

Runoff Review

2019 Volume 14, Issue 1

An official publication of the Maryland Association of Floodplain and Stormwater Managers



Amy Stonebreaker, Conference MC, introduces Donnie Stotelmyer and Kevin Brandt as they are about to give a presentation about the Conococheague Aqueduct Restoration Project

Save the date: MAFSM's Annual Conference

The 15th Annual MAFSM Conference will take place on Thursday, November 7, 2019, at the Maritime Institute in Linthicum, MD. We are currently accepting abstracts and we encourage you to submit! Topics should be related to stormwater and floodplain management in Maryland or other areas in the United States. Abstracts on the following topics will be considered:

- Floodplain management/mapping
- Stormwater management
- Mitigation
- Climate change
- Outreach
- Other

The deadline for abstract submission is August 16, 2019.

[Click to submit your abstract](#)

MAFSM Second Annual Spring Conference

Amy Stonebreaker, Planner II, Allegany County, MAFSM Western Regional Representative

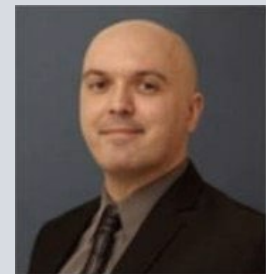
On Wednesday, June 19, 2019, MAFSM held its second annual spring conference at the scenic Rocky Gap Casino Resort, just outside Cumberland, MD.

The event's agenda was packed full, with nine presenters who discussed topics ranging from the Georges Creek Stream Stabilization Project, to Addressing Flooding and Drainage Complaints through iWorQ Systems, to Ice Jamming Model – Case Study of Conococheague Creek in Washington County and the Conococheague Aqueduct Restoration Project. Presenters and attendees hailed from both the private and public sectors.

In addition, Allegany County hosted a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) exam on Thursday, June 20th.

Message from the Chair

Welcome!



**Jason Sevanick,
CFM, GISP,
MAFSM Chair**

We appreciate your membership and the opportunity to share information with you, whether that's our annual newsletter, our fall conference, which has grown steadily over the years, or our spring conference, which we've recently held for a second year (alternating between the eastern and western portions of our state). We've had several new individuals joining our committees and bimonthly meetings to make our organization a success, and we always welcome your contributions.

Nuisance Planning Isn't (a Nuisance)

Amy G. Moredock, CFM, Principal Planner, Queen Anne's County, MAFSM's Eastern Region Representative



Water Street Bridge (MD 717) in Prince George's County floods multiple times per year.



Nuisance flooding along Main Street (Route 18) in Grasonville, Queen Anne's County.

Water, water everywhere

and not a drop to shrink. Not only are our waterways impacted by storm events and impervious surfaces, but also unusually high tides and otherwise rising waters are coming at us all from all directions and with greater frequency... and the tides are not turning. As local experts, we find ourselves inundated by a surge of regulations meant to address and mitigate events ranging from major storm events to minor nuisances. Without driving too many puns down this stream, with so many life preservers in the waters, we run the risk of an entirely different type of inundation.

The most recent regulatory rescue device is specific to nuisance flooding. New 2018 legislation (HB 1350/SB 1006: Sea Level Rise and Coastal Flooding – Construction, Adaptation, and Mitigation) aims to further reduce Maryland's risk to current and future flooding. The legislation will result in changes to the Coast Smart Siting and Design Guidelines. It also requires the state to develop a plan to adapt to saltwater intrusion and to establish

hazard mitigation funding criteria for sea level rise and coastal flooding. Local jurisdictions that experience nuisance flooding are also required to develop Nuisance Flood Plans. These Plans were initially due to be completed and submitted to the Maryland Department of Planning by July 1, 2019, and updated every 5 years thereafter (though that deadline has been pushed back a bit).

While the legislation does not specify what is truly meant by nuisance flooding in scientific terms, which could have been cause for much concern (and surely led to the delayed deadline for submittal of Plans from July 1, 2019 to October 1, 2020), that is really not problematic. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) defines nuisance flooding, or high tide flooding, with a bit more specificity as "flooding that leads to public inconveniences such as road closures. It is increasingly common as coastal sea levels rise." Local experts have been dealing with these types of events for years and have an intuitive understanding of what the legislature was trying to accomplish. Between

floodplain and stormwater ordinances, hazard mitigation and coastal resiliency planning efforts, and the marine community, a confluence of these headwaters has been long overdue.

What a Nuisance Flood Plan will do for many local jurisdictions is provide an opportunity to bring designers and plan reviewers together across disciplines to fact-find and formalize review processes that sometimes occur in completely separate spheres. This planning effort will also allow communities to enact best practices without the need to create another regulatory mechanism where one is not needed.

Perhaps best of all, the Sea Level Rise and Coastal Flooding legislation continues to validate the reality of climate change and its impact on micro- and macro-communities. It is true that neither the waters nor the regulatory reactions to the tides are shrinking. However, what is shrinking is the gap between disciplines. These types of planning efforts put us all in the same boat.



What's Happening in Mitigation: Spring 2019 Mitigation Workshops

JaLeesa Tate, Hazard Mitigation Branch Manager,
Maryland Emergency Management Agency



The Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) partnered with MAFSM, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and Eastern Shore Land Conservancy (ESLC) to host four regional workshops across the state. The workshops aimed to educate participants on potential funding resources to implement mitigation in their communities.

