## Nebraska Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association



## First Quarter 2009 Newsletter

### 2009 NeFSMA BOARD MEMBERS

Chair: Laurie Carrette Zook, P.E., CFM laurie.carrette@hdrinc.com

Vice Chair: Rock Krzycki rkrzycki@lincoln.ne.gov

Second Vice Chair: John Cambridge, P. E., CFM john.cambridge@hdrinc.com

Secretary: Paul Gonzales, P.E., CFM pgonzales@schemmer.com

Treasurer: Jesse Poore Jesse.Poore@FHUENG.COM

At Large Board Members: Nate Hartman NHartman@lincoln.ne.gov

Emily Holtzclaw, P.E., CFM emily.holtzclaw@ch2m.com

> Visit NeFSMA on the web at: http://www.nefsma.net/



### 2009 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual dues for 2009 are being accepted. If you have not sent in your application form, please see the website at <u>www.nefsma.net</u> or contact Jesse Poore at (402) 438-7530. Annual dues are \$35 for individual and \$100 for corporate/organization memberships (allows 2 voting members) plus additional members that can serve as alternates.

### UPCOMING QUARTERLY MEETING

The first quarterly membership meeting for 2009 has been planned. The topic of discussion will be the use of LB1226 funds by NPDES Phase I and II municipalities to improve stormwater quality and educate the public on stormwater processes. Several municipalities will present information on how the funds were and will be expended during the first 2009 quarterly meeting in Fremont.

- **Topic:** Sharing information on LB1226 Stormwater Allocations for NPDES Phase I and II communities
- When: Tuesday, February 24, 2009
- Where: Christensen Field 1710 West Sixteenth Street (West Linden and Ridge Road) Fremont, NE 68025 (402) 727-2810 See attached map for general location.
- **Time:** Program 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with lunch served during the program.
- **Cost:** \$15.00 (Lunch included)

RSVP to Rock Krzycki at RKrzycki@ci.lincoln.ne.us or call (402) 441-4959 by **February 20th**.



### CHAIR'S COLUMN by Laurie Carrette Zook

At the 2008 Annual NeFSMA meeting, a new slate of officers was elected. We welcomed a new officer and said goodbye to another. Paul Gonzales joined the board as secretary and other board members moved into other positions. Lalit Jha completed his term on the NeFSMA Board, but I believe he will be back on the board again in the near future. I look forward to working with this energetic board. Thanks Lalit and welcome Paul!

In the past years, we have attempted to hold quarterly workshops on various stormwater and floodplain management issues. Last year we conducted a successful web cast workshop where our speaker was at her home in Virginia and we were in Lincoln. Web casting not only saves on travel expenses and reduces our carbon footprint, but increases our ability to hear from national experts. We plan to look into web casting the NeFSMA workshops at several locations in the state, as a means to reach a larger part of our membership. If you have a lead on a topic, please contact Rock Krczycki at rkrzycki@lincoln.ne.gov.

Our first meeting of the year will feature multiple speakers representing NPDES Phase I and II communities. The Nebraska legislature authorized funds for urban cities and counties designated as NPDES Phases I and II communities for the implementation of its NPDES program. LB 1226 provided funds in 2008 and 2009. Come and hear how the monies were spent or planned to be The meeting will be spent. held at Christensen Field located at West Linden and Ridge Road in Fremont on February 24th Plan on attending the meeting and staying for lunch.

As always, if you have any suggestions or comments on what NeFSMA can or should do, please contact any of the board members. We want to hear from you. See you in Fremont!

### 2008 ANNUAL MEETING REVIEW

The 2008 Annual Meeting was held on October 29th, at the Lancaster County Health Department in Lincoln after a stormwater monitoring workshop.

Neely Law with The Center for Watershed Protection led a series of presentations on stormwater monitoring activities in the morning sessions. NDEQ presented information on connecting stormwater BMPs and total maximum daily loads. Dr. Dvorak, UNL, also presented some information on stormwater monitoring in the City of Lincoln.

Following the presentations, Ben Higgins, City of Lincoln, and Dave Russ, USGS, hosted a bus tour that included visits to stormwater monitoring stations within the City of Lincoln.

After the tour, an annual meeting was held to review current issues, identify possible topics of interest, and elect new officers for the upcoming year. Detailed meeting minutes are posted on the NeFSMA's website. <u>http://www.nefsma.net/</u>

### NeFSMA BOOTH AND SPEAKERS AVAILABLE

NeFSMA has professionals available to attend local Nebraska conferences. Our mission is to provide local leaders and professionals with education about floodplain and stormwater management. If you or anyone you know are interested in having a representative of NeFSMA give a presentation or distribute information at a conference booth please contact Rock Krzycki at RKrzycki@ci.lincoln.ne.us or call (402) 441-4959.

