

# Nebraska Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association



## Third Quarter 2009 Newsletter

### 2009 NeFSMA BOARD MEMBERS

**Chair:** Laurie Carrette Zook, P.E., CFM  
[laurie.carrette@hdrinc.com](mailto:laurie.carrette@hdrinc.com)

**Vice Chair:** Rock Krzycki  
[rkrzycki@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:rkrzycki@lincoln.ne.gov)

**Second Vice Chair:** John Cambridge, P.E., CFM  
[john.cambridge@hdrinc.com](mailto:john.cambridge@hdrinc.com)

**Secretary:** Paul Gonzales, P.E., CFM  
[pgonzales@schemmer.com](mailto:pgonzales@schemmer.com)

**Treasurer:** Jesse Poore, CFM  
[Jesse.Poore@FHUENG.COM](mailto:Jesse.Poore@FHUENG.COM)

**At Large Board Members:**  
Nate Hartman  
[NHartman@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:NHartman@lincoln.ne.gov)  
Emily Holtzclaw, P.E., CFM  
[emily.holtzclaw@ch2m.com](mailto:emily.holtzclaw@ch2m.com)

Visit NeFSMA on the web at:  
<http://www.nefsma.net/>



### 2009 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

The good news: NeFSMA reached the 100 voting member mark. We currently have an additional 42 non-voting members registered with NeFSMA. That is an incredible increase from previous years' memberships.

Annual dues for 2009 are still being accepted. If you have not sent in your application

form, please see the website at [www.nefsma.net](http://www.nefsma.net) or contact Jesse Poore at (402) 438-7530. Annual dues are \$35 for individual and \$100 for corporate/organization memberships (allows 2 voting members) plus additional members that can serve as alternates.

### UPCOMING QUARTERLY MEETING

The second quarterly meeting for 2009 has been planned. Nebraska Department of Natural Resources and the Nebraska Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association present the First Conference for Nebraska Floodplain Managers.

**Topic:** First Conference for Nebraska Floodplain Managers

**When:** Friday, July 31, 2009

**Where:** Nebraska State Office Building  
Lower Level  
301 Centennial Mall South  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

**Time:** Program 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with lunch served during the program.

**Cost:** \$10.00 (Lunch included)

**Who Should Attend:** All County, City and Village Floodplain Managers  
All County, City and Village officials who have an interest in Floodplain Management  
Anyone with an interest in Floodplain Management

RSVP to:

**Nebraska Floodplain & Stormwater  
Managers Association**

Attn: Jesse Poore, CFM  
315 S. 9th St., Suite 201  
Lincoln, NE 68508

You may still register at the door!

## **CHAIR'S COLUMN** by Laurie Carrette Zook

Where has the year gone! At the beginning of the year the NeFSMA Board set forth several goals for 2009: 1) increase membership, 2) update the NeFSMA website, 3) establish a travel stipend for members or students participating in national level conferences, 4) pursuing membership as an chapter of the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) and 5) provide additional educational opportunities. I am pleased to report that NeFSMA has grown in numbers this year and we now have over 21 organizations and over 150 members (voting and non-voting). In early 2009, we sent membership letters to all of the floodplain managers in Nebraska and we also extended a special membership invitation to Nebraska certified floodplain members (CFM).

Revisions to the NeFSMA website ([www.nefsma.net](http://www.nefsma.net)) are underway. The web pages will be revised to create a more user friendly site.

Over the years the Board has discussed scholarship opportunities. In the 2009 budget, \$1,000 was set aside to encourage presentations by members or students of their activities and projects in Nebraska at the National level such as the Annual ASFPM or StormCon Conference. Up to \$500 is available per applicant. The stipend recipient's abstract will be published in a future NeFSMA newsletter and a short presentation at a quarterly meeting is expected. Look for the application at [www.nefsma.net](http://www.nefsma.net).

On July 31th, NeFSMA will team with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources in its inaugural floodplain manager's conference. This conference will provide an educational opportunity both to floodplain managers across the state and to members of NeFSMA. If you have not registered, please go to [www.nefsma.net](http://www.nefsma.net) for more details.