Presenters trained the audience on how to navigate the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Assistance programs administered by MEMA. Attendees walked away with a manual that consolidates federal and state resources into a useable guide aimed at streamlining the grant process. Additionally, participants were introduced to DNR's grant gateway, a one-stop location for communities seeking technical and financial support for projects that foster healthy ecosystems, communities, and

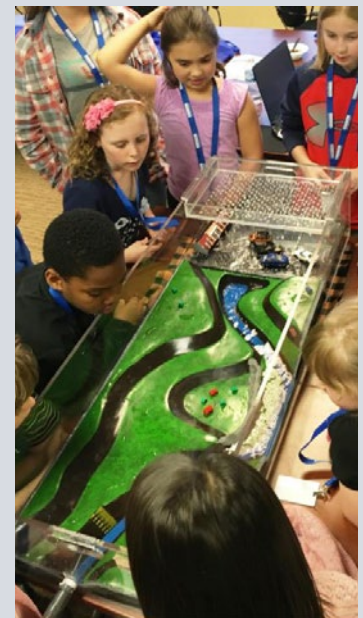
economies that are resilient in the face of change. MDE also debuted their Comprehensive Flood Management Grant Program, which is meant to provide local governments with funding for projects that reduce the risk of loss of life and property from flooding.

In addition to grant opportunities, the workshops focused on the benefits of communities participating in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and the Community Rating System while painting a picture of the impacts of climate change in Maryland. It demonstrated how a community can lower its risk by ensuring mitigation measures are woven through its policies and practices.

In all, approximately 70 people were trained on mitigation and additional state resources for risk reduction. Participants included representatives from counties, municipalities, and state agencies. Whether it is an outreach campaign, construction project, or building code, there are multiple ways to reduce risk in order to build a resilient community.

Ward's® 3D Flood Simulation Model

If you're interested in using the flood model at a local school or event, please contact Paul Slonac (PSlonac@mbakerintl.com) or Ben Kaiser (benjamin.kaiser@aecom.com).



Ward's 3D Model Demonstration at the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club

Maryland Climate Leadership Academy

Emily Dhingra, PE, PMP, CFM is a coastal engineer with AECOM in the Germantown, MD office and is an active participant in the Maryland Climate Leadership Academy Cohort C.



The Maryland Climate Leadership Academy

was established in 2018 by the State of Maryland in partnership with the Association of Climate Change Officers (ACCO). The Academy's goal is to advance the capacity of state and local government agencies, infrastructure organizations, and businesses to develop and implement sound climate change initiatives to ensure current and future public health, security, and economic prosperity. The Maryland Climate Leadership Academy is the nation's first state-sponsored institution to provide continuing education and training in the area of climate change leadership.

The Academy is divided into cohorts with locations around Maryland. Cohort A is based in Wye Mill (home of Chesapeake College), Cohort B is in Hagerstown, Cohort C is in Ellicott City, and Cohort D is in Germantown. Each cohort meets for three classes, and each class is two full days of training, discussion, and hands-on learning through interactive

group activities. Topics include Climate Change Understanding and Adaptation Planning, Greenhouse Gas Accounting, Economic Dimensions of Climate Change, Principles of Organization Change, Professional Ethics, and other related topics. A variety of speakers have been engaged to bring national and international perspectives, as well as local and state practitioners who can speak to the unique challenges and opportunities in Maryland.

The first classes began with the Chesapeake College cohort in November 2018. Cohorts E and F remain open to new applicants. Cohort E is based out of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, and Cohort F is based out of the College of Southern Maryland in La Plata. If you are interested in participating, you can fill out an application here: <https://www.mdclimateacademy.org/application-ccp>. The deadline for enrollment applications is August 15, 2019. At the conclusion of the training sessions, participants are eligible to apply and take the exams to become a Certified Climate Change Professional (CC-P).



Updates to the NFIP Technical Bulletins

Republished from ASFSM News&Views, Vol. 32, No. 2, April 2019

The NFIP Technical Bulletins are changing

to modernize and streamline their content and presentation, incorporate relevant information from the latest I-Codes and ASCE Standards, provide updated guidance and best practices observed from post-disaster assessments and address known issues identified by a wide range of stakeholders. These changes are intended to improve the TBs' usability, credibility and content while presenting them in a streamlined format.

Visit FEMA's Technical Bulletin website at <https://www.fema.gov/nfip-technical-bulletins> to access them.



User's Guide to Technical Bulletins

Developed in Accordance
with the National Flood Insurance Program

NFIP Technical Bulletin 0 / July 2019



The updates will provide state and local officials, design professionals, builders, insurance agents and home owners clear and concise information in a modern format.

The updated outline for the Technical Bulletins is:

- Section 1 introduces the subject and purpose;
- Section 2 references and provides information related to the applicable NFIP Regulations;
- Section 3 presents and compares applicable codes and standards with NFIP Regulations;
- Section 4 provides information on NFIP flood insurance rates;
- Following Sections contain guidance, best practices, and other subject-specific content;
- References & Resources lists references and other useful subject-specific resources.

Treasurer's Report

Current balance = \$20,373.70

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