



Office of the Floodplain Administrator

Brian Bishop, PE, CFM
Floodplain Administrator
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(864) 467-7523
www.greenvillecounty.org

MEMO

Date: July 2021

To: Mr. Joseph M. Kernell, County Administrator
County Council
Mrs. Paula Gucker, Asst. County Administrator for Community Planning,
Development and Public Works

Subject: **Re: Greenville County Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan Annual Progress Update**

Greenville County participates in the Community Rating System (CRS) of the National Flood Insurance Program. This program commitment enhances public safety and property protection while providing our flood insurance policyholders with a premium discount. The County Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan is incorporated into the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (Plan) adopted by County Council on June 16, 2020. This Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan Update is an annual review that is transmitted to the local governing body; the State Flood Mitigation Program Administrator; and, the general public in accordance with CRS program requirements. The Plan and the activities summary update are available in the Floodplain Administrator's Office for public review and on the County's Floodplain Web page. This annual report is designed to document and evaluate progress toward implementing the flood hazard mitigation objectives of the Plan. The hazard mitigation committee met on June 18, 2021 and a copy of the meeting minutes along with the status of each mitigation initiative is attached.

Additionally the floodplain management department completed their annual repetitive loss area analysis of insured structures that has had at least two paid flood losses of more than \$1000 each in any ten year period since 1978. After our review, the county currently has 13 repetitive loss structures. A total of 91 notices were sent out which included the 13 repetitive loss properties and surrounding property owners with similar flooding risk. A copy of the letter is attached.

Greenville County staff is committed to achieving the flood hazard mitigation goals outlined in our Plan. We appreciate the support of Council, County Administration and our Disaster Mitigation Committee members as we work together to make Greenville County a more disaster resistant community.

Copy: South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, Flood Mitigation Programs
Mr. Bob Mihalic, Governmental Affairs Coordinator

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Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: June 18, 2021

Re: Greenville County Hazard Mitigation Plan
2021 Annual Plan Update

Location: Teams Virtual Meeting

Issue Date: June 23, 2021

Submitted By: H. Clarkson

In Attendance: Greenville County Staff
Disaster Mitigation Committee
Woolpert Staff

ITEMS DISCUSSED: 2021 Annual Update - Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

Woolpert presented information regarding the Hazard Mitigation Plan's (HMP) history of development, the Disaster Mitigation Committee (DMC), the hazards of concern and the overarching mitigation strategies contained within the HMP. The facilitator then reviewed each of the mitigation initiatives identified in the 2020 HMP including the following:

- A brief description of the initiative
- Current status
- Priority Ranking
- Funding Source

During the meeting, several of the initiatives were updated to the correct status. A list of all initiatives with their status and funding are contained within these meeting minutes. Following the discussion of the currently identified mitigation initiatives was a discussion of potential new initiatives and edits to current initiatives. Those comments and recommendations are recorded below.

Comments and Recommendations:

Kirsten Robertson: Should the Soil and Water Conservation District be on list of stakeholders list since the District maintains nine (9) dams?

Response: Yes, the District will be added as a stakeholder and dams should be considered in future planning.

Geoffrey Habron: Does the HMP include anticipated changes in forecast frequency and magnitude of potential storm events?

Response: Yes, the plan requires consideration of climate change. Further, while Greenville County floodplain management activities are based on the 100-year flood, County prepared watershed plans consider both future built out conditions of the watershed and the 500-year flood event.

Geoffrey Habron: There are several watershed projects and 319 grants underway in the Saluda River basin that could be included in the plan.

Response: The County can contact Friends of the Saluda for data regarding both planned projects and projects that are underway. Flood reduction / management impacts would need to be quantified.

Geoffrey Habron: Consider using NOAA's Climate Explorer Tool in next plan update. <https://crt-climate-explorer.nemac.org/>

Response: The County will include this site as a reference for the next plan update.

The meeting agenda and attendee list is attached following the list of initiatives. Presentation material was provided to the committee under separate cover and a recording of the meeting was submitted to the County.

Woolpert, Inc
514 Petigru Street
Greenville, SC 29601
864.252.3705

Communications Protocol

Review and continue to coordinate a communication protocol with the news media and to guide to media in disaster reporting.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Emergency Management, Public Information Officer	County Budget	On-going	All Hazards	Greenville County, All Municipalities

Status	Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going.	26	1	Yes

Social Media Public Communication

Leverage social media and cell phones by creating hashtags to keep the public engaged and informed.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Emergency Management	County Budget	As budget becomes available	Floods	Greenville County, All Municipalities

Status	Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going Consider wider use of QR codes.	24	2 T2	No

Post-Disaster Review Meetings

DMC and emergency response agency post-disaster debriefings to discuss “lessons learned.”

