



# News from Region 10

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## ***Newsletter Ideas?***

*Do you want to spread the word about an upcoming event or recent success story? Let us know what you'd like to see in future issues! Articles can be up to 500 words and may include pictures. **Email:** [RXNewsletter@starr-team.com](mailto:RXNewsletter@starr-team.com).*

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## New Option for NFIP Policyholders to Pay Premiums

The NFIP will provide a new option for policyholders to pay their annual premiums. Previously, premiums were only paid on an annual basis, but FEMA is in the process of allowing NFIP policyholders the option to pay their annual flood insurance premiums through 12 monthly installment payments. This option will be available for new and existing policyholders and there will be no additional fee charged for the use of installment plans.

FEMA is working with all NFIP insurers to offer this option as soon as possible. An implementation date for the installment plan option is unavailable at this time.

*For more information about the installment plan option, please visit <https://www.fema.gov/fact-sheet/installment-plan-faqs>.*

## Grant Opportunity for Floodplain Planning in Washington

As wet weather patterns return this fall and winter, it's time for communities across the state to begin bracing for floods. In Washington, the costs associated with flooding exceed the total costs of other natural hazards. The Washington State Legislature established the [Flood Control Assistance Account Program](#) (FCAAP) in 1984 to help local governments plan for and reduce their flood risks.

FCAAP funding helps communities develop comprehensive flood hazard management plans, as well as implement recommended activities from those plans. The Washington Department of Ecology (hereafter referred to as "Ecology") recently expanded the range of eligible activities and added federally recognized Tribes as eligible applicants for this grant program. Ecology will be funding planning grants that fall into three categories:

- Category 1: Developing a new comprehensive flood hazard management plan (CFHMP), including studies and activities leading to a new CFHMP.
- Category 2: Updating an existing CFHMP, including studies and activities leading to an updated CFHMP.
- Category 3: Completing activities from an existing CFHMP, as described in the funding guidelines.

Examples of eligible activities include:

- Permitting work.
- Feasibility and technical studies.
- Planning for future property acquisition.
- Mapping projects.
- Community, Tribal, and stakeholder outreach and engagement efforts.
- Public flood risk communications.

Some of Washington's most overburdened communities reside within high-risk flood hazard areas. Ecology will prioritize grant applications that support flood hazard management planning and flood risk reduction activities in these communities. Check out Ecology's comprehensive [guide for flood hazard management planning](#) for details on how to prepare a plan and the important considerations to include during the planning process.

Ecology will begin accepting applications for FCAAP 2025-2027 planning grants on January 1, 2025. Funded grants will have a two-year performance period from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2027. Funding and applications for emergency flood response projects will also be available from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2027. Ecology anticipates the Legislature will appropriate approximately \$1.5 million for all FCAAP projects. Additional funding may be available depending on legislative appropriations and how many grant requests are received.

Ecology is hosting two 1-hour virtual workshops in November 2024 to provide more information to interested FCAAP grant applicants. The workshops will provide an overview of the upcoming 2025-2027 grant funding cycle, eligibility, and application details. The events will be held:

- Tuesday, November 12, 2024, from 10:00-11:00 a.m. [Register in advance.](#)
- Wednesday, November 13, 2024, from 1:00-2:00 p.m. [Register in advance.](#)

Visit Ecology's [FCAAP webpage](#) to learn more and to find the grant funding guidelines. Beginning this year, we are strongly encouraging interested applicants to complete and submit a Notice of Intent to Apply; this document is available on the FCAAP webpage. Completing this step will enable us to better support the

development of your proposal before it is submitted. We look forward to discussing your proposed planning project ideas.

*This article, with minor revisions, was submitted by a newsletter contributor.*

## International Approach to Flood-Risk Management Course Enrollment Open

The University of California (UC) system will host a 14-week online course on the fundamentals of flood risk management worldwide. This synchronous online course will include information on:

- The science behind floods
- Flood governance, policy, politics worldwide
- Mapping and assessing flood risk
- Planning for, managing, and mitigating flood risk
- Resilience, multi-benefits, future directions

The course will begin on January 22, 2025, and end on April 30, 2025. Participants who complete this course are eligible to receive 12 Continuing Education Credits through the US Association of State Floodplain Managers' (ASFPM's) Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) Program.

*For more information, please visit <https://registration.ucdavis.edu/Item/Details/1213> or contact [annaserrallobet@berkeley.edu](mailto:annaserrallobet@berkeley.edu) / [npinter@ucdavis.edu](mailto:npinter@ucdavis.edu).*

## NORFMA Board Elections



Northwest Regional Floodplain Management Association (NORFMA) members will have the chance to vote in Board Elections later this month. Each position has a two-year term. All those who attended the NORFMA Conference in September are automatically NORFMA members and eligible to vote.

[Log in to the member area of the NORFMA website](#) before **November 22, 2024**, to vote through the Elections online survey. Voting is anonymous.

Remember, anytime through the year NORFMA members can:

- Nominate someone for an award on the [Award Nomination website](#)
- Post an open position on the [Job Announcements page](#)
- Attend upcoming Training and Events on the [Calendar](#)
- Contact a [Board Member](#) with questions or ideas

*For more information on other NORFMA events, please visit NORFMA's website at <https://norfma.org/>.*

### 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:** [RegionXHelpDesk@starr-team.com](mailto:RegionXHelpDesk@starr-team.com).

## Online Training Calendar

(All times Pacific)

Course	Date/Time	Continuing Education Credits (CECs)
STARR II: Coastal Construction Info	November 14, 10 am	1
CRS: Preparing a Verification Visit	November 19, 10 am	1
CRS: Developing a Flood Insurance Assessment	November 20, 10 am	1
STARR II: Permitting Floodplain Development	November 21, 10 am	1
STARR II: Inspecting Floodplain Development	November 21, 11:30 am	1.5
STARR II: NFIP Basics	December 5, 10 am	1



To register for online courses, visit STARR II's training site: [j.mp/starronlinetraining](http://j.mp/starronlinetraining), or email [RXTraining@starr-team.com](mailto:RXTraining@starr-team.com).

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### STARR II - Strategic Alliance for Risk Reduction

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