

A newsletter for people concerned with water management issues.

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*Order your WAFSCM Shirt or
see how to get one for FREE*



*WAFSCM 2012 conference included
a field tour within the Madison area
of the Arboretum, Lake Wingra, and
the Wingra Creek Restoration*

Message from the Editor

The WAFSCM newsletter is published twice a year to update members on chapter activities and to provide information on publications, seminars, etc. that may be beneficial to our water community. If you have articles, announcements, or other information that you would like us to include in future newsletters, please forward it to me at cindi.debruine@rasmithnational.com.

Thank you to all the newsletter contributors and to Rhonda Janos for the newsletter preparation.

Cindi DeBruine
Newsletter Editor

Water Matters

A newsletter for people concerned with water management issues.

Message from the Chair

With snow still on the ground as I write this, we are finally out of drought in Wisconsin. Many good things are happening within WAFSCM and your board has been hard at work. We are currently planning our 2013 Annual Conference which will be October 30th through November 1st in Appleton, WI. Please save the date and check out more details in this newsletter. We have formed a Legislative Committee within WAFSCM to provide additional information to our members on floodplain related issues being undertaken by our Wisconsin legislators both at the state and national level. We also hope to make connections in order to be a resource for the legislators on floodplain, stormwater, and coastal issues. Ryan Kloth, our Vice Chair, has graciously volunteered to lead this committee. If you are interested in becoming involved with the Legislative Committee, please contact Ryan at ryan.kloth@graef-usa.com.



Please note that WAFSCM has a floodplain model available for any member to borrow to take to an educational event. Feel free to contact me as it is stored at my office at the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission in Waukesha, WI. WAFSCM also has embroidered golf shirts available for sale, and now we have a way for you to win a free shirt if you bring in three new members to WAFSCM. See the membership article for details!

And finally, we have a few needs for WAFSCM. If you are interested or have questions please contact me for details.

- WAFSCM website administration – we are looking for someone to be our webmaster, both to maintain our current site and to help with potential improvements. We would also appreciate suggestions for website software that would allow multiple people to access and update the site.
- 2013-14 Officers – at the annual conference we will be voting for a new WAFSCM Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. Our bylaws state that the offices can be held for a maximum of 2 years except for the treasurer, which allows up to 4 years. All of our officers have served the maximum term. Some may run for other offices, but we will definitely need new officers. We have quarterly board meetings and our main effort is the annual conference. Meetings can be attended by conference call, so we welcome members from across the state to apply. Any questions can be directed to me or our current board members.
- 2013 WAFSCM Awards – and last but not least, we have revamped our Award nomination process and hope to receive many candidates for consideration. The new process is described in this newsletter, so get your worthy project, client, and staff submittals in!

Laura Kletti, P.E., CFM
WAFSCM Chair
lkletti@sewrpc.org



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Floodplain Model Available for WAFSCM Members

WAFSCM has purchased a floodplain model for use by our members for educational purposes. The model was on display at the 2011 and 2012 Conferences and has been used by a few members for demonstrations to grade school and high school students. We would definitely like to see it used more. There are opportunities to do hands on trials for different land covers and flood protection measures and get wet too! The model can be checked out for use by any WAFSCM member.



The model is stored at the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (Waukesha.)

If you would like to use the model for an educational event, please email Laura Kletti at lkletti@sewrpc.org to coordinate.



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A Message from the 2012 WAFSCM 10th Annual Conference Scholarship Winner



I was privileged to be the recipient of the 2012 WAFSCM Scholarship. Having an emergency management background and having completed mitigation projects in flood plain area's within Jefferson County, I found the conference sessions to be very interesting.

The Wisconsin Association for Floodplain, Stormwater and Coastal Management has a strong purpose in promoting public awareness. It is essential for individuals from various professions to participate in learning the proper floodplain, stormwater, and coastal management to encourage good stewardship of our natural resources.

I learned that WAFSCM is very committed to providing educational and professional seminars for individuals concerned with proper floodplain, stormwater, and coastal management along with providing a great venue for the dissemination of information.

WAFSCM also tracks pending floodplain, stormwater, and coastal management legislation and other related matters. They study and support legislation pertinent and necessary to the effective implementation of floodplain, stormwater, and coastal management.