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered	
Emergency Management, Codes Enforcement/Building, Engineering	County Budget	As events occur	All Hazards	Greenville County, All Municipalities	
Status			Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going. Note: Need to refine definition of which storm, meet after declared disasters and at Floodplain Managers' discretion after other storms			24	2 T2	Yes

Protection Education

Provide education for homeowners and business owners on how to prepare for hazardous conditions.

Provide education for homeowners on stream maintenance responsibilities and the impact a poorly maintained stream could have on their property.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered	
Floodplain Management, Soil & Water Conservation District	County Budget	On-going, As budget becomes available	Floods, Winter Storms, High Winds/Tornados, Earthquakes	Greenville County, All Municipalities	
Status			Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going			23	3 T2	Yes

Comprehensive Training

Provide appropriate level of emergency response training to all County staff.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Emergency Management, Risk Management	County Budget, FEMA Training Programs	As budget becomes available	All Hazards	Greenville County

Status	Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going Damage Assessment training recently completed for Codes Enforcement and Floodplain Management staff	23	3 T2	Yes

Pre-Prepared Hazard Info Ads

Prepare ads for hazard preparation to be released immediately before and during natural disasters to provide for a timely response including information on the health and safety risks associated with floodwaters.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Emergency Management	Public Service Ads, County Budget	On-going	All Hazards	Greenville County, All Municipalities

Status	Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going. The County Floodplain Management Program provides information via a Facebook page and Website "What would Marty do.com"	22.5	4	Yes

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 514 Petigru Street
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 864.252.3705

Coordinated Bridge De-Icing

Continue to coordinate with SCDOT to create a plan for de-icing bridges during winter weather conditions. Currently, "snow meetings" are held with the SCDOT in November and December to prepare for the snow season.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Engineering SCDOT	County Budget, SCDOT	On-going	Winter Storms, Hail	Greenville County

Status	Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going	22	5	Yes

Enhance Hazards Education

Develop additional hazard education programs for County staff and the public, introducing Marty the Moose and educational literature.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Floodplain Administration	County Budget	On-going	All Hazards	Greenville County, All Municipalities

Status	Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going	21	6 T2	Yes

Realtor Flood Hazard Education

Provide hazard data and training to local realtors.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered	
Floodplain Administration	County Budget, FEMA Grant	On-going	Floods	Greenville County, All Municipalities	
Status			Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going The County sends contact information and resources to the Realtors Association annually to include in their newsletter			21	6 T2	Yes

Emergency Public Communication

Determine the most efficient modes of communication for relaying emergency information to the public.
 Include references to emergency management websites and social media in communications about hazards.
 Work with other agencies and departments to create a protocol for communication.
 Establish a protocol for media outlets during a hazardous event.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered	
Emergency Management	County Budget, Public Service Ads	As budget becomes available	All Hazards	Greenville County, All Municipalities	
Status			Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going During hazard events, efforts are coordinated through Emergency Preparedness Division.			20.5	7 T2	No

Early Warning System Evaluation

Review and evaluate the usage of an early warning system to alert the public about potential hazards.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Emergency Management, Floodplain Administration, Engineering	County Budget, Grants	As budget / grant become available	All Hazards	Greenville County, All Municipalities

Status	Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
Not started	20.5	7 T2	No

Identify/Mitigate Infrastructure

Identify infrastructure at risk through basin studies and mitigate as appropriate.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Engineering, Floodplain Management	County Budget, FEMA Grant	As budget / grant become available	Floods	Greenville County

Status	Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
Not started. Dependent upon basin studies	20	8 T4	No

Evaluation of Emergency Routes

Review emergency routes and evacuation routes to ensure they are the safest, most appropriate routes.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Emergency Services, Emergency Management, Engineering	County Budget	On-going	All Hazards	Greenville County

Status	Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going It was noted that Greenville is generally a receiver of evacuees rather than a producer. Emergency services' access to neighborhoods is an issue.	20	8 T4	Yes

