of Oceanview	1220	540	36	6

7. ESTIMATES OF TOTALS IN ENTIRE COMMUNITY				
	POPULATION	NO. OF 1-4 FAMILY STRUCTURES	NO. OF SMALL BUSINESS STRUCTURES	NO. OF ALL OTHER STRUCTURES
	355,200	119,700	1,250	200

FEMA FORM 81-64. FEB 96 REPLACES EDITION OF FEB 87. WHICH IS OBSOLETE Figure 2-1

Figure 2.1.  
Application for Participation in the NFIP

**RESOLUTION OF INTENT**

WHEREAS, certain areas of \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to periodic flooding, or flood-related erosion, causing serious damage to properties within these areas; and

WHEREAS, relief is available in the form of federally guaranteed flood insurance as authorized by the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of this COUNCIL to require the recognition and evaluation of flood, or flood-related erosion hazards in all official actions relating to the land use BUILDING CONSTRUCTION, REPAIR, and REMODELING in areas having these hazards; and

WHEREAS, this body has the legal authority to adopt land use and control measures to reduce future flood losses pursuant to (CITE APPROPRIATE SECTION OF STATE LAW AND OTHER RELEVANT AUTHORITY.)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this COUNCIL hereby:

Assures the Federal Insurance Administration that it will enact as necessary, and maintain in force in those areas having flood, or flood-related erosion hazards, adequate land use and control measures with effective enforcement provisions consistent with the Criteria set forth in Parts 59, 60, and 65 of the National Flood Insurance Program Regulations (44 CFR): and

Vests \_\_\_\_\_ with the responsibility, authority and means to:

- a) Assist the Administrator, as requested in delineation of the limits of the area having specific flood, of flood -related erosion hazards.
- b) Provide such information as the Administrator may request concerning present uses and occupancy of the floodplain, or flood-related erosion areas.
- c) Cooperate with federal, state, and local agencies and private firms which undertake to study, survey, map, and identify floodplain, or flood-related erosion areas, and cooperate with neighboring communities with respect to management of adjoining floodplain, and/or flood-related erosion areas in order to prevent aggravation of existing hazards.
- d) Upon occurrence, notify the Administrator in writing whenever the boundaries of the community have been modified by annexation or the community has otherwise assumed or no longer has authority to adopt and enforce floodplain management regulations for a particular area. In order that all Flood Hazard Boundary Maps and Flood Insurance Rate Maps accurately represent the community's boundaries, include within such notification a copy of a map of the community suitable for reproduction, clearly delineating the new corporate limits or new area for which the community has assumed or relinquished floodplain management regulatory authority.

Appoints \_\_\_\_\_ to maintain for public inspection and to furnish upon request for the determination of applicable flood insurance risk premium rates within all areas having special flood hazards identifies on a Flood Hazard Boundary Map or Flood Insurance Rate Map, and certificates of flood-proofing, and information on the elevation (in relation to mean sea level) of the level of the lowest flood (including basement) of all new or substantially improved structures, and include whether or not such structures include a basement, and if the structures has been flood-proofed;

Agrees to take such other official action as may be reasonably necessary to carry out the objectives of the program.

DATE PASSED:

CERTIFICATION:

Figure 2-2.  
Resolution of Intent

## What Are a Community's Responsibilities While Participating in the National Flood Insurance Program?

Communities that are participating in the National Flood Insurance Program have a number of continuing administrative responsibilities. The most important responsibility is to adopt and adequately enforce floodplain management regulations. These regulations should be designed for each community's circumstances and must meet, at a minimum, the floodplain management criteria established by the Federal Insurance Administrator for participation in the NFIP and more restrictive state standards, if applicable.

These local regulations, in part, implement the mutual agreement between the federal government and the community that federally backed flood insurance will be made available to a community that agrees to regulate development in identified flood hazard areas in order to reduce exposure to flood risk.

The community must revise its existing ordinance within six months of notification of changes in federal or state laws and/or regulations that would necessitate changes to the ordinance. A certified copy of any ordinance revision is to be submitted to the FEMA regional office and to the state NFIP coordinating agency promptly after adoption.

Maintain appointment or designation of an agency or official with the responsibility, authority, and means to implement the commitments the community made in joining the NFIP. This official is designated as the "**local administrator**" of the floodplain management program.

<b>New Term</b>
-----------------

Local Administrator
------------------------

Maintaining records of permitted floodplain development is another important responsibility. The community is to maintain for public inspection and to furnish to FEMA or the state, upon request, records of all development within identified flood hazard areas:

- Record of all development permitted in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)
- Information on the elevation, in relation to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD), of the level of the lowest floor (including basement) of all new and substantially improved structures
- Any certificates issued for floodproofing of non-residential structures and the elevation (in relation to NGVD) to which the non-residential structure was floodproofed

- Copies of other required state and federal permits.
- No-impact engineer's certification for any development in the floodway.
- V-Zone engineer's or architect's certification for all new construction and substantial improvements in the coastal high hazard areas (velocity zones).
- Any variance issued with supporting justification.

Note: These certifications will be explained in subsequent units.

There are also a number of other administrative and coordination responsibilities.