The conference sessions I attended were:

- Demonstration Storms for Identifying Climate Vulnerability - Ken Potter, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- PaveDRAIN: The Sustainable Stormwater Solution – Doug Buch, PaveDRAIN, LLC
- Federal Disaster Process – Roxanne Gray, WEM
- Automated Flood Gate Control: Beaver Dam Case Study – Michael Doble, P.E., DAAR Engineering, Inc.
- Native Vegetation in Stormwater Management Design – Vince Mosca, Hey & Associates
- Adaptive Management Initiatives, Clean Lakes Initiative – John Lindert, Strand & Associates
- Kinnickinnic River Flood Management and Watercourse Rehabilitation – Tom Sear, SEH: Patrick Elliott, MMSD
- Lake Wingra Dam – Chris Goodwin, Ayres & Associates

While I must admit that I did not understand everything that was presented, the passion and knowledge these individuals had was truly impressive. This conference gave me a valued appreciation of the work that is encompassed in Floodplain, Stormwater and Coastal Management. I would encourage more Emergency Management professionals to attend future WAFSCM conferences.

I would like to thank WAFSCM for this opportunity and for the warm reception I received. Thanks to Roxanne Gray from Wisconsin Emergency Management who provided the information regarding WAFSCM to me and congratulations to her on the Lifetime Achievement Award. It certainly went to the most deserving individual.

Sincerely,

Donna Haugom, Director
Jefferson County Office of Emergency Management



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MAKING WAVES!

OUR 10-YEAR EVENT

Thank you to the 2012 WAFSCM Conference Sponsors and Exhibitors!

If you have attended one WAFSCM conference or all 10 (including the 2005 ASFPM National Conference in Madison), you know that a constant at all of the conferences has been our wonderful Sponsor and Exhibitor support. The Sponsors and Exhibitors not only provide information on the latest innovations (and free pens and notepads!), but they are the sole reason that we can continue to provide a quality conference at a very reasonable cost.

Since the 2012 conference was our 10th anniversary, I went through the available records on the past Sponsors and Exhibitors to get a little history. For clarification, my records started in 2004, and no information was available for the National Conference in 2005. The 2009 conference was a joint conference with Minnesota, so the list had some Sponsors and Exhibitors that were not familiar to us in Wisconsin.

The Grand Prize for Sponsor and/or Exhibitor for the 8 years of record goes to GRAEF (formerly Graef, Anhalt, and Schloemer, Inc.). Other consultants that have shown their support are Atkins (formerly PBS&J – 7 years) and SEH (6 years.)

We also have a lot of long-term support from our Exhibitors including Scott Bordeau, ERO-TEX (7 years); Phil Taylor, Hydro International (6 years); Jim Luedeke, Wausau Concrete/Country Materials (6 years); Dan Thomson, Rinker-Stormceptor (5 years); and Doug Buch, most recently with PaveDrain (5+ years).

We sincerely thank them all for their long and continued support.

We also want to thank those companies that provided door prizes for the 2012 WAFSCM Conference raffle including; Ayres and Associates, Country Materials, ERO-TEX, GRAEF, R.A. Smith National, Inc., Rinker-Stormceptor, and Wisconsin Emergency Management.

We look forward to seeing our long-term Sponsors and Exhibitors at the 2013 conference, plus some new supporters!

By Cindi DeBruine, Conference Sponsor and Exhibitor Coordinator



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A Summary of our 10th Annual Conference – 2012

Our 10th Annual Conference in October 2012 in Madison, WI was a great success. We had a wonderful turnout (over 115) with numerous dynamic speakers. The workshops started off the Wednesday activities with topics including Aquatic Organism Passage Design from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as well as the CFM Exam refresher. For the first time in our history, we had a Game Night after the Wednesday night networking reception – what a great opportunity to let down our guard and just play cards.

Thursday's activities were kicked off with our annual business meeting. Our budget was rolled out for the membership along with our strategic plan that the Board had worked so hard to create over the past year. After a variety of morning sessions, our luncheon included a speaker for the first time. Judging from the great success and feedback, we will continue our lunch time speaker in 2013.

A special award was also presented to Roxanne Gray for Lifetime Achievement and the Chapter Service Award went to our current Chair, Laura Kletti. It was tricky maneuvering these awards since both of them are so intensely active with WAFSCM. Thanks to both of them for their continued support of both the conference and WAFSCM as a group. Both knew of the other receiving the award but were not aware of their own award. Hats off to all those that were involved in this successful covert operation.

The day closed with a very dynamic speaker, Rich Meusen, representing the Milwaukee Water Council Water Summit, who motivated us all to make Milwaukee/Madison the epicenter of the water world. Friday included a field tour within the Madison area of the Arboretum, Lake Wingra, and the Wingra Creek Restoration.