ASFPM is a national organization of professionals involved in floodplain management, flood hazard mitigation, the National Flood Insurance Program, and flood preparedness, warning and recovery. ASFPM supports chapters who are also interested in floodplain management. When NeFSMA was formed in 2001, the goal was to one day become a chapter of ASFPM. Membership benefits include access to ASFPM newsletters, CFM program, training support and workshop support. The Board is preparing the necessary paperwork to achieve chapter status.

Our next NeFSMA meeting is scheduled for September 9th in Omaha where we will be touring several low impact development projects. Possible sites include a green roof, rain gardens and infiltration basins. The details are under development, so look for more information soon.

The final meeting of the year is scheduled in November in Columbus. This is planned to be a full day of activities beginning with a general presentation on the levee certification program, followed by the annual meeting and concluding with concurrent levee and stormwater focused sessions. More details will follow.

As always, if you have any suggestions or comments on what NeFSMA can or should do, please contact any of the board members. We want to hear from you.

## **Feb 24, 2009 NeFSMA State Grant Allocation Meeting in Fremont, Nebraska** by Rock Krzycki

The 1<sup>st</sup> quarterly NeFSMA meeting of 2009 was held in Fremont on February 24<sup>th</sup>. Cities or counties who received grant funding from a state allocation (LB1226) were invited to share information regarding ways they used the funds for various aspects of their federally mandated NPDES stormwater programs. Mary Schroer from the State of Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality gave an overview of the LB1226 grant program. Stormwater/City managers from Columbus, Douglas County, Grand Island, Lincoln, Omaha, Kearney, LaVista, and South Sioux City presented information regarding how each utilized its state grant allotment. Municipalities were awarded grants of varying amounts based on their population. Several of the "Phase II" communities consolidated their efforts to form "H2O Nebraska", "a Nebraska Stormwater Cooperative to educate the public on the importance of keeping Nebraska waterways pollutant-free". By combining their funding in this way they were able to create a website that provides resources for nine communities. H2O offers stormwater reporting, public education resources, and contact information for each participating community. H2O public education uses for the grant funding included: the creation of billboards with water quality messages, TV public service announcements, GPS locators on city street sweepers (so persons could see what streets have been swept), giveaway items with

water quality messages, and the creation of a water quality mascot.

Several of the communities initiated public participation efforts which included: water quality events for school age kids and for the general public, and rain barrel and rain garden classes. Lincoln implemented a rain barrel art contest to raise awareness, and funding for kids to attend a day camp. Larger cities or "Phase I" communities such as Omaha and Lincoln were allocated larger grant amounts and were able to use those funds for: larger water quality construction projects, items such as a recycling pavement cleaner/sweeper, additional staff for erosion and sediment control enforcement, installation of 20 residential rain gardens, promote the use of no/low phosphorous fertilizer by giving away 1,000 bags of the product, and conducting water quality monitoring.

The meeting was attended by 45 professionals and it was noted by several attendees that "the information shared at the meeting will be helpful in implementing their stormwater programs in the upcoming fiscal year".

### **ASFPM points with pride to many projects and activities . . .**

1. We promote flood mitigation policies, such as No Adverse Impact Floodplain Management, to reverse the trend of ever increasing flood damages.
2. We operate a nationwide program to certify floodplain managers, with an aggressive continuing education element.
3. We conduct technical conferences to bring together practitioners on a variety of "cutting edge" topical issues.
4. We publish proceedings from our conferences to shape and document the landscape of floodplain management programs and policies with state-of-the-art thinking.
5. We worked with USAID to develop a post-Hurricane Mitch alert and warning system in strategic areas of watersheds in Honduras, and have provided advice on flooding to other nations.
6. We helped establish the "Community Rating System" as a means to reward communities for sound floodplain management and continue to assist in its operation and refinement.
7. We develop papers and reports analyzing national policy, with recommendations for modifications and enhancements which foster

more effective flood mitigation implementation at the local level.

8. We address topical issues pertinent to flood hazards - arid region issues such as sedimentation and alluvial fan flooding, coastal hazards, ice jams, closed lake basins, etc.
9. We confer annual national awards to recognize and encourage exemplary achievements in floodplain management.
10. We established the ASFPM Foundation to attract and direct funds to projects vital to broadening the base of informed agencies, organizations and people who impact decisions affecting floodplains.

