



## **NeFSMA** **Helping Protect the Good Life**

### 2018 Newsletter Volume 1

#### **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR**

NeFSMA Members,

Thank you for your continued dedication to floodplain and stormwater management in Nebraska! We are rapidly approaching what will be NeFSMA's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on July 19<sup>th</sup> in Kearney. We've come a long way since the first annual conference – all of you that attended that probably remember having pizza in the basement of the State Office Building in Lincoln as part of that event. Even though our venues and programming have changed over the years, we continue to focus on our core mission – providing education and collaboration opportunities for floodplain and stormwater management professionals.

This year we have lined up a range of speakers on topics covering all the bases. Also included in our planned activities are a hydrology workshop, stormwater field tour, and some recreation opportunities including a kayak tour and disc golf. Of course, we'll also have an evening social at the Younes Conference Center in Kearney the night before the conference. Sign-up/registration for all events is available now!

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the other members of the NeFSMA Board of Directors for their continued efforts to ensure that NeFSMA continues to be a leader in floodplain and stormwater management. This organization would not be what it is without everyone's efforts!

Looking forward to seeing you all at our upcoming Kearney event!

John Callen  
Chair, NeFSMA



## **10<sup>th</sup> Annual NeFSMA Conference** ***Nebraska's Water: Management at the Local Level***

Join us for our 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and associated events!

Our 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference will be held July 19<sup>st</sup>, 2018 in Kearney.  
Pre-approved CECs will be available for Certified Floodplain Managers.

The conference will be held at the Younes Conference Center (<http://www.younes.com/>)

One the evening of July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 there will be a hospitality reception at the conference center. It is a great chance to catch up with other members and network with Nebraska's floodplain and stormwater professionals.

You can contact Fairfield Inn and Suites at (308) 236-4200 to take advantage of the special NeFSMA room rate if you plan to stay overnight. Just ask for the NeFSMA group rate!

**Get more details including the agenda [here](#).**

Registration:

Members - \$100

Non Members - \$135

### **Kearney Stormwater Tour**

NeFSMA will be sponsoring a tour of three green infrastructure sites in Kearney, Nebraska the day before the NeFSMA Annual Conference. The tour will not only highlight green infrastructure projects but show how green infrastructure can be incorporated into educational and sustainability programs. Transportation will be provided as well as refreshments and snacks.

The tour will depart from the Fairfield Inn and Suites. Registration is \$30.

[Click here for more details.](#) CECs will be available for CFMs.

## **Kearney Kayak Tour**

Have you ever wanted to see a stormwater outfall up close and personal? If the answer is yes, you're in luck!

On July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (just one day before our 10th Annual Conference) you can join NeFSMA in a kayak tour of Kearney Canal. This canal is a major drainage way in Kearney. The NPPD Tailrace joins with Turkey Creek which is the beginning of the North Channel of the Platte River.

On the tour, you will see clean-up efforts undertaken by the Kearney Whitewater Association and much of Kearney's stormwater system. The tour will start at 6:00 pm on July 18, 2018 and take about 1.5 hours. No kayak experience is needed. The cost of the tour is \$30 per person and space is limited to the first 30 people who register.

Click [here](#) to register or get more information on the tour.

## **Hydrology Workshop**

Please join us for a free workshop on Hydrology from 9:00am to noon on July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at the Central Community College in Kearney. This workshop will cover the most common methods of calculating stream flow values for flood studies used by floodplain administrators and engineers for floodplain management. The content of the course is designed to be approachable to local floodplain managers as well as insightful for engineers. Registration is required and limited to 40 individuals. Information for this workshop is available [here](#).

## **Disc Golf – Cottonmill Park – The “Pre-Social” Social**

If you are a disc golfer (Frisbee golf) and would like to play one of the premier disc golf course in Nebraska please join Chuck Chase, Outreach Coordinator, Floodplain Management Section, NeDNR, for 9 (maybe more) holes of golf at Cottonmill Park Disc Golf Course. There is no charge, you just need to bring your own discs or we will find a partner who will lend you a disc to play the course. After you are done playing disc golf, there is plenty of time to get back to the NeFSMA social at the Younes Conference Center which will go from 7:00 to 11:00pm that evening. Get more information by clicking [here](#).