- Cooperate with federal, state, and local agencies and private firms that undertake studies to identify flood hazard areas within the community.
- Establish a local "**map repository**," usually within the local administrator's office, where floodplain information provided to the community can be made available for public inspection and use.
- Cooperate with neighboring communities in the management of adjoining floodplain areas in order to prevent aggravation of existing hazards.
- Notify the FEMA regional office and the state, in writing, whenever the boundaries of the communities have been modified by annexation, or if it has otherwise assumed authority to adopt or enforce floodplain management regulations for a participating area, or conversely, no longer has authority for that area. A map is to be included with such notification showing the new corporate limits or new area of assumed or relinquished authority. Note: FEMA requests that this information be supplied only once a year via submission of a current corporate limits map, also showing the boundaries of extra-territorial jurisdictions, if applicable.
- Submit a **biennial report** to the FEMA regional office, on a form mailed directly to the chief executive official (CEO) for this purpose, concerning the community's floodplain development activities. This is usually filled out by the local administrator and signed by the CEO. A sample report is shown in Appendix H.
- Notify adjacent communities and the state NFIP coordinating agency prior to any alteration or relocation of a watercourse. Submit a copy of such notifications to the FEMA regional office.
- Submit any new floodplain data to the FEMA regional office within six months after it is developed.

**New  
Term**

Map  
repository

**New  
Term**

Biennial  
report

- Notify adjacent communities prior to substantial commercial developments and large subdivisions to be undertaken in identified flood hazard areas, which could impact their Special Flood Hazard Areas.
- Whenever physical changes occur in the community that can affect flooding conditions, such as channel modifications or upstream detention, notify the FEMA regional office by submitting technical data on the changes, no later than six months after such information becomes available to the community.
- Review revisions to maps (Conditional Letters of Map Revision, Letters of Map Revision) to guarantee they meet local regulations.

As discussed earlier, the most important community responsibility is to adequately enforce its floodplain regulations. If it is determined that a community has not adequately enforced its regulations, it is required to:

1. Correct its program deficiencies.
2. Remedy all violations to the maximum extent possible in accordance with established compliance deadlines.

Failure to do so can result in the community being subject to probation and eventual suspension from the program.

## **C. Current Status of the NFIP**

Since the late 1960s the NFIP has evolved from a concept of reducing the nation's flood losses to a national program affecting planning and real estate transactions in essentially all floodprone communities of the United States.

The NFIP has effectuated these changes by:

- Establishing a self-supporting program of flood insurance that was largely unavailable throughout the country. All NFIP expenses, including mapping and administrative costs, are paid through insurance premiums.
- Identifying, assessing, and mapping flood risks in most floodprone communities.
- Increasing flood risk consciousness on the part of individuals, lenders, and businesses making investment decisions.
- Mapping over 100 million acres of flood hazard areas nationwide and designating some six million acres of floodways along 40,000 stream and river miles. In Florida, flood hazard areas have been mapped in all 67 counties, the Reedy Creek Improvement District, and 354 municipalities.



**The National Flood Insurance Program in Florida**

- 422 participating communities
- 1.7 million policies
- \$2 billion in coverage
- \$337 average insurance premium

- Issuing 4.2 million flood policies with a total coverage of \$517 billion. The average flood insurance coverage is \$123,127; and the average insurance premium is \$350 (as of November 1999). Florida, Louisiana, and Texas currently have the most policies issued. Since 1978, \$10.1 billion has been paid on loss claims.
- In Florida over 1.7 million flood policies with a total coverage of over \$2 billion have been issued; the average coverage is \$120,335; and the average insurance premium is \$337 (as of December 1998). Since 1978, \$1.2 billion has been paid on nearly 110,000 loss claims (as of November 1999).
- Establishing a program of local floodplain management in over 18,400 communities nationwide. In Florida 422 communities (counties and municipalities) have adopted and are enforcing floodplain management ordinances. A number are carrying out other floodplain management measures.



Please complete the Unit Learning Exercise before proceeding.

## Unit Learning Exercise



**Purpose:** To review what you have learned in this unit.

**Directions:** Answer the following questions.

1. The two parts of the National Flood Insurance Program are \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_
  
2. Where can flood insurance be sold within a participating community?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
3. The NFIP is a voluntary program based on a mutual agreement between the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_
  
4. In Florida, the state NFIP coordinating agency is \_\_\_\_\_
  
5. The two most important responsibilities of communities participating in the NFIP  
are \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_
  
6. The agency or official given the responsibility, authority, and means to implement  
the commitments made by communities in joining the NFIP is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
7. The agency or official responsible for submitting a biennial report to FEMA  
concerning my community's participation in the NFIP is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
8. The location where floodplain information provided to my community is available  
for public inspection and use is \_\_\_\_\_
  
9. Whenever the boundaries of the community have been modified by annexation or  
the community assumes floodplain management authority for a particular area  
outside the corporate boundaries, what administrative responsibility pertaining to  
the NFIP does the community have to perform? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Answers to Unit Learning Exercise

1. The two parts of the National Flood Insurance Program are **floodplain management and flood insurance.**
2. Where can flood insurance be sold within a participating community?  
**Anywhere in the community.**
3. The NFIP is a voluntary program based on a mutual agreement between the **federal government and the local community.**
4. In Florida, the state NFIP coordinating agency is **Department of Community Affairs, Division of Emergency Management.**
5. The two most important responsibilities of communities participating in the NFIP are **adequately enforcing its floodplain management regulations and maintaining records of permitted development.**
6. The agency or official given the responsibility, authority, and means to implement the commitments my community made in joining the NFIP is **Answer is community specific; if you don't know, find out.**
7. The agency or official responsible for submitting a biennial report to FEMA concerning my community's participation in the NFIP is **Answer is community specific; if you don't know, find out.**
8. The location where floodplain information provided to my community is available for public inspection and use is **Answer is community specific; if you don't know, find out.**
9. Whenever the boundaries of the community have been modified by annexation or the community assumes floodplain management authority for a particular area outside the corporate boundaries, what administrative responsibility pertaining to the NFIP does the community have to perform?  
**Notify FEMA, in writing, of such changes. A map is to be included showing the new boundaries or area.**