Friday included a field tour within the Madison area of the Arboretum, Lake Wingra, and the Wingra Creek Restoration.



Water Matters

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A Summary of our 10th Annual Conference – 2012 (continued)

Our feedback surveys showed that once again our conference committee did a great job pulling this together seamlessly. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time make this conference a success. A special thanks to Jackie Monfils from Atkins for being our local venue coordinator. Also, a great big thanks to all of the speakers who took time to prepare presentations and to all the sponsors and vendors. Without our speakers, sponsors, and exhibitors, we wouldn't have a conference!

Some quotes from the surveys we received this past year are below:

“Great mix of speakers”
“Always a good conference with a good mix of worthwhile presentations”
“This was a well spent day!”
“Very interesting speakers this year”
“Well done. Thank you for putting this on.”
“Well done as always!”
“Well organized conference”

It will be a tough act to follow for 2013, but we are looking forward to having the conference in Appleton, WI this year. Our conference will be held from October 30 to November 1 – bring your trick-or-treat bags!

By Conference Chair Minal Hahm



SAVE THE DATE!!!!



We are pleased to announce the

11th Annual WAFSCM Conference - 2013

Changing Climate - Changing Attitudes.

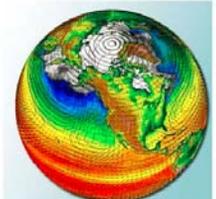
October 30 – November 1, 2013

Appleton, Wisconsin

Details on registration, sponsorships, speakers and award submittals, scholarships, and conference content will be coming soon to the WAFSCM website <http://wi.floods.org>.

Schedule:

Wednesday	Workshops and Networking Reception
Thursday	Main Conference Day (plenary and breakout sessions)
Friday	Morning Field Tour(s)



We will have the CFM training and exam this year – so mark your calendars and start studying.

For more information or feedback on the exams, contact Minal Hahm, Conference Chair, at 262-376-4246, or e-mail minal@msquaredengineering.com.

Earn up to 12 PDHs!

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Future City Competition Best Essay Award



WAFSCM sponsored the award for Best Essay at the Future Cities Competition in January. The WAFSCM essay review team was made up of Carrie Bristoll-Groll and Harlan Groll from Stormwater Solutions Engineering, LLC and Peter Shedivy from HNTB. The team reviewed the top 5 essays out of 74 teams to choose the best overall essay on innovative and sustainable stormwater management in the future city.

The Future City Competition is a national, project-based learning experience where students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade imagine, design, and build cities of the future. Students work as a team with an educator and engineer mentor to plan cities using SimCity™ 4 Deluxe software; research and write solutions to an engineering problem; build tabletop scale models with recycled materials; and present their ideas before judges at Regional Competitions in January. Regional winners represent their region at the National Finals in Washington, DC in February.

See Futurecity.org for more information.



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WAFSM Award Nominees Sought

At the 2013 conference that will be held October 30-31 in Appleton, the Wisconsin Association for Floodplain, Stormwater, and Coastal Management would like to present several awards, relying upon the membership for nominations. The categories are: Chapter Service Award, Local Award for Excellence, Excellence in Project Design or Implementation Award, and Lifetime Achievement Award. The WAFSCM Awards Program began in 2006 and the awards are described below.

The **Chapter Service Award** is intended to recognize individuals who, through significant accomplishments and/or long-term efforts, have clearly influenced the work of the Association to improve floodplain, stormwater, or coastal management in Wisconsin. Previous recipients have been Dave Fowler, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewage District; Roxanne Gray, Wisconsin Emergency Management; Cindi DeBruine, R. A. Smith National; and Laura Kletti, Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

The **Local Award for Excellence** is intended to recognize an individual, organization, program, governmental unit, or the like, which has contributed outstanding or essential work toward implementing sound floodplain, stormwater, or coastal management. A previous recipient of this award was Donna Haugom, Jefferson County Emergency Management Director.