Stream Crossing Debris Removal

The County owns and maintains over 1,800 miles of roadway. To the extent practical, provide for removal of debris build up in rivers and streams, especially at road crossings and in highly urbanized areas. This is part of the road maintenance program protocol. Greenville County also implements a beaver dam removal program.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Engineering, Roads and Drainage	County Budget, FEMA Grant	On-going	Floods	Greenville County

Status	Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going Homeowner education regarding disposal of debris.	20	8 T4	Yes

Repetitive Loss Area Plan

A Repetitive Area Loss Analysis was completed by the County per the Community Rating System (CRS) requirements. As a Result, the Insurance Services Office (ISO) requires a repetitive loss plan. The County has created and is implementing the plan as required.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Floodplain Administration	County Budget	On-going	Floods	Greenville County

Status	Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
Completed. County is down from 53 RL structures to 14 RL structures over the last 6 years. Plan is complete, implementation is on-going	20	8 T4	Yes

Runoff Reduction

Enhance runoff reduction criteria by including creative practices such as Green Infrastructure and Low Impact Development.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Land Development	County Budget	On-going	Floods	Greenville County

Status	Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going.	19	9 T2	Yes

Paris Mountain Wildfire Mitigation Plan

A Hazard Mitigation Grant application has been submitted to FEMA for development of a plan for the Paris Mountain area.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered	
Emergency Management	FEMA HMGP, County Budget	Prepare upon award of grant application	Wildfires, Drought, Climate Change	Greenville County	
Status			Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going			19	9 T2	Yes

Early Warning System Enhancement

Install flood hazard signage, warning lights, and gates on frequently flooded roadways as well as hazard signage for steep roads, frequently icy bridges, and other known hazards on the road.

Install warning systems to notify travelers of road blocks due to hazardous conditions.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered	
Emergency Management, Floodplain Management, Engineering	County Budget, FEMA Grant	As budget / grant become available	Floods, Winter Storms, High Winds/Tornados	Greenville County	
Status			Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
Not started			18.5	10 T3	No

Proactive Maintenance of Stormwater Infrastructure

Maintain piped infrastructure, ditches, culverts, bridges, and Best Management Practices before hazardous conditions occur.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered	
Engineering	County Budget	On-going, more detailed analysis of localized flooding to be prepared as budget becomes available	Floods	Greenville County	
Status			Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going			18.5	10 T3	No

Riparian Area Management Plans

Create focused riparian buffer protection plans to target specific issues related to flooding. Identify properties that can be acquired by the county to restore and enhance current riparian areas.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered	
Land Development, Floodplain Management, Planning	County Budget	On-going	Floods	Greenville County	
Status			Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going. Check on how to tie flooding issues with water quality standards (e.g. buffers, homeowner low impact development (LID) guidance, stream restoration, etc.)			18.5	10 T3	Yes

Elevation Grant Protection

Continue providing elevation grants to eligible County residents.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Floodplain Management	County Budget, FEMA HMGP	On-going	Floods	Greenville County

Status	Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going	18	11	Yes

Underground Electricity Plan

Coordinate with utility companies to place powerlines underground to prevent hazards and outages associated with falling lines due to weather conditions.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Engineering, Land Development	County Budget	On-going	Winter Storms, High Winds/Tornadoes, Earthquakes	Greenville County, All Municipalities

Status	Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
Not started. Assign someone to call / check-in with Duke Energy	17.5	12	Yes

Flood Mitigation Acquisition Program

Continue acquiring appropriate, eligible properties to reduce buildings at high risk of flooding.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Floodplain Management	County Budget, FEMA HMGP	On-going, as grants become available	Floods	Greenville County
Status		Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going. Note: Finished last \$1.5M home acquisitions (11 structures) and applied for BRIC \$1.5M and FMA \$0.8M funding for an additional acquisition of 8 homes		17	13 T2	Yes

Critical Facility Retrofits/Relocations

Identify and evaluate critical facilities for risk and mitigate as appropriate.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Floodplain Management, Emergency Management, Engineering	County Budget, FEMA Grant	As budget / grant become available	Floods	Greenville County
Status		Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
Not started Jurisdiction-specific, check county flood ordinance related to critical facilities.		17	13 T2	No

Update Existing Watershed Studies

Determine new levels of service for each road crossing.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered	
Floodplain Administration	County Budget	As budget becomes available	Floods	Greenville County, All Municipalities	
Status			Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
Not started			16	14 T4	No

