

NEW PROPOSED FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP REFLECTS CHANGES TO LOCAL FLOOD RISK

90-Day Appeal Period for Filing Appeals and Comments Begins Soon

Lafayette County, WI 2/28/19 — The update to the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for Lafayette County is almost complete. The new map will provide communities in Lafayette County with up-to-date flood risk information and tools that can enhance local mitigation plans and help local officials and residents make informed decisions about reducing flood risks and purchasing flood insurance. The local mapping project is part of a nationwide effort led by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to increase local knowledge of flood risks and support actions to address and reduce those risks.

This flood mapping project is part of FEMA's RiskMAP program, which is updating all floodplains in Lafayette County to match best available terrain data and/or modeling techniques. The work in Lafayette County has been led by Wisconsin DNR, in partnership with local community officials and FEMA. Before the new FIRM is finalized, there will be a 90-day appeal period during which property owners and renters can provide additional data for consideration before the map is finalized.

During the past couple of years, community officials throughout the county have worked closely with Wisconsin DNR to make sure we have the most accurate picture possible of the flood risk. This information will ensure that homes and businesses are insured appropriately against flooding, while also helping make more informed decisions about how to protect Lafayette County from what might otherwise be devastating flood events.

The new map is still a preliminary version. The map can be viewed on the FEMA's Flood Map Service Center (MSC) at msc.fema.gov. Lafayette County officials encourage property owners and renters to review the proposed FIRM to learn about local flood risks and potential future flood insurance requirements, and to identify any concerns or questions about the information provided. Community review took place during the Flood Risk Review meeting hosted by Wisconsin DNR and FEMA in 2017.

If you see incorrect information that does not involve changing the flood hazard-related information—such as a missing or misspelled road name or an incorrect corporate boundary—you can submit a written correction or “comment.” If you believe the modeling or data used to create the map is technically or scientifically incorrect, you may submit an appeal, which must include technical information, such as hydraulic or hydrologic data, to support your claim. Submitting an appeal requires some time and effort, so Lafayette County officials encourage property owners and lessees to review the updated flood maps now to determine if you are interested in pursuing this option. Before submitting a comment or appeal, we highly recommend that you discuss it with your local floodplain administrator so they can provide you with guidance on the process. Appeals must be submitted through your local floodplain administrator. For more details on this process, visit www.FEMA.gov.

KEY MAPPING MILESTONES

February 28, 2019 — Preliminary FIRM released

April 11, 2019 — Open House with public review of the Preliminary FIRM

Start of FEMA's 90-day appeal period

NOTE: Contact your local floodplain administrator about the deadline for submitting an appeal or comment for their review.

June 2020 * — New FIRM becomes effective and flood insurance requirements take effect

Visit <https://msc.fema.gov/portal> to view the Preliminary FIRM. Contact a Map Specialist with any questions at 1-877-336-2627 between 7:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

**Date subject to change pending completion of the appeal review process*