

What is Flooding in Iowa?

Flooding in Iowa is a series of short videos, 6 - 12 minutes in duration, that address five broad topics:

(1) understanding flooding and its causes, (2) the history and purpose of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), (3) how floodplains are identified and mapped, (4) how floodplains are regulated, and (5) the basics of flood insurance. The videos are intended for viewers without specialized experience in floodplain management, engineering, law, hydrology, or the NFIP.

Who should watch these videos?

Elected and appointed officials who have the primary responsibility for adopting and enforcing floodplain management regulations need to understand how their efforts can dramatically reduce losses resulting from flood events.

Property owners and developers who make decisions about where and how to build, and what types and levels of insurance coverage they need, must appreciate the risks associated with developing in and near floodplains.

Everyone should be informed about the issues associated with flooding and flood loss prevention. Issues such as flooding, flood risk reduction, and floodplain management affect more than just people in the floodplain.

What will you learn?

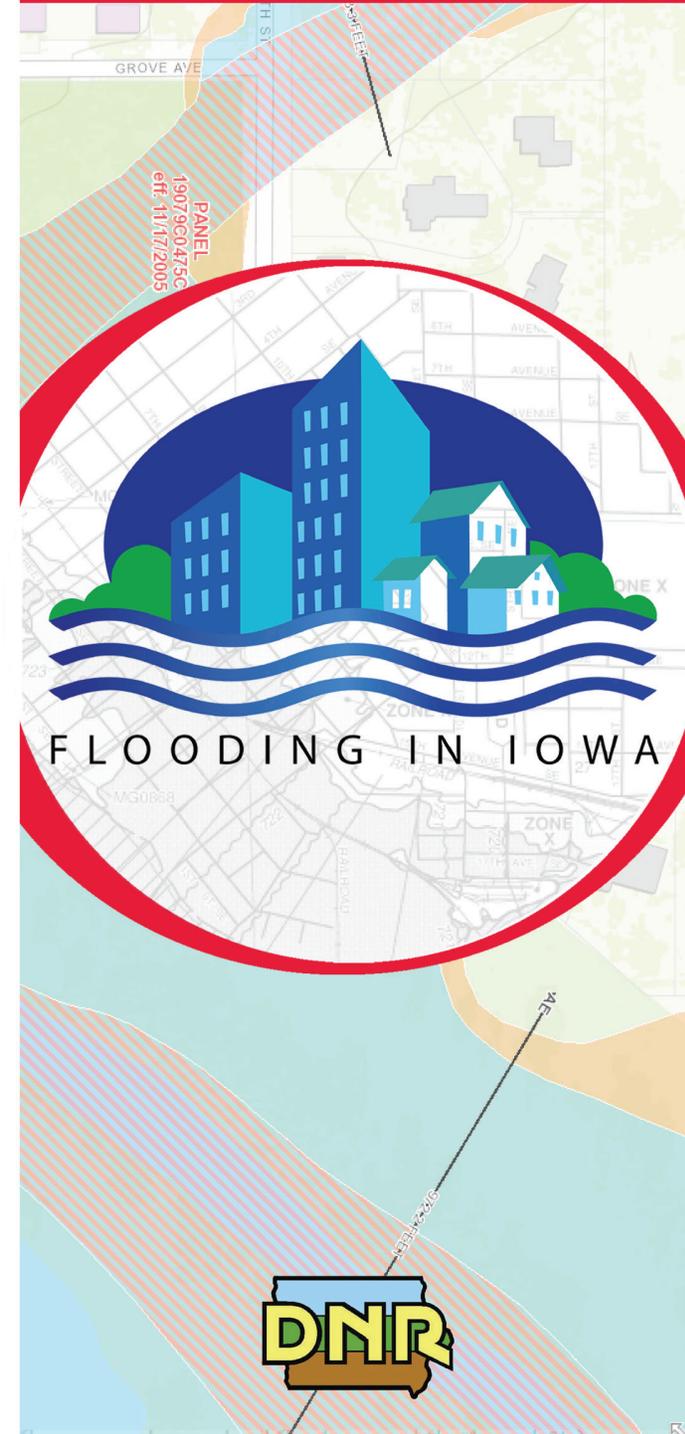
The questions presented on the inside of this brochure are just a few of the topics covered in the Flooding in Iowa videos. Viewers will learn valuable information about basic flood terminology, the many causes of flooding, the roles of federal, state and local governments in floodplain management, how flood maps are made, how flood insurance works, and many other topics.