Enoree River Basin Study

Prepare a watershed master plan for the Enoree River Basin identifying potential flooding problems and solutions.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered	
Floodplain Administration	County Budget	As budget becomes available	Floods	Greenville County	
Status			Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
Not started. Note: The County is monitoring stage and flow at Aiken Chappell Road in preparation of study			16	14 T4	No

Travelers Rest and Marietta Area Watershed Study

- Prepare a watershed study in developing areas of Travelers Rest and Marietta.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Floodplain Administration	County Budget	As budget becomes available	Floods	Greenville County, Travelers Rest

Status	Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
Not started. Note: Consider stage and flow monitoring in the watershed	16	14 T4	No

Flood Signs

Develop signage denoting high flood risk areas and crossings.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Floodplain Administration	County Budget, FEMA Grant	As budget / grant become available	Floods	Greenville County

Status	Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
Not started. Consider new technology for signage, gates, etc.	16	14 T4	No

Enhanced GIS Database

Continue to update the County's GIS with hazard-related data.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered	
Geographic Information Services, Floodplain Administration	County Budget	On-going	All Hazards	Greenville County, All Municipalities	
Status			Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going			15.5	15	Yes

Backup Power

Identify critical places that may require backup power such as fueling stations, food sources, and vulnerable populations and, to the extent practical, work with NGOs and others to create a plan to provide this power in the event of an emergency. Critical County facilities already have emergency power plans in-place.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered	
Emergency Management	County Budget, Grants	On-going	Winter Storms, High Winds/Tornados, Earthquakes, Hail	Greenville County, All Municipalities	
Status			Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going			14	16	Yes

Continue Improvements to Radio Communications

Radio communications are critical during disasters and the County currently operates multiple radio systems. Upgrade all radio systems to improve communications across divisions and agencies.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Administration, Emergency Management	County Budget, Grant	On-going	All Hazards	Greenville County

Status	Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going	13.5	17	Yes

Heating and Cooling

Continue to provide assistance to the Homeless Alliance and other Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) identifying vulnerable populations and creating plans to provide proper heating and cooling for those populations. Engage with NGOs to find out what type of services they provide that could help with this task.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Emergency Management, Codes Enforcement	County Budget, Grants	As budget / grant become available	Winter Storms, Drought, Hail	Greenville County

Status	Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?
On-going	13	18	No

Bridge / Culvert Analysis

Replace and upgrade stream crossings to improve channel flow characteristics as needed.

Responsible Party	Funding Source(s)	Timeline	Hazard Addressed	Jurisdictions Covered
Floodplain Administration, Engineering	County Budget	Each crossing is analyzed during the basin study process and programmed for upgrade in subsequent budget	Floods	Greenville County
Status	Prioritization Score	Ranking	Funded?	
Not started. Bridges and Culverts needs an analysis and project prioritization. Consider moving up mitigation prioritization	11.5	19	No	

Agenda

Subject: Greenville County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

Meeting Location: Virtual

Time: 10:00 A.M.

Date: Friday, June 18

Attendees: Brian Bishop, Greenville County Floodplain Manager
Hal Clarkson, Woolpert
James Riddle, Woolpert
Disaster Mitigation Committee

To be Discussed:

- 10:00 – 10:05 Welcome & Introductions
- 10:05 – 10:15 Plan History & Update Process
 - Hazards of Concern
 - Global Mitigation Strategies
- 10:15 – 11:00 Review of Mitigation Initiatives
- 11:00 – 11:30 Recent Events & New Mitigation Initiatives