Excellence in Project Design or Implementation is a means to provide recognition focusing on particularly meritorious project efforts more so than individuals. Thereby, teams, firms, agency divisions, etc., may find a recognition niche. Previous recipients have been Meg Galloway, Bill Sturtevant, and the WDNR Dam Safety and Floodplain Management Section for the Lake Delton project; Mike Campbell, Ruckert and Mielke, Inc. for the Pigeon Creek Flood Mitigation Project in Thiensville; and Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District and Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc., Dave Fowler, MMSD, and Tom Sear, SEH, Project Managers for Underwood Creek Rehabilitation. *New for the 2013 conference, photos and descriptions of all nominated projects will be presented at the conference luncheon. Show us those great projects!*

A **Lifetime Achievement Award** will also be entertained for distinguished and extensive service, normally over the course of a career, toward advancing the cause and/or ideals of best practical floodplain, stormwater, or coastal management. This prestigious award may be given as warranted, and we celebrated the first winner in 2012 - Roxanne Gray, Wisconsin Emergency Management.

Please start thinking about the credentials of deserving candidates for these awards. In 2013, we have streamlined our process and have a nomination form requiring basic information including contact information, details on the nominee(s) with respect to merit and accomplishments, and the relationship or perspective of the nominator (knowledge of award-worthiness). Brief supporting materials are acceptable, but extensive documentation is discouraged. If appropriate, the Awards Committee may contact persons submitting nominations for additional information. The Awards Application form is provided in the newsletter.

Please submit your nomination for any of the above awards by **August 15, 2013** to:

David Fowler
MMSD
260 W. Seeboth Street
Milwaukee, WI 53204
DFowler@mmsd.com

See next page(s) for Award Nomination Form



WAFSCM AWARD 2013 APPLICATION FORM

Award (check one):

- Chapter Service Award**
Intended to recognize individuals who, through significant accomplishments and/or long-term efforts, have clearly influenced the work of the Association to improve floodplain, stormwater, or coastal management in Wisconsin.
- Local Award for Excellence**
Intended to recognize an individual, organization, program, governmental unit, or the like, which has contributed outstanding or essential work toward implementing sound floodplain, stormwater, or coastal management.
- Excellence in Project Design or Implementation**
Recognition focusing on particularly meritorious project efforts more so than individuals. Thereby, teams, firms, agency divisions, etc., may find a recognition niche.
- Lifetime Achievement**
For distinguished and extensive service, normally over the course of a career, toward advancing the cause and/or ideals of best practical floodplain, stormwater, or coastal management.

Nominee (Individual name/s, agency/s or firm/s, etc.) *(Exactly as you would like to see printed on award)*

Name: _____

Nominator:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Relationship or perspective to Nominee/s: _____

Project Primary Contact

The primary contact is someone familiar with the project and able to answer questions about the project and/or entry. The primary contact will receive communication regarding the WAFSCM Project Awards competition, including the award notification, deadline reminders and Awards Luncheon information. Provide the following information for the project's primary contact:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Mitigation Success Stories Following the Superior Flooding June, 2012



FEMA

Mitigation News

October 5, 2012
State News Desk: 608-242-3324
FEMA News Desk: 715-828-1147

Improved Sewer System Prevents Damages

Superior, WI - The City of Superior Public Works Department was accustomed to receiving reports of flooded basements from residents following major storms. In 1999, a 100-year storm event inundated the city with more than five inches of rain in two hours and caused around \$574,000 in flood damage.

To help prevent future flooding, the City of Superior applied to Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) in 2000 for a grant through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). The City's proposal consisted of two phases to help reduce the flooding problems.

The first phase involved the construction of a stormwater detention basin and a 7,000-foot storm water interceptor sewer to connect to the existing storm sewer system. Phase 1 was completed in 2004 at a cost of \$1.9 million. The HMGP funded the interceptor sewer with FEMA providing \$240,000, a Stormwater Grant provided \$150,000, and both WEM and a Wisconsin Coastal Management Grant each provided \$40,000. The City covered the remaining \$1.4 million.

The project was deemed a success after significant flooding occurred in October 2005. There were no reports from property owners in the project area, even though other areas in Superior reported storm water flooding. Officials estimate that 284 structures, both residential and commercial benefitted from Phase 1 of the project, with an estimated \$1.42 million in damages avoided from a single 100-year storm event. An estimated 664 structures would be protected from potential flooding in a 10-year storm event.

Phase 2 of the project was completed in 2009 and involved the construction of a 3,000-foot storm water interceptor sewer to connect to the project. Though Phase 2 did not use any FEMA mitigation funding, the City of Superior matched funding provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) to further reduce the risk of flooding in the community.