## CFM Study Session and Test

July 18: 8:30am to 12:00pm (Study Session); 1:30pm to 4:30pm (Test)

Central Community College - Kearney

1215 30<sup>th</sup> Ave Kearney, NE 68845

To apply go to the Exam section on the Certification Program link of [www.floods.org](http://www.floods.org) (ASFPM). Applications must be submitted by two weeks prior to the exam.

### \*SPECIAL NOTE ON CFM EXAM\*

To help you better prepare for the CFM Exam, the ASFPM Certification Board of Regents just released a study guide that explains recommended prerequisites, what to expect on exam day, links to all technical references backing up each exam question, and supplemental study materials including videos and online tutorials. Visit this information on the [ASFPM website \(click here\)](#).

## Additional Training and Education Opportunities

### *General NFIP For Insurance Agents*

June 19: 1:00pm to 4:00pm

Papio-Missouri River NRD

Omaha, NE

Contact [christopher.parsons@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:christopher.parsons@fema.dhs.gov) to register

### *Basic Floodplain Management and Violations & Enforcement*

July 12: 8:30am to 4:30pm

Prairie Winds Community Center

Bridgeport, NE

Contact [region21clerk@cheyennecounty.net](mailto:region21clerk@cheyennecounty.net) to register

### *FEMA Floodplain Management Seminar*

August 8: 8:30am to 5:00pm

Union College – Ortner Center

Lincoln, NE

Contact [brian.dixon@nebraska.gov](mailto:brian.dixon@nebraska.gov) to register

## **Stormwater Magazine**

Carrie Romero, P.E., CFM

Recently, during a lunch and learn event in my office, I was informed of a publication that I instantly thought our NeFSMA membership might find of interest. As they advertise on their website,

“Stormwater is the Journal for Surface Water Quality Professionals. If you’re in stormwater, this is your magazine. Each issue, each article...is put there specifically to meet your professional needs. We don’t write for all engineers, every municipal official, all contractors, or the entire environmental industry— just those with specific surface water quality responsibilities. “

You can get a free subscription to Stormwater magazine by visiting Forester Magazines at

<https://foresternetwork.com/magazines/stormwater/>

## **TWEETER? Follow NeFSMA on Twitter!**

We are @NeFSMA on twitter. It is a great place to share information and see what is going on in Nebraska floodplain and stormwater management.

## **USGS Publishes Bulletin 17C, “Guidelines for Determining Flood Flow Frequency”**

ASFPM

Accurate estimates of flood frequency and magnitude are a key component of any effective nationwide flood risk management and flood damage abatement program. In addition to accuracy, methods for estimating flood risk must be uniformly and consistently applied because management of the nation’s water and related land resources is a collaborative effort involving multiple actors, including most levels of government and the private sector. [Bulletin 17C’s Chapter B5 of book 4 \(TM 4-B5\)](#) deals with flood flow frequency analysis at gaged sites using the Expected Moments Algorithm. The use of extreme flood data represented by interval and censored data types, including historical, paleoflood and botanical evidence, is emphasized.

## **Meet Ryan Joe of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality**

Ryan Joe is the new Stormwater Coordinator for the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ), Water Permit Division. He started this position in January 2018 and is the coordinator for the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) and Construction Stormwater programs. Ryan is from Illinois originally, and received his bachelor’s degree in Biology from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and his master’s degree in Biology from the University of Illinois in Springfield. Prior to his position at NDEQ, Ryan worked with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) as an Environmental Analyst, where he did work with threatened and endangered species. Ryan and his wife Kelli live in Lincoln, and they are expecting their first child in August. Ryan can be reached at [ryan.joe@nebraska.gov](mailto:ryan.joe@nebraska.gov) or 402-471-8330.

## 2018 NeFSMA Photo Contest

We would like to continue to compile a calendar yearly by holding an annual photo contest. We're looking for the best pictures you can send of your projects. No project is too small, no flood too large. We want to see Nebraska and our members at their finest!