Meeting Summary		
Total Number of Participants 25, (2 unknown)		
Meeting Title		
Greenville County Hazard Mitigation Plan Annual Update		
Meeting Start Time	6/18/2021, 9:53:08 AM	
Meeting End Time	6/18/2021, 11:59:40 AM	
Full Name	Join Time	Leave Time
Hal Clarkson	6/18/2021, 9:53:08 AM	6/18/2021, 11:14:01 AM
Scott Keeley	6/18/2021, 9:53:10 AM	6/18/2021, 11:14:11 AM
Brian Bishop	6/18/2021, 9:53:14 AM	6/18/2021, 11:14:03 AM
Le Changivy	6/18/2021, 9:54:05 AM	6/18/2021, 11:14:09 AM
Jessica Jordan	6/18/2021, 9:56:02 AM	6/18/2021, 11:16:57 AM
James Riddle	6/18/2021, 9:56:07 AM	6/18/2021, 11:14:04 AM
Russell Slatton	6/18/2021, 9:56:20 AM	6/18/2021, 10:32:01 AM
Hesha Gamble	6/18/2021, 9:57:21 AM	6/18/2021, 11:14:03 AM
Tyler Stone	6/18/2021, 9:58:23 AM	6/18/2021, 11:14:01 AM
Paul Dow	6/18/2021, 9:59:06 AM	6/18/2021, 11:13:56 AM
Mackenzie Forgacs	6/18/2021, 9:59:21 AM	6/18/2021, 11:14:24 AM
Sherry Barrett	6/18/2021, 10:00:19 AM	6/18/2021, 11:13:55 AM
Paula Gucker	6/18/2021, 10:00:21 AM	6/18/2021, 11:59:40 AM
Don Shuman	6/18/2021, 10:00:41 AM	6/18/2021, 11:14:13 AM
Jay Marett	6/18/2021, 10:01:16 AM	6/18/2021, 11:14:01 AM
Kirsten Robertson	6/18/2021, 10:01:17 AM	6/18/2021, 11:13:59 AM
Meg GCI	6/18/2021, 10:01:34 AM	6/18/2021, 11:14:06 AM
Judy Wortkoetter	6/18/2021, 10:02:20 AM	6/18/2021, 11:13:53 AM
Erika Hollis	6/18/2021, 10:04:57 AM	6/18/2021, 11:14:02 AM
Meg from GCI (Guest)	6/18/2021, 10:05:42 AM	6/18/2021, 11:13:17 AM
Jordan Bradway	6/18/2021, 10:05:48 AM	6/18/2021, 11:16:39 AM
Greg Robertson TR	6/18/2021, 10:07:23 AM	6/18/2021, 11:14:12 AM
Geoffrey Habron	6/18/2021, 10:25:08 AM	6/18/2021, 11:13:56 AM



Office of the Floodplain Administrator

Brian Bishop
Floodplain Administrator
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(864) 467-7523
www.greenvillecounty.org

May 2021

To: Repetitive Loss Area Property Owners

**Re: Repetitive Loss Areas and Floodplain Management Information
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)**

Dear Sir or Madam:

You are receiving this letter because you own and/or reside in a home located in an area that is subject to flooding. In fact, one or more properties located in your area have experienced "repetitive losses" due to flooding. Repetitive loss properties are those properties for which two or more claims of more than \$1,000 have been paid by the NFIP within any 10-year period since 1978. Although repetitive loss properties represent only 1% of all the NFIP's insurance policies, they have accounted for nearly one-third of the claim payments.

Greenville County is concerned about repetitive flooding and has an ongoing program to address problem flooding areas. However, there are things that each property owner can do to protect themselves from damage caused by flooding events. The enclosed Brochure provides information on flooding issues and floodplain management such as:

Local Flood Hazards	Permit Requirements
County Flood Services	Flood Insurance
Flood Warnings	Natural and Beneficial Functions
Property Protection Measures	Drainage System Maintenance
Flood Safety	

Greenville County also has a program to assist residents whose structures are located in floodplain areas and/or have experienced structural flood damage. The Residential Elevation Grant Program will provide up to \$7,500 to elevate flood prone homes which meet eligibility requirements. For more information on this program please visit our web site at www.greenvillecounty.org/floodplainadministration. Information related to flood insurance can be found at www.floodsmart.gov.

Please contact our office if you have questions regarding the enclosed information or floodplain management issues.

Sincerely,

Brian Bishop, P.E., CFM
Floodplain Administrator
h:\floodplain\crs - iso\2021\rl letter 2021.doc

Property Protection Measures*

Every year, flooding in the United States causes more property damage than any other type of natural disaster. While recent improvements in construction practices and regulations have made new homes less prone to flood damage, there are many existing homes susceptible to flood losses. Flooding of these properties can be minimized through the following measures:

- Elevate your home above the flood level,
- Keeping debris and trash out of the streams and ditches,
- Grading your yard to correct local drainage problems, and
- Emergency measures can include moving furniture and sandbagging.

Drainage System Maintenance

Greenville County has a drainage system inspection and maintenance program. The Public Works Department routinely conducts inspections on right-of-way ditches. Debris, even grass clippings, in ditches may obstruct the flow of water and cause overflow into the streets, yards, and homes. Greenville County Code Section 9-124 makes it illegal to take any action that will impede the flow of water in rights-of-way or dumping of debris into any right-of-way. Violations may be reported by calling 864-467-7016.