Mitigation News continued on next page 

Water Matters

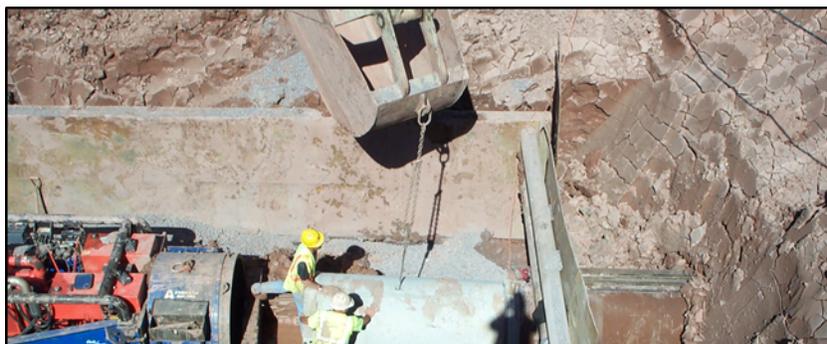
Mitigation News (continued)

The mitigation efforts were tested June 19-20, 2012 when a severe thunderstorm dropped eight to ten inches of rain over the Superior area resulting in flash flooding. Public works officials estimate that prior to the completion of the project, a storm of this magnitude would have yielded about 150 calls, but they only received 15 reports of flooded basements.

“Based on comparisons of flooding calls within the City after the June 2012 storm, the South Superior pond and interceptor sewers are protecting significantly more structures than initial estimates,” said Diane Nelson, Stormwater Coordinator for the Environmental Services Division of Public Works. “It’s great to see an area that used to have the most flooding problems become one of the most protected.”

By demonstrating long-lasting commitment to effectively mitigate risk, Superior has enhanced its ability to recover from a recent disaster, improving community resiliency for the future.

For more information on HMGP, visit <http://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-grant-program-hmgp>.



Mitigation Success Stories Following the Superior Flooding June, 2012



FEMA

Mitigation News

October 5, 2012

State News Desk: 608-242-3324

FEMA News Desk: 715-828-1147

Slump Forces Owners out of Home

OLIVER, WI - The Schlais family enjoyed life on the banks of the St. Louis River—at least until August 2002 when a crack appeared in the middle of their garage floor. They moved the garage before half of its foundation dropped 12 feet towards the river a month later. By mid-September, the 18 foot slump was approximately one foot from the rear entrance of the Schlais home. The Schlais along with several other nearby homeowners watched their yards, decks, and stairways slide towards the river.

According to Jack Zaengle, Geology Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Superior, this type of earth mass-movement, called a “slump,” is common in the area. However, what made this event unusual was the sheer size of the slump, approximately 100 yards wide extending 100 to 150 feet down slope to the river, and the rate at which it was slipping, an average of 1.5 inches per day. Early on the Schlais reported slip rates in excess of 4.5 inches per day.

The ground failure was due in part to an underlay of red clay, which contains a significant amount of the mineral, smectite. Smectite absorbs water and expands to many times its original volume, shrinking back again when it dries. This contributes to the instability of the red clay, especially when saturated. During the spring and summer of 2002, the area received a lot of rain which added weight to the red clay. The water also acted as a lubricant which facilitated down-slope movement.

Another factor causing the slump was the ground vibration caused by trains crossing the nearby Oliver Bridge. On top of all that, the Schlais’ home was close to a propane tank and other infrastructure that was deteriorating. Water seepage into the basement also intensified making this a high-risk situation.

Through Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM,) the Village of Oliver applied for and received funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to acquire and demolish the three homes that were in imminent danger from ground failure. FEMA provided 75% of the costs or \$238,847 with WEM and the Village each providing 12.5% or \$39,808 towards the cost of the project.

Mitigation News (continued)

“This was a serious situation for not only the Schlais, but the other two properties,” stated Roxanne Gray, State Hazard Mitigation Officer at WEM. “I was thankful to Professor Zaengle for providing his expertise and information we needed in acquiring grant approval. With the mitigation grant funds the Village was able to acquire the homes, which enabled the property owners to purchase another home.”

In June 2012, a severe storm rolled through Oliver which caused extensive flooding throughout the area and led to a federal disaster declaration. The same three properties purchased by mitigation funds experienced further slumping. By previously acquiring the three properties, additional losses were avoided.

For more information regarding the HMGP, visit www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-grant-program-hmgp.



*Caption: The Schlais' garage foundation was victim to "slumping."
Their rear of their home was dangerously close to failure.*



Mitigation Success Stories Following the Superior Flooding June, 2012



FEMA

Mitigation News

October 5, 2012

State News Desk: 608-242-3324

FEMA News Desk: 715-828-1147

When a Homeowner's Dream Becomes a Flooded Nightmare . . . Flood Insurance Comes to the Rescue

LAKESIDE, Wis. – When Michael and Patricia Bagley purchased their house next to a stream in 1991, it was springtime. They loved the location and the house. The stream, about 60 feet away, gave no indication that ten years later it would be the cause of a life-changing decision for them.

