

Technical Bulletin 2 – Flood Damage-Resistant Materials Requirements Updated

In January 2025 FEMA released updates to its Technical Bulletin 2: Flood Damage-Resistant Materials Requirements. Technical Bulletin 2, which was last updated in 2008, provides guidance on what is considered to be a material that is resistant to flood damage. The guidance covers how and when these materials must be used in a building to withstand the impacts of flooding.

The FEMA technical guidance documents are an important tool for every floodplain manager. You can download these documents from FEMA’s website and save them to your desktop for easy reference: [National Flood Insurance Technical Bulletins | FEMA.gov](#)

DNR Floodplain Management Webinars

There are two more webinars scheduled for this Spring training series, registration is required but will be open through the day of the webinar!

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March 25: 11:30-12:30 Introduction to the Updated State Model Ordinance - registration link: <https://illinois.webex.com/weblink/register/re68b3f5d9c02e672262bda7f38fd3efd>

April 22: 11:30-12:30 Map Changes – Introduction to the Map Changes Process – registration link: <https://illinois.webex.com/weblink/register/rd712cfc60210787c73ff5599810f07e0>

Department of Natural Resources Adopts Emergency Rule for Management of State Owned Property

The Department of Natural Resources filed an Emergency Rule (effective immediately) and an identical proposed rule (which is going through the regular rulemaking process) on January 30, 2025 to implement the new State requirements for development activity on State owned property. This rule, Floodplain Development Requirements for State Owned Properties – 17 Ill. Adm. Code 3710, requires all development activity in the floodplain on State owned property be managed and permitted in compliance with NFIP standards. You can find the rule on the Department’s web site: [Administrative Rules \(Proposed\)](#)

The Department is taking comments on the proposed rulemaking. please forward any substantive comments regarding the rules in writing to:

John Fischer, Legal Counsel Department of Natural Resources One Natural Resources Way Springfield IL 62702-1271, Email: dnr.rules@illinois.gov

US Department of Housing and Urban Development Issues Temporary Partial Waiver for their Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) Policy

On February 20, 2025, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued a temporary and partial waiver for the enhanced freeboard requirements of their rule, Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands; Minimum Property Standards for Flood Hazard Exposure; Building to the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (published in the Federal Register on April 23, 2024). This waiver impacts the portion of the rule that required the lowest floor in newly constructed structures (built with HUD funds) that is located within the 1- percent-annual-chance (100-year) floodplain be built at least two feet above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE).

The partial waiver removes the two-foot freeboard requirement only for federal requirements, local ordinances may still include a freeboard standard and communities should continue to follow their adopted ordinance.

Bulletin 76 - Projected Precipitation Frequency for Illinois Published

Bulletin 76 - Projected Precipitation Frequency for Illinois, which outlines Illinois regional precipitation projections for years 2050, 2075 and 2100, has been published and is available now. According to the 2023 National Climate Assessment, modeling projections suggest that not only has heavy rainfall increased, but it is also expected to continue rising in the future (USGCRP, 2023). This increase is especially noticeable in the Northeast and Midwest, including Illinois. In changing climate, relying on current precipitation frequencies for designing long-term infrastructure is becoming progressively unsustainable. What is considered safe and adequate today may not hold true in the future.

The Precipitation Frequency Study for Illinois (Bulletin 75, 2020) provided updated precipitation frequencies throughout Illinois for a range of event durations and for a variety of recurrence intervals. While Bulletin 75 accounts for increased rainfall in recent years, the analysis relies on historical rainfall events, so it does not account for the increases projected in the future due to climate change. As recommended in Bulletin 75 and the IL State Water Plan (2022), The Department of Natural Resources' Office of Water Resources and the Illinois State Water Survey have collaborated to develop a recently published guide to provide appropriate rainfall data for today's models and designs to be able to withstand future impacts. Illinois is one of the first states to develop rainfall predictions to incorporate climate change impacts.

Download Bulletin 76 from the State Water Survey's site: <https://www.ideals.illinois.edu/items/132431>

Job Postings with the Department of Natural Resources' Office of Water Resources

The Office of Water Resources has the following three positions posted and we are looking for candidates, please spread the word if you know of people looking for an exciting new opportunity to work in an important field!

Stream Restoration Engineer - This position will complete complex engineering assignments involving the hydraulics of reservoir systems, hydraulics of a channel modification, determination of

recreational demand, economics (benefits and costs) associated with water resource projects and watershed hydrology. This position will deliver written and oral presentations of engineering studies to supervisors and other interested parties in such a manner as to clearly identify all ramifications and aspects of projects.

More information and application process: [Stream Restoration Manager Job Details | State of Illinois](#)

Natural Resources Manager - This position will administer, coordinate and evaluate the Illinois Coastal Management Program; direct and oversee successful completion of reporting requirements for federal grants received; manage the Coastal pass-through grants program; supervise and mentor program staff; and advance coastal initiatives dedicated to Lake Michigan and Great Lakes protection, restoration and recreation.

More information and application process: [NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGER II Job Details | State of Illinois](#)

Design Engineer - This position will design all types of water resources projects, review shop plans and contract submittals, travel throughout the state, arrange and conduct meetings with local, State and Federal officials for the presentation and review of water resource plans and reports and develop relationships with all contacts within and outside of the Department of Natural Resources to facilitate the development of projects.

More information and application process: [Design Engineer Job Details | State of Illinois](#)

Illinois Emergency Management Agency Training Opportunity

The Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) is offering a Weather Workshop training for Public Information Officers. With an increase in severe weather, Emergency Management Professionals and Public Safety leaders work closely with all National Weather Service Offices. Critical messaging with timely accurate information is crucial in providing the right information, at the right time, to the right people, so they can make good decisions for the safety of their constituents and communities. The National Response Framework (NRF) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS) devote significant attention to the importance of emergency public information. Public Information Officers (PIOs) are key members of Incident Command System (ICS) and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) organizations, and work closely with officials who are a part of Multiagency Coordination Groups (MAC). The collaboration of effort in preparedness, response, and recovery is a fundamental component that will increase any community's resilience efforts.

The IEMA training will be held on Thursday April 3rd, 2025 from 13:00 – 15:30 in Romeoville. You can register for this workshop by emailing the IEMA PIO, Kevin Sur, at Kevin.Sur@illinois.gov

Space is limited so reach out as soon as possible if you are interested in this training!

Statewide Contact for Floodplain Management Questions

If you have questions please direct them to Erin Conley, State Floodplain Manager, Erin.C.Conley@illinois.gov. The Northeastern Illinois Floodplain Manager position is currently vacant.