Where do I find the Flooding in Iowa videos?

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/floodinginiowa>.

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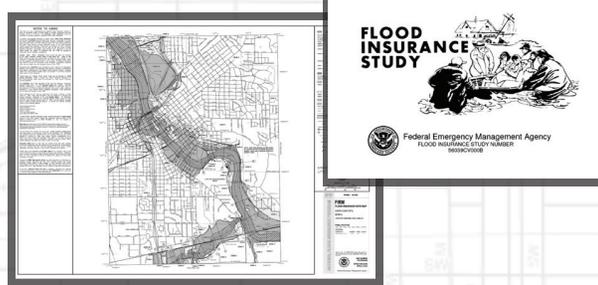
FLOODING IN IOWA

Flooding and Natural Systems



What is the National Flood Insurance Program? • What are the goals of the NFIP? • What are the benefits of joining the NFIP? • How does a community join the NFIP? • What are a community's responsibilities under the NFIP? • How are watersheds and floodplains identified? • What factors influence the timing, volume and duration of flooding?

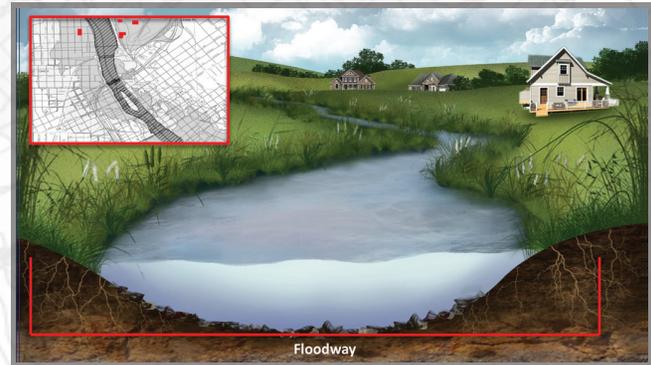
Floodplain Mapping



How are floodprone areas studied? • What are the limitations of flood studies? • How do you identify features on a FIRM? • Which flood zones are commonly found on the FIRMs of Iowa communities? • Why might FIRMs need to be changed? • What are the procedures for changing FIRMs? • What is the documentation you need to request a map change? • What are FIRMettes? What are other map-finding tools?

www.extension.iastate.edu/floodinginiowa

A series of web-based videos to educate local officials and the general public about floodplains, flood risks, and basic floodplain management principles.



Floodplain Regulation



What are the goals of floodplain regulations? What is "development" under the NFIP? • How are floodplains regulated by federal, state and local governments? • What can be built in the floodway and floodway fringe? • What is a variance? When can a local community grant a variance? • What is "freeboard"? • How do you define "substantial improvements" to buildings in the floodplain?

Topic Areas Include

- National Flood Insurance Program
- Flooding and Natural Systems
- Floodplain Mapping
- Floodplain Regulation
- Flood Insurance



A national program administered under the Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration (FIMA), a component of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The NFIP has three components: flood insurance, floodplain management, and flood hazard mapping.

Flood Insurance



Who is required to purchase flood insurance? • Is flood insurance purchased directly from FEMA? • What is the maximum amount of coverage under a flood insurance policy? • Will insurance cover personal belongings in a basement? • Is assistance available for properties with multiple flood loss claims? • What is the Community Rating System?