What’s Happening around the World?

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**Texas**—The key takeaway from the latest Atlas 14 is, in the Houston area, a rainstorm that had a 1 in 100 chance of occurring in a given year now has a 1 in 25 chance of happening. Read, “[How flood control officials plan to fix area floodplain maps](#).”

**Maryland**—The Naval Academy will raise one of its walls to combat sea level rise up to 3 feet in three decades, an environmental threat the institution shares with neighboring downtown Annapolis. [Read the article here](#).

Jon Weinstein, former Ellicott City councilman, said, “Every drop of water that falls in this watershed converges at this point and is constricted. It goes where it wants to go, combination of climate change, upstream development and just simply the way the town is built.” Read, “[To save its future, will this Md. Town have to destroy its historic business district?](#)"

**California**—The work, much of it conducted by the California Conservation Corps, comes as the state overhauls its approach toward flood control, with a growing emphasis on reconnecting floodplains to rivers so they can absorb floodwaters. This shift in methodology marks a U-turn from past reliance on levees to protect cities and towns. Read, “[Let it flow.](#)"

**Virginia**—A FEMA grant program administered by Virginia Beach to raise flood-prone properties has faced inflated contractor bids and lawsuits from unhappy homeowners. Despite setbacks, the city has worked with FEMA to resurrect the program and bring financial — and emotional — relief to the homeowners involved. [Read the article here](#).

**Mississippi**—Rising sea levels have [cost home values over $263 million in Mississippi](#) with the hardest hit areas located along the Gulf Coast – including Bay St. Louis, Pass Christian, Kiln and several other nearby towns and cities.

**Australia**—Designing with “making room for water” in mind. Read, “[Design for flooding: how cities can make room for water](#)” by *The Conversation*.

**The World**—Some of you may know Paul "Oz" Osman, ASFPM member and Illinois’ state floodplain manager. What you may not know is that he has a brilliant son, Matt Osman, who has co-authored a terrifying study on climate change, which is being picked up by every major news outlet in the world! Read CNN’s “[Melting of Greenland’s ice is ‘off the charts,’ study shows.](#)"