During a particularly snowy winter in 2000, Patricia joked to her parents in a phone call that she and Michael could step up onto a snowbank from their roof. It was when her mother-in-law mentioned the potential of flooding in the early spring, that Patricia contacted her insurance agent and purchased a flood insurance policy. The policy included an Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC) clause. ICC provides up to \$30,000 to bring structures into compliance with local floodplain regulations in the event the structure is substantially damaged from flooding.

Only months later, the Amnicon River overflowed its banks, backing up small tributary streams, like the one running next to the Bagleys' home. Their house was inundated by close to four feet of water. "I kayaked my way into the kitchen," Patricia says. Though they were able to save her piano, the water effectively destroyed most of their belongings, and rendered the house uninhabitable.

Since the damage exceeded 50% of the home's pre-flood market value, their home was considered "substantially damaged" under the local floodplain zoning ordinance and the ICC clause went into effect.

Under ICC, the options available were to relocate the house out of the floodplain, to elevate the house above the floodplain, or to demolish the structure. Since the house was located in a floodway and declared substantially damaged, under the local floodplain ordinance, demolition was the only option available to the Bagleys.

Mitigation News continued on next page 

Mitigation News (continued)

Douglas County applied to Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) for funds through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) to acquire the property and demolish the house. FEMA provided 75% of the costs or \$75,902, while the State of Wisconsin and Douglas County contributed \$12,650, or 12.5%, each. ICC provided the demolition funds, reducing the county's share of the grant.

Michael and Patricia are glad they participated in the buyout project. Their former home would have been flooded again in 2012 when three severe floods occurred in the area between May and June.

“The story here is how homeowners can responsibly protect themselves by having flood insurance,” said Steve Rannenber, Douglas County Zoning Administrator. “In this case, flood insurance was utilized to mitigate the effects of future flooding. Because the Bagleys had flood insurance, the county was able to more easily fund the required match and complete the project. While the process was quite involved, the Bagleys were patient enough to allow the process to work and allow them to recover from the event. “

For more information about the flood insurance and ICC, visit www.floodsmart.gov.





FEMA

Fact Sheet

Sandy Recovery Improvement Act of 2013

On January 29, 2013, President Obama signed into law the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act of 2013 (P.L. 113-2) (SRIA). The law authorizes several significant changes to the way the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) may deliver disaster assistance under a variety of programs. FEMA is currently developing specific implementation procedures for each new authority and will provide further guidance through a combination of rulemaking and the development of policy or other guidance documents. These implementation procedures will detail the applicability of each provision, provide further guidance as to how the authority will be implemented, and may include metrics and other assessment tools and procedures.

Public Assistance Alternative Procedures.

- FEMA is authorized to develop alternative procedures that an applicant may elect to use for Public Assistance permanent work and debris removal projects.
- FEMA may expeditiously implement this authority as a pilot program until such time that the Agency promulgates implementing regulations.
- Once implemented, FEMA may apply these alternative procedures to future emergencies and major disasters, but may also do so in current declared events for projects where construction has not yet begun.
- These alternative procedures will, at minimum, include the following specified procedures:
 - Permanent Work Alternative Procedures:
 - Permits permanent work grants to be based on fixed estimates, with applicants accepting responsibility for any actual costs above the estimate—this will significantly accelerate the distribution of grant funds and significantly reduce administrative costs associated with grants based on actual costs.
 - Permits FEMA to accept the mutually agreed upon certified cost estimates prepared by applicants' licensed engineers.
 - Applicants may request to utilize a FEMA-funded, independent validation of project estimates for permanent repair projects with an estimated federal share of at least \$5 million.
 - Allows applicants accepting grants based on fixed estimates to use any cost savings for activities that reduce risk in future disasters and other activities to improve future PA operations.
 - Permits applicants to consolidate multiple permanent work projects.
 - Eliminates the reduction in awards previously required by law for applicants who determine that the public welfare would not be best served by restoring a damaged facility or its function to the pre-disaster design (so-called "alternate projects").