### THE ASFPM STORY

The Association of State Floodplain Managers began in 1977 as the supporting organization of professionals involved in floodplain management, flood hazard mitigation, flood preparedness, and flood warning and recovery. It is the mission of the Association to mitigate the losses, costs and human suffering caused by flooding and to promote wise use of the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains. Today the ASFPM is the premier voice in floodplain management practice and policy throughout the nation. Our 6,500 national and chapter members represent local, state and federal government agencies, citizen groups, private consulting firms, academia, the insurance industry, and lenders. ASFPM's influence is expressed through policy and impact practice changes that floodplain management in the U.S. and internationally. Our goals are simple - help the public and private sectors:

- 1. Reduce the loss of human life and property damage resulting from flooding.
- 2. Preserve the natural and cultural values of floodplains.

- 3. Promote flood mitigation for the prevention of loss and the wise use of floodplains.
- 4. Avoid actions that exacerbate flooding.

### ARE YOU A CERTIFIED FLOODPLAIN MANAGER (CFM)? by Paul Woodward, P.E., CFM

The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources is a supporter of the Association of State Floodplain Managers. A part of that support includes encouraging individuals that work in fields related to floodplain management to train and test to become Certified Floodplain Managers (CFMs). NDNR, upon request, will schedule and proctor exams for individuals seeking this certification. A review session can be provided prior to taking the exam.

The ASFPM website, <u>http://www.floods.org</u> provides access to a study manual, in PDF format, covering the material that will be included in the exam. Applicants must schedule with and pay fees to ASFPM to take this exam. Please coordinate your interest in taking the exam with NDNR, to ensure that proctoring of the exam can be scheduled. In the past, the exam has been coordinated so several individuals can take the exam at one time. NDNR, upon request, will provide a CD copy of the training material. Contact Bill Jones at 402-471-3932 or bjones@dnr.ne.gov

A CFM review session and exam are currently scheduled for March 11<sup>th</sup> (afternoon) and March 12<sup>th</sup> (morning) in Lincoln. Contact Bill Jones to register for the review session or the exam as soon as possible.

### Building Public Support For Floodplain Management by ASFPM

**The problem.** Floodplain management is a challenging profession. It requires expertise and knowledge of physical and natural processes, engineering, construction, the law, and administration, among other subjects. It is also challenging because flooding conditions seem to be getting worse and many people do not see the need for, or do not want to cooperate with, efforts to better manage existing and future development. One reason for these challenges is that many

people do not see themselves as part of the problem. For example:

 Most of the public views a flood as something for the government to fix or for the government or insurance companies to pay for after it happens.

- Builders and developers can make money building on inexpensive land without paying the price for flooding to their developments.

 Elected officials often see floodplain management and the National Flood Insurance
Program as a Federal program, not related to their daily needs or local issues.

In fact, people who live in, build on, travel through, and work in floodplains *are* part of the problem; *but*, they are part of the solution, too. Just as knowledge of natural processes and the law are important, a good floodplain manager should know how to work with people and build their support.



#### February 24, 2009 – NeFSMA Meeting Christensen Field 1710 West Sixteenth Street (West Linden and Ridge Road) Fremont, NE





## Nebraska Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association



## Third Quarter 2009 Newsletter

### 2009 NeFSMA BOARD MEMBERS

Chair: Laurie Carrette Zook, P.E., CFM laurie.carrette@hdrinc.com

Vice Chair: Rock Krzycki rkrzycki@lincoln.ne.gov

Second Vice Chair: John Cambridge, P.E., CFM john.cambridge@hdrinc.com

Secretary: Paul Gonzales, P.E., CFM pgonzales@schemmer.com

Treasurer: Jesse Poore, CFM Jesse.Poore@FHUENG.COM

At Large Board Members: Nate Hartman <u>NHartman@lincoln.ne.gov</u>

Emily Holtzclaw, P.E., CFM emily.holtzclaw@ch2m.com

> Visit NeFSMA on the web at: http://www.nefsma.net/



### 2009 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

The good news: NeFSMA reached the <u>100</u> <u>voting member</u> mark. We currently have an additional 42 non-voting members registered with NeFSMA. That is an incredible increase from previous years' memberships.