Greenville County Floodplain Management

Greenville County's floodplain management is the operation of a community program of corrective and preventative measures for reducing flood damage. Greenville County's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance was enacted to protect human life and health, minimize property damage and encourage appropriate construction practices to minimize public and private losses due to flooding.



Greenville County Floodplain Management

301 University Ridge • Suite 4100 • Greenville, SC 29601

(864) 467-7523

Natural & Beneficial Functions*

Water quality is improved through the wetlands ability to filter nutrients and impurities from runoff and process organic wastes. These areas provide habitat for fish, waterfowl and wildlife, support a high rate of plant growth and maintain biodiversity and the integrity of the ecosystem. Floodplains provide green space for protection of streams from development and the forces of erosion. Please assist Greenville County to protect these natural resources by reporting any activity that can harm this resource such as broken silt fences, illegal dumping or placing fill within these areas.

Flood Insurance*

If you don't have it, you need to get it by talking to your insurance agent. Homeowner's insurance policies do not cover damage from floods. However, because Greenville County participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), you can purchase a separate flood insurance policy. This insurance is backed by the Federal government and is available to everyone, even for properties that have been flooded. Some people have purchased flood insurance because their lender required it when they obtained a mortgage or home improvement loan. Usually these policies cover the building's structure only and not the contents. If you are covered, you may want to check the amount and make sure you have contents coverage. Visit www.floodsmart.gov for more information.

Flood Warning

The National Weather Service along with the Greenville County Emergency Management Agency, provide flood warning and evacuation data to local radio (WFBC, WROQ, WTPT) and television (WHNS, WSPA, WLOS, WYFF) stations. Greenville County Sheriff's Office and area Fire Departments will provide door-to-door warnings to those areas threatened by flooding, when evacuations are ordered in areas expected to flood. Residents should be prepared to move to a place of safety. The County of Greenville in conjunction with the Greenville County Office of Emergency Management will announce emergency shelter locations.

Permit Requirements*

You must obtain a permit for all development within a regulated flood hazard area. All structures located on parcels of land that lie either wholly or partially within, or immediately adjacent to, areas of special flood hazard require a permit before construction. More information regarding flooding and floodplain regulation can be found online at: www.greenvillegov.org/Codes/Enforcement/floodplain.asp

Flood Mitigation Program

A repetitive loss structure is a building covered by flood insurance issued under the NFIP, that has suffered flood damage on two occasions during a 10-year period in which the cost to repair the flood damage, on average, equaled or exceeded 25% of the market value of the structure at the time of each flood loss. Greenville County has a flood mitigation program to assist homeowners with elevation of their dwellings in an attempt to alleviate repeated flooding. This program consists of a grant from the County that will pay up to \$7,500 towards the elevation of an owner-occupied dwelling. For more information please contact the Floodplain Administrator.

Flood Services

Greenville County provides the following information. You may call (864-467-7523) or visit the Floodplain Administrator at County Square (Suite 4100) to determine if you are in a FEMA mapped flood hazard area. You may also request FEMA Elevation Certificates where available. FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) may also be found on the County's GIS website (www.gcgis.org) under the FEMA layer. Also, flood protection references are available at the Greenville County Public Library in the South Carolina Room. Additional information regarding flooding, including our Floodplain Damage Prevention Ordinance, can be found online at: www.greenvillegov.org/Codes/Enforcement/floodplain.asp

Local Flood Hazard*

Flooding in our County occurs in several areas including, but not limited to, Brushy Creek, Rocky Creek, Gilder Creek and Welcome Creek as well as the Reedy, Saluda and Enoree Rivers. This results in water leaving channel banks during or soon after heavy storms. Floodwater may be as deep as two to three feet or higher. Basements, lower floors, garages, and cars may flood. If you live in one of these affected areas you are subject to repetitive flooding. You need to take precautions and be prepared for rising water during storm watches or warnings.

Flood Safety*

Do not walk through a flooded area. Currents can be deceptive; six inches of moving water can knock you off your feet. Do not drive through a flooded area. More people drown in their cars than anywhere else. Stay away from power lines and electrical wires. The number two flood killer, after drowning, is electrocution. Remember, "Turn Around, Don't Drown."