- Debris Removal Work Alternative Procedures:
 - Permits debris removal grants to be based on fixed estimates, with applicants accepting responsibility for any actual costs above the estimate—this will significantly accelerate the distribution of grant funds and significantly reduce administrative costs associated with grants based on actual costs.
 - Permits applicants to retain income from debris recycling without an offset from their grant.
 - Allows the use of a sliding scale for applicants' debris removal cost share to incentivize faster and more cost-efficient debris removal.
 - Permits the establishment of financial incentives for a FEMA-approved pre-disaster debris management plan and at least one pre-qualified debris contractor.
 - Allows applicants to use excess funds for activities to improve future debris removal operations.
 - Permits the reimbursement of straight time force account labor costs for applicants' employees performing debris removal work.

Hazard Mitigation.

- Streamlined Procedures: Directs FEMA to expedite the National Environmental Policy Act and the National Historic Preservation Act compliance processes. Additionally, FEMA may implement streamlined procedures that consider multiple structures as a group for an analysis of cost-effectiveness and satisfaction of cost-share requirements.
- Advance Assistance: Allows FEMA to provide up to 25 percent of the estimated costs for eligible hazard mitigation measures to a State grantee before eligible costs are incurred.
- Allows FEMA to waive notice and comment rulemaking to expeditiously implement state administration of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), if FEMA determines that doing so is necessary to expeditiously implement the administration of HMGP by States as a pilot program.
- Once implemented, FEMA may apply this provision to previously declared disasters for which the application period has not ended as of January 29, 2013 and all future disasters.

Dispute Resolution Pilot Program.

- Directs FEMA to establish a nationwide dispute resolution pilot program, including arbitration by an independent review panel, for Public Assistance projects.
- This nationwide dispute resolution pilot program will only be available for:
 - Disputes in an amount of at least \$1 million; and
 - Projects with a non-federal cost share requirement; and
 - Applicants that have completed a first appeal pursuant to 44 C.F.R. § 206.206.
- FEMA will establish an independent arbitration review panel and decisions made by the independent review panel will be binding.
- Requests for review under this nationwide dispute resolution pilot program, once implemented, must be submitted by December 31, 2015.
- Arbitration available under this nationwide dispute resolution pilot program is separate and distinct from the arbitration process established for Public Assistance projects for major disasters declared in response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Federal Assistance to Individuals and Households.

- Provides the Agency explicit authority to lease and repair rental units for use as direct temporary housing.

Unified Federal Review.

- Requires the President, in consultation with the Council on Environmental Quality and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, to establish a unified and expedited interagency environmental and historic preservation process for disaster recovery projects within 18 months of enactment.

Small project threshold review.

- By January 29, 2014, FEMA will evaluate and report to Congress whether an increase in the Public Assistance small project threshold is appropriate. FEMA will then take appropriate action based on the outcome of the report. FEMA must review the small project threshold every three years thereafter.

Essential Assistance.

- Authorizes FEMA to reimburse straight-time force account labor costs for state, tribal and local government employees performing emergency protective measures, if such work is not typically performed by those employees and is the type of work that may otherwise be carried out by contract or agreement with private entities or individuals.
- Affirms that child care expenses are an eligible expense for reimbursement as part of Other Needs Assistance.

Individual Assistance Factors.

- Requires FEMA to review and revise through rulemaking the factors considered when evaluating the need for the Individual Assistance Program in a major disaster or emergency by January 29, 2014.

Tribal Requests for a Major Disaster or Emergency Declaration under the Stafford Act.

- Amends the Stafford Act to provide for an option for the Chief Executive of a federally recognized Indian tribe to make a direct request to the President for a major disaster or emergency declaration. The amendment provides that Tribes may elect to receive assistance under a State's declaration, provided that the President does not make a declaration for the Tribe for the same incident.
- Authorizes the President to establish criteria to adjust the non-federal cost share for an Indian tribal government consistent to the extent allowed by current authorities.
- Requires FEMA to consider the unique circumstances of tribes when it develops regulations to implement the provision.
- Amends the Stafford Act to include federally recognized Indian tribal governments in numerous references to state and local governments within the Stafford Act.

Recommendations for Reducing Costs to Future Disasters.

- Requires FEMA to make recommendations for the development of a national strategy to reduce costs on future disasters by July 30, 2013. The recommendations for the National Strategy should:
 - Respect the constitutional roles and responsibilities of the different levels of government, as well as the private sector;
 - Address vulnerability to damage from flooding, severe weather, and other hazards;
 - Analyze gaps and duplication of emergency preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation at all levels of government; and
 - Include recommendations on improving resiliency of states, local, and tribal communities to lower future response and recovery costs.

