

Good Links for CRS Websites

The following topics are local and need local information.

- The local flood hazard
- Map of the local flood hazard
- Flood warning system
- Floodplain development permit requirements
- Drainage system maintenance
- Natural/beneficial functions

A link to a state or national website may provide misleading information. For example, a link to a FEMA site for information on floodplain development permit requirements may not mention the local freeboard requirement.

Property protection measures

FEMA's *Homeowner's Guide to Retrofitting: Six Ways to protect Your House from Flooding* (revised in December 2009) is on FEMA's website at <http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=1420>

FEMA's *Protecting Building Utilities From Flood Damage* is at www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=1750

FEMA has a variety of fact sheets on flood protection at www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=3262

FEMA's FloodSmart program has an interactive site called "Test the Waters" that invites users to see what kind of flood damage they are exposed to.

www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/pages/flooding_flood_risks/the_cost_of_flooding.jsp

The Institute for Business and Home Safety has flyers on its site:

On flood protection:

www.disastersafety.org/main.asp?id=1051

References on protection from other hazards can be found in FEMA's library:

www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/howto/index.shtm#4

Flood safety

FEMA has some sites on flood safety at

www.fema.gov/hazard/flood/fl_during.shtm

www.fema.gov/hazard/flood/fl_after.shtm

Red Cross flood safety checklist:

www.redcross.org/www-files/Documents/pdf/Preparedness/checklists/Flood.pdf

Flood insurance

FEMA's FloodSmart program is designed to guide the user through the basics of insurance
www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/pages/index.jsp

A more traditional approach is at
www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/floodins/infocon.shtm

Other good links:

The Red Cross/FEMA flyer on recovering from a disaster is at:
<http://www.redcross.org/portal/site/en/menuitem.d8aaecf214c576bf971e4cfe43181aa0/?vgnnextoid=74e51a53f1c37110VgnVCM1000003481a10aRCRD&vgnnextfmt=default>

The full book, "Repairing Your Flooded Home," is at
www.redcross.org/www-files/Documents/pdf/Preparedness/file_cont333_lang0_150.pdf

There is also a version in Spanish at
www.redcross.org/www-files/Documents/pdf/Preparedness/repairingFloodedHomeSp.pdf

OR: Go to www.redcross.org/, select "getting assistance," then select "recover after a disaster."

Real time river gage data

If the community or county emergency manager do not run their own gages, the following instructions can get one to the nearest USGS river gage that provides real time data on a website:

1. Go to <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/>
2. Select "Real-time data"
3. Select state
4. Identify the nearest gage site on the state map
5. Click on the site to open the page for that gage
6. Copy the site address into the community's website as a link

The National Weather Service's gages can be found at www.weather.gov/ahps/. Click on the map and zoom into your area of interest. You will see a map of your area. Select the gage you want and copy the site address into the community's website as a link

In both cases, provide some background information, especially to relate flood stage with historical flood levels (e.g., "in 1996, the flood crested at a stage of 14.3 feet") or a local landmark (e.g., "a flood at gage stage of 10 will cover the intersection of Main and First streets and will close the Main Street bridge"). For a good example of this, see <http://southholland.org/index.php?page=FloodProtection/problems> and scroll down to "Little Calumet River Flood Levels."