Elevating the CT Shoreline: The Race to the Top!

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State of CT Floodplain Management Program
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Overview

- Where
- Why
- How
- Points of Consideration
• > 250 miles of shoreline
• Population < 3.6 million
WHY?
The Reasons

- Back to Back Storms
- Substantial Damage
- Coastal Re-studies and New DFIRMs
- BW-12
- SRL Letters
- Wild Card Reason
Tropical Storm Irene

August 28, 2011
DR-4023
Superstorm Sandy

October 29, 2012
DR-4087
Coastal Re-Studies/ New DFIRMs
IMPORTANT FLOOD INSURANCE POLICY INFORMATION

Dear Policyholder:

As you may be aware, your property, which is covered by flood insurance, has experienced repetitive flood losses under FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). This letter is to inform you that your property meets the criteria for a subset of repetitive loss structures: insured properties with a high frequency of losses or a high value of claims. These properties are designated as Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) properties.

Congress recognized that SRL properties represent the greatest risk of sustaining repeated flood losses and, through the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2014, made it a high priority to reduce the number of SRL properties nationwide. As of January 2015, FEMA has identified approximately 11,900 properties that meet the designation for SRL. The characteristics of an SRL property must meet one of the following criteria based on paid flood losses since 1978, regardless of ownership:

1. Four or more separate claim payments of more than $5,000 each. Building and/or contents payment, or
2. Two or more separate claim payments (building payments only) where the total of the payments exceeds the current value of the property.

In either case, two of the claim payments must have occurred within 10 years of each other. If there are multiple losses at the same location within 10 days of each other, they are counted as one loss, with the payment amounts added collectively.

The strategy for reducing the number of SRL properties is twofold. First, the NFIP has centralized the processing of all flood insurance policies for SRL properties in order for FEMA to obtain additional underwriting information, verify loss information, and collect information about the flood risk to the SRL properties. Second, FEMA implements the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant program annually to mitigate SRL properties. You need to be aware of the following:

- The Write Your Own (WYO) Insurance Companies that sell and service flood insurance under the NFIP will assign flood insurance policies for SRL properties, upon renewal, to a centralized processing center operated by the NFIP Servicing Agent. This center is the Special Direct Facility (SDF).

As a result, your policy will not be processed by your chosen WYO Company or by the traditional NFIP Direct Program. Your agent, however, will continue to be the agent of record throughout the process.

Approximately 45 days prior to the renewal date of your policy, you will receive a premium bill from the NFIP Servicing Agent. This bill is the only bill that you should pay.

For the time being, the SDF will be the only source of NFIP flood insurance coverage for your property. As always, the full premium amount and any related fees should be paid by the date indicated. The policy sent to you will meet all the requirements of any mortgage company to the same extent as your current policy.

You may continue to contact your agent directly for any service needs on the policy because he or she will remain the agent of record.

The NFIP provides a procedure for you to follow if you believe that FEMA has incorrectly included your insured property on its list of SRL properties.

The FMA Program was authorized by the National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 and amended by the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012. The FMA Program may provide Federal grant funds to pay for up to 30% percent of the cost of eligible mitigation activities, such as elevating your NFIP-insured structure. Mitigated properties may qualify for reduced flood insurance rates. To obtain additional information on the FMA Program and other mitigation grant programs for residential and nonresidential properties, please contact your local floodplain manager or state hazard mitigation officer, or go to the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance webpage at www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance.

FEMA's goal is to reduce the devastating effects of repetitive flood losses. If you have questions about this letter and the SRL procedures, please contact the NFIP Help Center by telephone at the toll-free number 1-866-385-7466.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
David L. Melker
Assistant Administrator
Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration
Wild Card

- Climate Change
- Personal Responsibility
- Home Value
- Etc.
How?

- Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC)
- Grant Funding
- Private Funding
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-DR)
- Shoreline Resiliency Fund (coming soon!)
Points of Consideration

- Access
  - Disability
  - Roadways
- Perception of Risk
  - I will be completely safe
  - I will not need to evacuate
Perception of Risk
- I will be completely safe
- I will not need to evacuate

VE zones vs. AE zones
What do you want your community to look like?
Thank You

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