Annual dues for 2009 are still being accepted. If you have not sent in your application

Third Quarter 2009

form, please see the website at <u>www.nefsma.net</u> or contact Jesse Poore at (402) 438-7530. Annual dues are \$35 for individual and \$100 for corporate/organization memberships (allows 2 voting members) plus additional members that can serve as alternates.

### UPCOMING QUARTERLY MEETING

The second quarterly meeting for 2009 has been planned. Nebraska Department of Natural Resources and the Nebraska Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association present the First Conference for Nebraska Floodplain Managers.

**Topic:** First Conference for Nebraska Floodplain Managers

When: Friday, July 31, 2009

Where: Nebraska State Office Building Lower Level 301 Centennial Mall South Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

- **Time:** Program 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with lunch served during the program.
- Cost: \$10.00 (Lunch included)

Who Should Attend: All County, City and Village Floodplain Managers All County, City and Village officials who have an interest in Floodplain Management Anyone with an interest in Floodplain Management

### RSVP to:

Nebraska Floodplain & Stormwater Managers Association Attn: Jesse Poore, CFM 315 S. 9th St., Suite 201 Lincoln, NE 68508

You may still register at the door!

### CHAIR'S COLUMN by Laurie Carrette Zook

Where has the year gone! At the beginning of the year the NeFSMA Board set forth several goals for 2009: 1) increase membership, 2) update the NeFSMA website, 3) establish a travel stipend for members or students participating in national level conferences, 4) pursuing membership as an chapter of the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) and 5) provide additional educational opportunities. I am pleased to report that NeFSMA has grown in numbers this year and we now have over 21 organizations and over 150 members (voting and non-voting). In early 2009, we sent membership letters to all of the floodplain managers in Nebraska and we also extended a special membership invitation to Nebraska certified floodplain members (CFM).

Revisions to the NeFSMA website (www.nefsma.net) are underway. The web pages will be revised to create a more user friendly site.

Over the years the Board has discussed scholarship opportunities. In the 2009 budget, \$1,000 was set aside to encourage presentations by members or students of their activities and projects in Nebraska at the National level such as the Annual ASFPM or StormCon Conference. Up to \$500 is available per applicant. The stipend recipient's abstract will be published in a future NeFSMA newsletter and a short presentation at a quarterly meeting is expected. Look for the application at www.nefsma.net.

On July 31th, NeFSMA will team with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources in its inaugural floodplain manager's conference. This conference will provide an educational opportunity both to floodplain managers across the state and to members of NeFSMA. If you have not registered, please go to www.nefsma.net for more details.

ASFPM is a national organization of professionals involved in floodplain management, flood hazard mitigation, the National Flood Insurance Program, and flood preparedness, warning and recovery. ASFPM supports chapters who are also interested in floodplain management. When NeFSMA was formed in 2001, the goal was to one day become a chapter of ASPFM. Membership benefits include access to ASFPM newsletters, CFM program, training support and workshop support. The Board is preparing the necessary paperwork to achieve chapter status. Our next NeFSMA meeting is scheduled for September 9th in Omaha where we will be touring several low impact development projects. Possible sites include a green roof, rain gardens and infiltration basins. The details are under development, so look for more information soon.

The final meeting of the year is scheduled in November in Columbus. This is planned to be a full day of activities beginning with a general presentation on the levee certification program, followed by the annual meeting and concluding with concurrent levee and stormwater focused sessions. More details will follow.

As always, if you have any suggestions or comments on what NeFSMA can or should do, please contact any of the board members. We want to hear from you.

### Feb 24, 2009 NeFSMA State Grant Allocation Meeting in Fremont, Nebraska by Rock Krzycki

The 1<sup>st</sup> guarterly NeFSMA meeting of 2009 was held in Fremont on February 24th. Cities or counties who received grant funding from a state allocation (LB1226) were invited to share information regarding ways they used the funds for various aspects of their federally mandated NPDES stormwater programs. Mary Schroer from the State of Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality gave an overview of the LB1226 grant program. Stormwater/Citv managers from Columbus. Douglas County, Grand Island, Lincoln, Omaha, Kearney, LaVista, and South Sioux City presented information regarding how each utilized its state grant allotment. Municipalities were awarded grants of varying amounts based on their population. Several of the "Phase II" communities consolidated their efforts to form "H2O Nebraska", "a Nebraska Stormwater Cooperative to educate the public on the importance of keeping Nebraska waterways pollutant-free". By combining their funding in this way they were able to create a

communities. H2O offers stormwater reporting,

public education resources, and contact information

for each participating community. H2O public

education uses for the grant funding included: the

creation of billboards with water quality messages,

TV public service announcements, GPS locators on

city street sweepers (so persons could see what

streets have been swept), giveaway items with

website that provides

resources

for

nine

water quality messages, and the creation of a water quality mascot.

