

DR. EDWARD J.
MAHANEY, JR.
Mayor

TERRI L. SWAIN
Deputy Mayor

JACK WICHTERMAN
Councilmember

BEATRICE PASSAGNO
Councilmember

SHAINÉ P. MEIER
Councilmember

City of Cape May

National Historic Landmark

City Hall – 643 Washington Street
Cape May, New Jersey 08204-2397
(609) 884-9525 * Fax: (609) 884-8589
www.capemaycity.org



BRUCE MacLEOD
City Manager

LOUISE CUMMISKY
City Clerk

Annual Progress Report City of Cape May Floodplain Management Plan

September 15, 2015

As part of the October 1, 2015 annual community rating system recertification the City of Cape May is required to update the Annual Progress Report. Copies will be available for review at the Construction/Zoning Department in City Hall at 643 Washington Street, Cape May, NJ 08204, and notice of availability is being posted on our website at capemaycity.com.

BACKGROUND

The City of Cape May is a 2.2 square mile community located at the southern end of New Jersey and Cape May County. The City of Cape May borders the Atlantic Ocean on the south, the Cape May Harbor on the east, the Cape May Canal to the north, and is within two-three miles of the Delaware Bay to the west.

The City of Cape May has voluntarily been active in the Community Rating System (CRS) program since 1995. The City of Cape May rating is currently a CRS Class 6 community. A process conducted by Insurance Services Office, Inc (ISO) that was concluded in August 2013, resulted in the City of Cape May improving from Class 8 to Class 6. Property owners required to obtain flood insurance, or that are situated in a Flood Hazard Zone may be entitled to a twenty percent (20%) discount on flood insurance premiums.

The original CRS REPETITIVE LOSS PLAN –Resolution No. 238-9-99, adopted on September 28, 1999 was prepared as part of the voluntary participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) to take all appropriate action to prevent flooding, reduce flood damage to property

MAPPING

ABFE Maps (dated December 2012) are being utilized by the City of Cape May as well as certain provisions in the Flood Control Regulations.

Once the Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (dated June 2014) is adopted by FEMA, then the City of Cape May will adopt the updated map to determine base flood elevations. It will be a crucial part of the Floodplain Management Plan. Some newer streets and subdivisions are not listed on the existing map. A log is kept for all requests for Flood Zone Information by either in person, email or telephone.

CONSTRUCTION and ZONING OFFICE

Provides flood protection information to residents through a variety of means including:

1. Flood Protection reference pamphlets - Flood vents, foundation requirements as per the State of New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, International Codes and local Floodplain Ordinance requirements.
2. Information on flood Elevation Certificate and as-built survey, which is required at the completion of the foundation for all new construction and additions.
3. Continuing the public information activities required by the Community Rating System.
4. Provide assistance to the public related to research for individual property base flood elevation status and Advisory Flood Hazard Zones.
5. Make available publications including the City of Cape May Annual Newsletter and flood proofing information.

All publications are also available at the City of Cape May Library.

NEWSLETTER

The City of Cape May Annual Newsletter sent out in July of each year to all residents covering the nine topics that which (CRS) credits are based.

Flood Hazard

Flood Map

flooding through the offices of local and county emergency management.

3. The City of Cape May shall continue to work with the County of Cape May for the update of the County-wide Hazard Mitigation Plan (2016).
4. Identify historically significant sites and/or structures to build a case for mitigation measures later in the plan.
5. Continue to work together with the Coastal Management Staff who have attended our Floodplain Management Plan meetings and have offered their expertise in developing a Mitigation plan.
6. To provide a continued updated mapping of the repetitive loss properties located within the City of Cape May.
7. Update the City of Cape May's website to include the revised annual newsletter, Flood Protection Information sheet, contact information for City of Cape May, and property owner's notification of the Floodplain Management Plan's Annual Progress Report.

CITY OF CAPE MAY FLOOD PREVENTION NEWSLETTER 2015

The Construction/Zoning Department would like to inform all residents and visitors that all Zoning information and local ordinances are available online at www.capemaycity.com and click on Code Book

FLOOD PROTECTION ASSISTANCE

The City of Cape May is participating with The City of Cape May Construction Office the Federal Insurance Agency FEMA in the can provide homeowners and businesses “Community Ratings System” (CRS), result- with helpful information for retrofitting in a discounted flood insurance premium buildings. ing for all Cape May City properties.

The Construction/Zoning Office provides written and verbal map determinations for anyone requesting verification of a property located in a Special Flood Hazard Area. The City Library and Construction/Zoning Office have publications available for dealing with flood related topics such as flood proofing, elevating, flood maps, flood emergency, and flood insurance. The telephone number for more information is 884-9555.

FLOOD INSURANCE

Most homeowners in flood hazard areas carry flood insurance. The standard homeowners insurance policy does not cover flood loss. With the National Flood Insurance Program you can insure your home with flood insurance for up to \$250,000 for the building and \$100,000 for its contents.

All homeowners are strongly urged to carry a separate flood insurance policy for your home. Information on flood insurance may be obtained from your local insurance agent or by calling the NFIP at 800-638-6620.

PROTECTING YOUR HOME FROM FLOOD DAMAGE

The best way to minimize storm damage to your home is to raise the property so that the lowest habitable floor is at or above the base flood elevation. Cape May City’s base flood elevation is 10.5 feet above mean high sea water.

Property owners can receive reduced flood insurance premiums if their property is 2-4 feet above the base flood elevation. Installing flood vents can also reduce damage during a flood event.

STORMDRAINS/ OUTFALL PIPES

All citizens should be aware of the importance of keeping our storm drains clean. Please do not put any debris such as grass clippings, trash, stones, or leaves in or near storm drains. Please contact Public Works if you see a clogged storm drain 884-9575.

FLOOD WARNING PROCEDURES AND PREPAREDNESS

HURRICANES

Hurricanes can be dangerous killers. Knowing the hurricane warning messages and planning ahead can reduce chances of injury and major property damage.

PLAN AN EVACUATION ROUTE

Contact the Emergency Management Office at 884-9515 for information regarding the safest evacuation routes and nearby shelters.

Be prepared to drive inland to locate a safe location. Make sure your car has a full tank of gas. And do not wait until the last minute to prepare. Emergency Management has a listing of all disabled persons who may have to be picked up in case of evacuation.

HAVE EMERGENCY SUPPLIES ON HAND

- Flashlight & extra batteries
- First Aid Kit
- Emergency food & water supply
- Warm Clothing
- Essential Medicines
- Important Documents
- Cash & Credit Cards

HURRICANE WATCHES & WARNINGS

Listen to local radio & television stations for the latest hurricane progress reports.

Bring outdoor objects such as lawn furniture indoors. Board up windows and review an evacuation plan. Secure boats