### **ARE YOU A CERTIFIED FLOODPLAIN MANAGER (CFM)?** by Paul Woodward, P.E., CFM

The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources is a supporter of the Association of State Floodplain Managers. A part of that support includes encouraging individuals that work in fields related to floodplain management to train and test to become Certified Floodplain Managers (CFMs). NDNR, upon request, will schedule and proctor exams for individuals seeking this certification. A review session can be provided prior to taking the exam.

The ASFPM website, <http://www.floods.org> provides access to a study manual, in PDF format, covering the material that will be included in the exam. Applicants must schedule with and pay fees to ASFPM to take this exam. Please coordinate your interest in taking the exam with NDNR, to ensure that proctoring of the exam can be scheduled. In the past, the exam has been coordinated so several individuals can take the exam at one time. NDNR, upon request, will provide a CD copy of the training material. Contact Bill Jones at 402-471-3932 or [bjones@dnr.ne.gov](mailto:bjones@dnr.ne.gov)

### **NeFSMA BOOTH AND SPEAKERS AVAILABLE**

NeFSMA has professionals available to attend local Nebraska conferences. Our mission is to provide local leaders and professionals with education about floodplain and stormwater management. If you or anyone you know are interested in having a representative of NeFSMA give a presentation or distribute information at a conference booth please contact Rock Krzycki at [RKrzycki@ci.lincoln.ne.us](mailto:RKrzycki@ci.lincoln.ne.us) or call (402) 441-4959.



# “Protecting Our Communities”



## Nebraska Department of Natural Resources and Nebraska Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association Present the First Conference for Nebraska Floodplain Managers

*Register now for Nebraska's first conference designed specifically for the state's Floodplain Managers.*

**Friday, July 31, 2009**  
**8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Nebraska State Office Building  
Lower Level  
301 Centennial Mall South  
Lincoln, Nebraska

**Registration: \$10** (includes lunch)

### Program Highlights:

- \*\* Keynote Address by [Nicole Fleck-Tooze](#), Public Works Special Project Administrator, Watershed Management, City of Lincoln
- \*\* [Floodplain Management 101](#) with Bill Jones, Floodplain Management Specialist, NDNR
- \*\* [Flood Insurance Basics and the NFIP](#) with Dean M. Ownby, Insurance Program Specialist, FEMA Region VII
- \*\* [Emergency Management for Floodplain Managers](#) with Cindy Newsham, Response and Recovery Division Manager, Nebraska Emergency Management Agency



**\*\*\* Earn CFM Credits \*\*\***

- \*\* [Hydrology and Hydraulics for the Non-engineer](#) with Shuhai Zheng, Floodplain Management Section Chief, NDNR
- \*\* [Structural and Non-structural Options for Reducing Flood Losses](#) with Steve McMaster, Natural Resources Planner Coordinator, NDNR
- \*\* [FEMA Elevation Certificate Workshop](#) with Dean M. Ownby, Insurance Program Specialist, FEMA Region VII

**Who Should Attend:**  
**All County, City and Village Floodplain Managers**  
**All County, City and Village officials who have an interest in Floodplain Management**  
**Anyone with an interest in Floodplain Management**

# Registration Form

**You may register at the door!**



You may fill out this form and mail it with your \$10 registration fee to:

**Nebraska Floodplain & Stormwater Managers Association**

*Attn: Jesse Poore, CFM  
315 S. 9<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 201  
Lincoln, NE 68508*

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NeFSMA**

Please copy this form if more than one person would like to attend, and send a separate form for each individual.

Or: You can go directly to NDNR's Floodplain Management website (<http://dnr.ne.gov/floodplain/floodplain.html>) and complete the form there. We request that each individual attending fill out a separate form. Checks must still be sent directly to NeFSMA.

**I would like the vegetarian lunch (also included in the \$10 registration fee).**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Position/Title** \_\_\_\_\_

**Community or County** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_



## Protecting Our Communities



**Friday, July 31, 2009  
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

**Nebraska State Office Building  
Lower Level  
301 Centennial Mall South  
Lincoln, Nebraska**