At the end of the year, we will choose the best photos to feature in a wall calendar to be available at our Annual Membership meeting in November. Photos can be sent to [nefsma@hotmail.com](mailto:nefsma@hotmail.com) throughout the year. If you submit a photo, please provide a brief description of the subject, the names and professional affiliations of any persons in the photo, and the name and affiliations of the person who took the photo.

We are excited to see what our members are doing this year!



Flooding along Antelope Creek, Lincoln, Nebraska 2015

## **FloodSmart.gov is back**

Reprinted from [www.floods.org](http://www.floods.org)

For many years, FEMA's FloodSmart.gov was an important resource on flood insurance information for residents, business owners, floodplain managers and others. While FEMA ended the national marketing campaign (FloodSmart) as of October 2016, they kept up the [www.FloodSmart.gov](http://www.FloodSmart.gov) and [www.Agents.FloodSmart.gov](http://www.Agents.FloodSmart.gov) website. Unfortunately, due to a security breach, they had to turn off access to the website and visitors were directed to [www.FEMA.gov/NFIP](http://www.FEMA.gov/NFIP).

FEMA recently re-introduced FloodSmart.gov with a new look and feel. Here's what they had to say:

*The new site takes the best from the interim FEMA.gov site, combined with internal and social science research, website usage research, as well as government regulations and best practices to develop an entirely new, streamlined and customer-centric FloodSmart.gov.*

*The new site is:*

- Modern, Streamlined, Mobile-friendly;
- Customer-centric and follows customer entry-points and journeys;
- Stronger focus on information customers need at various points including purchase and claims;
- Calmer with colors, fonts, and messaging that research shows encourages people to stay longer and learn more.

*Next Steps:*

*The FloodSmart.gov team is already at work on more enhancements to FloodSmart.gov, which will include:*

- Agents toolkits
- Agents social media assets
- Agents marketing tools
- Map change toolkits
- Campaign-related landing pages

*Some tools from the old FloodSmart.gov have been removed. This was necessary because the old tools no longer met functionality or data security regulations. We're working on bringing even more functional tools to the site soon.*

*As new ideas are generated and developed, we will release those in an agile manner to constantly keep the site fresh, updated and enhanced. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Butch Kinerney ([eugene.kinerney@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:eugene.kinerney@fema.dhs.gov)).*

## Editor's Picks

Articles that may be of interest to the NeFSMA membership

[Wet Land Needs Wetlands](#)

[The concept of a thousand-year rainstorm is legitimate but limited.](#)

[Designed to Fail: How Green Infrastructure Standards Create Conditions for Failed Plantings](#)

## 2017 Membership Meeting

NeFSMA again had our membership meeting at the Strategic Air and Space Museum on November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Each year we hold this event to provide CECs to CFMs and allow our membership to network and learn from each other. The program this year included our own Kellan Strauch speaking in the morning on his experiences with the USGS in responding to and documenting the historic flooding in Houston, Texas in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey. The morning session also included a panel discussion on managing floodplains and communicating flood risk in Nebraska. The afternoon session was broken out into two tracks - one for storm water management and one for floodplain management. Breakfast, lunch, and museum admission was included for all attendees.



## 2018 NeFSMA BOARD MEMBERS

### Officers

**Chair:** John Callen, P.E., CFM, [jcallen@jeo.com](mailto:jcallen@jeo.com)

**Vice Chair:** Lori Laster, P.E., CFM, [llaster@pacionrd.org](mailto:llaster@pacionrd.org)

**Second Vice Chair:** Nate Hartman, REHS, QCIS, QPSWPPP [nhartman@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:nhartman@lincoln.ne.gov)

**Secretary:** Carrie Romero, P.E., CFM, [cromero@olssonassociates.com](mailto:cromero@olssonassociates.com)

**Treasurer:** Paul Woodward, P.E., CFM, [pwoodward@pacionrd.org](mailto:pwoodward@pacionrd.org)

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