

Association of State FloodPlain Managers
2809 Fish Hatchery Road, Suite 204 Madison, WI 53713
Phone: 608-274-0123 Fax: 274-0696
Website: www.floods.org Email: diane@floods.org

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CONTACTS: National: Diane Brown diane@floods.org, 608-441-3003 (desk) or 608-444-6707 (cell).

Local: Omeed Mollaian omollaian@meshekengr.com at 405-249-5208.

NATION'S FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS TO MEET IN OKLAHOMA CITY

The Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) will convene the nation's flood protection experts at their 34th annual national conference in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, May 16-21, 2010, at the Cox Convention Center. The largest organization of floodplain management professionals in the world, ASFPM represents 14,000 flood hazard reduction practitioners and 29 State Chapters throughout the U.S. and beyond.

This is the premiere flood management training event in the country, and this year's theme, "*Building Blocks of Floodplain Management*," will inspire more than 1,200 government and private professionals with techniques to reduce flooding and its effects before floodwaters rise, the surest and most effective option for reducing flood losses. Every state in the U.S., along with many foreign countries, will send their floodplain managers and planners from all levels of government, engineers, consultants, researchers, academia, insurance, and non-profit organization experts. Topics will cover floodplain mapping, flood mitigation, response and recovery, climate change, local success stories, watershed management, floodproofing techniques, arid region issues, flood insurance, and much more.

Keynote speakers include FEMA Administrator, Craig Fugate; White House Council on Environmental Quality Director, Nancy Sutley; EPA Administrator, Lisa Jackson; U.S. HUD Assistant Secretary, Mercedes Marquez; Assistant Secretary for the Army, Jo Ellen Darcy; U.S. Geological Survey Director, Marcia McNutt; University of Colorado Professor Emeritus, Dennis Mileti; and other experts who manage risk to humans and floodplain resources.

A key activity at the ASFPM national conference is to recognize excellence in flood hazard management through ten award categories at state, local, and individual levels. Check the ASFPM website for the categories and past recipients. This year's winners will be announced at the annual Awards Luncheon on Thursday, May 20, 2010.

ASFPM Chair Greg Main, Indiana, notes that annual flood damages in the nation continue to increase, despite billions of dollars spent on flood control projects and numerous advances in non-structural floodplain management. Flood damages are increasing unnecessarily, and ASFPM continues to advance the No Adverse Impact (NAI) strategy for floodplain management, premised on balancing structural and non-structural flooding solutions in a manner that will not cause additional flood damage on other properties.

The ASFPM website at www.floods.org contains information about the conference, awards, NAI, and ASFPM.