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News from Region 10

Hazard Mitigation Planning Can Be Fun!

The City of Eugene shows us how

Eugene-Springfield Natural Hazards Mitigation Planning (NHMP) staff, with guidance from OEM and FEMA mitigation experts, decided to switch tactics for their 2020 NHMP update to generate more public involvement. The new outreach efforts started May 17th at Eugene’s annual Public Works Day. Staff wanted to determine if there were any gaps between children and adults in their understanding of hazards. Recognizing today’s children will manage and influence the plan in 5, 10, or 15 years, staff developed an activity both children and adults could participate in and understand, while helping guide planning efforts.

It was a fast-paced, hands-on event with thousands of people attending. Children and adults talked with staff to learn some of what goes on behind the scenes with the NHMP. While at the booth, participants ranked the natural hazards they thought were the most important to “be stronger against.” People were eager to engage with staff. Many were surprised and interested to learn there are people employed in mitigating natural hazards for their community. People asked a host of questions concerning the NHMP and natural hazards the City of Eugene faces.

Responses from the event produced some surprising results. One thing the City recognized was how comparable the public’s view of risk was to the NHMP Project Team’s risk assessment for the City. Many of the children seemed to have a realistic grasp on many of the



hazards in question. Very few children placed their vote on winter storms while several adults did. We believe this is due to adults remembering the devastating Ice Storm of 2016 and “snow days” are hoped for by children across the nation. Making NHMP outreach more engaging and hands-on proved successful and far surpassed the expectations of NHMP staff.

The next large event will be a “Disaster Movie in the Park” on August 31st. Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB) and the City of Eugene, along with support from the City of Springfield, Rainbow Water District, and Springfield Utility Board (SUB), will be partnering to host this event. The format will be similar to the Public Works Day NHMP outreach. Attendees will be asked to vote on specific mitigation action items they would like to see completed followed by an interactive disaster movie.

– *Jessica Gourley is an Emergency Management Analyst with the City of Eugene, Oregon. For more information about the event, email Jessica.K.Gourley@ci.eugene.or.us.*

NORFMA News

Annual Conference

September 26-28
Silver Reef Hotel & Casino
Bellingham, WA

Registration is now open for the NORFMA Annual Conference. This year's theme is *Floods, Fish, Farms: Balancing Multiple Needs in Northwest Floodplains*.

Call for Abstracts

Come share your work with fellow floodplain managers! NORFMA is seeking submittals for workshops or presentations on floodplain projects, regulatory environment, and other emerging issues.

Conference Scholarships

A limited number of scholarships are available to assist communities and students attending the conference in Bellingham. New this year, Alaska scholarship recipients will also be eligible for a hotel stipend to help defray travel costs.

Abstracts and scholarship applications are due by July 15th. For more information, visit <http://norfma.org/>.

FloodSmart Returns

If you recently updated your web links and outreach materials when the FloodSmart.gov site was taken down, it's time to put it back. The official website for the NFIP has a brand-new design and a fresh approach to information about flood risk and insurance. Update your links now: <https://www.floodsmart.gov/>.

Ask the Help Desk

The Region 10 Service Center is here to help local community officials and stakeholders with technical, training, mitigation, and mapping questions. Email us at RegionXHelpDesk@starr-team.com.

Newsletter Ideas?

Want to spread the word about an upcoming event or recent success story? Let us know what you want to see in future issues!

Articles can be up to 500 words and may include pictures. Email RXNewsletter@starr-team.com.

Featured Training

Coastal Construction Workshops

Registration is now open for five one-day training classes on coastal construction this summer in Oregon and Washington. The course will be a condensed version of the four-day E0386 [Residential Coastal Construction course](#) that is offered by the Emergency Management Institute.

Dunes City, OR – July 17
Astoria, OR – July 18
Lincoln City, OR – July 19
Montesano, WA – September 12
Tacoma, WA – October 24

ESA Puget Sound Workshops

FEMA Region 10, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and Washington Department of Ecology are teaming up again to offer workshops to discuss the 2008 NMFS Biological Opinion (BiOp) on the Implementation of the NFIP in Puget Sound and the three "doors" to compliance. The target audience are local floodplain administrators from communities in the Puget Sound impacted by the BiOp. These workshops will cover a general overview of the NFIP, requirements resulting from the BiOp, and what a habitat assessment needs to contain to show compliance.

Bremerton, WA – July 26
Everett, WA – August 9
Tacoma, WA – September 11

For details and to register for these featured training workshops, visit <http://starr-rsc10.eventbrite.com>.

Planning-Related Activities Fact Sheet

The FEMA Mitigation Planning program in coordination with FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) announces the release of a new fact sheet, [Planning-Related Activities Using Hazard Mitigation Grant Program 7 Percent Funding](#) (May 2018). The fact sheet encourages use of planning-related activities funding available from the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). It is intended for use by state, tribal, and/or local governments to improve mitigation plans and leverage related activities to advance mitigation efforts and outcomes.

Suggested Viewing

Volcanic Hazards

Check out this brief and informative video from the Washington Emergency Management Division on volcanic hazards (two thumbs up): <https://youtu.be/7tKZEM4Hdg>

Job Opening

Earthquake Program Manager – Physical Scientist
FEMA Region 10
Lynnwood, WA

<http://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/501019700>

Online Training

(All times Pacific)

How to Review a “No-Rise” Certification

June 7, 10 am
Online – 1 CEC

Elevation Certificates

June 14, 10 am
Online – 2 CEC

Determining Base Flood Elevation

June 28, 10 am
Online – 1 CEC

CRS: Preparing an Annual Recertification

July 17, 10 am
September 18, 10 am
Online – 1 CEC

CRS: Repetitive Loss Properties

July 18, 10 am
Online – 1 CEC

Letters of Map Amendment

July 19, 10 am
Online – 1 CEC

NFIP Basics

August 2, 10 am
Online – 1 CEC

Introduction to CRS

August 21, 10 am
Online – 1 CEC

CRS: Flood Insurance Promotion (Activity 370)

August 22, 10 am
Online – 1 CEC

Floodplain Development Permit Review

September 13, 9 am
Online – 1 CEC

Inspecting Floodplain Development

September 13, 10:30 am
Online – 1 CEC

CRS Activity 410 (Floodplain Mapping)

September 19, 10 am
Online – 1 CEC

To register for online courses, visit STARR’s training site online at j.mp/starronlinetraining, or email RXTraining@starr-team.com.