Reminder. Funds for grants provided by the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 must be expended by the grantees within the 24-month period following the agency's obligation of funds for the grant, unless, in accordance with guidance to be issued by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Director waives this requirement for a particular grant program and submits a written justification for such waiver to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate. In the case of such grants, the law requires FEMA to include a term in the grant that requires the grantee to return to the agency any funds not expended within the 24-month period.

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"FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards."

February 2013

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c/o Stormwater Solutions Engineering, LLC
100 E. Sumner Street
Hartford, WI 53027

Water Matters

A newsletter for people concerned with water management issues.

GET A FREE WAFSCM SHIRT!

Here is your opportunity to earn a free WAFSCM shirt!

All you have to do is:

- Get three (3) of your peers, co-workers or friends to join the Wisconsin Association for Floodplain, Stormwater and Coastal Management by October 1, 2013
- Have them fill out the membership form with your name as "referred by:"
- Have them send in their form with the \$20 fee
- You'll be contacted by WAFSCM for your size and color selection and
- You'll *get a free shirt!* (\$35 value)

Membership benefits include:

- WAFSCM newsletter **Water Matters** twice a year
- Important water-related updates, emails and information about training and seminars
- Great networking with both agency employees and consultants working toward a common cause
- Discount at the WAFSCM annual conference held each fall. By attending the conference you are then automatically a member for the following year.
- The annual membership is still only \$20.

Share the membership form included in this edition of *Water Matters* now with others that may be interested in joining our group and earn your free shirt! If you have any questions, please contact Roxanne Gray, Membership Chair at 608-242-3211 or e-mail Roxanne.gray@wisconsin.gov, or Carrie Bristoll-Groll, Treasurer, at 262-673-9697 or cbg@stormwater-solutions-engineering.com.



WAFSCM Logo will be embroidered on the upper left corner of the shirt





Wisconsin Association for Floodplain,
Stormwater, & Coastal Management

Membership Application/Renewal Form

For January – December 2013

Membership Fee: \$20.00

Name:		
Title:		
Organization:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
Phone:	Ext.:	Fax:
E-mail:		
Would you like to receive occasional announcements, newsletters and/or notices via E-mail: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Other Affiliations:		
Primary Interest:	<input type="checkbox"/> Floodplain	<input type="checkbox"/> Stormwater <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal
Would you like to participate on a committee:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Floodplain	<input type="checkbox"/> Stormwater	<input type="checkbox"/> Coastal <input type="checkbox"/> Website
<input type="checkbox"/> Legislative	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership <input type="checkbox"/> None
REFERRED BY:		

Please include a check for the annual Membership Fee of \$20.00 made payable to WAFSCM

Return to: Carrie Bristoll-Groll, PE, CFM
WAFSCM
c/o Stormwater Solutions Engineering, LLC
100 East Sumner Street
Hartford, WI 53027

If you have questions, contact Carrie Bristoll-Groll at (262) 673-9697 or cbg@stormwater-solutions-engineering.com.

Water Matters

A newsletter for people concerned with water management issues.

WAFSCM Board Members



Board members left to right are: Ryan Kloth, Carrie Bristoll-Groll, Laura Kletti, Minal Hahm, Jon Lefers, JoEllen Donovan, and Cindi DeBruine. Missing members are Roxanne Gray and Peter Shedivy

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<p><i>Vice Chair/Legislative Committee</i> Ryan Kloth GRAEF ryan.kloth@graef-usa.com 414-266-9063</p>	<p><i>Newsletter</i> Cindi DeBruine R.A. Smith National, Inc. cindi.debruine@rasmithnational.com 262-317-3254</p>
<p><i>Secretary</i> JoEllen Donovan Stantec joellen.donovan@stantec.com 262-643-9014</p>	<p><i>Floodplains Committee Chair</i> Jon Lefers AE2S jon.lefers@AE2S.com 608-225-5787</p>
<p><i>Treasurer</i> Carrie Bristoll-Groll Stormwater Solutions Engineering cbg@stormwater-solutions-engineering.com 262-673-9697</p>	<p><i>Stormwater Committee Chair</i> Peter Shedivy HNTB pshedivy@HNTB.com 414-410-6862</p>
<p><i>Webmaster</i> Minal Hahm M Squared Engineering minal@msquaredengineering.com 262-376-4246</p>	<p><i>Awards</i> Dave Fowler MMSD dfowler@mmsd.com 414-277-6368</p>
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