Several of the communities initiated public participation efforts which included: water quality events for school age kids and for the general public, and rain barrel and rain garden classes. Lincoln implemented a rain barrel art contest to raise awareness, and funding for kids to attend a day camp. Larger cities or "Phase I" communities such as Omaha and Lincoln were allocated larger grant amounts and were able to use those funds for: larger water quality construction projects, items such as a recycling pavement cleaner/sweeper, additional staff for erosion and sediment control enforcement, installation of 20 residential rain gardens, promote the use of no/low phosphorous fertilizer by giving away 1,000 bags of the product, and conducting water guality monitoring.

The meeting was attended by 45 professionals and it was noted by several attendees that "the information shared at the meeting will be helpful in implementing their stormwater programs in the upcoming fiscal year".

# ASFPM points with pride to many projects and activities . . .

- 1. We promote flood mitigation policies, such as No Adverse Impact Floodplain Management, to reverse the trend of ever increasing flood damages.
- 2. We operate a nationwide program to certify floodplain managers, with an aggressive continuing education element.
- 3. We conduct technical conferences to bring together practitioners on a variety of "cutting edge' topical issues.
- We publish proceedings from our conferences to shape and document the landscape of floodplain management programs and policies with state-of-the-art thinking.
- We worked with USAID to develop a post-Hurricane Mitch alert and warning system in strategic areas of watersheds in Honduras, and have provided advice on flooding to other nations.
- 6. We helped establish the "Community Rating System" as a means to reward communities for sound floodplain management and continue to assist in its operation and refinement.
- We develop papers and reports analyzing national policy, with recommendations for modifications and enhancements which foster

more effective flood mitigation implementation at the local level.

- 8. We address topical issues pertinent to flood hazards - arid region issues such as sedimentation and alluvial fan flooding, coastal hazards, ice jams, closed lake basins, etc.
- 9. We confer annual national awards to recognize and encourage exemplary achievements in floodplain management.
- 10. We established the ASFPM Foundation to attract and direct funds to projects vital to broadening the base of informed agencies, organizations and people who impact decisions affecting floodplains.

### ARE YOU A CERTIFIED FLOODPLAIN MANAGER (CFM)? by Paul Woodward, P.E., CFM

The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources is a supporter of the Association of State Floodplain Managers. A part of that support includes encouraging individuals that work in fields related to floodplain management to train and test to become Certified Floodplain Managers (CFMs). NDNR, upon request, will schedule and proctor exams for individuals seeking this certification. A review session can be provided prior to taking the exam.

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### NeFSMA BOOTH AND SPEAKERS AVAILABLE

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## "Protecting Our Communities"



## Nebraska Department of Natural Resources and Nebraska Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association Present the First Conference for Nebraska Floodplain Managers

Register now for Nebraska's first conference designed specifically for the state's Floodplain Managers.

### Friday, July 31, 2009 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Nebraska State Office Building Lower Level 301 Centennial Mall South Lincoln, Nebraska

Registration: \$10 (includes lunch)

### Program Highlights:

\*\* Keynote Address by Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Public Works Special Project Administrator, Watershed Management, City of Lincoln

- \*\* Floodplain Management 101 with Bill Jones, Floodplain Management Specialist, NDNR
- \*\* Flood Insurance Basics and the NFIP with Dean M. Ownby, Insurance Program Specialist, FEMA Region VII
- \*\* Emergency Management for Floodplain Managers with Cindy Newsham, Response and Recovery Division Manager, Nebraska Emergency Management Agency

### \* \* \* Earn CFM Credits \* \* \*

\*\* Hydrology and Hydraulics for the Non-engineer with Shuhai Zheng, Floodplain Management Section Chief, NDNR

\*\* Structural and Non-structural Options for Reducing Flood Losses with Steve McMaster, Natural Resources Planner Coordinator, NDNR

\*\* FEMA Elevation Certificate Workshop with Dean M. Ownby, Insurance Program Specialist, FEMA Region VII

Who Should Attend: All County, City and Village Floodplain Managers All County, City and Village officials who have an interest in Floodplain Management Anyone with an interest in Floodplain Management



	<b>Registration Form</b>		
	You may register at the door!		
You may fill out this form and mail it			
with your \$10 registration fee to: Nebraska Floodplain & Stormwater Managers Association			
-	Attn: Jesse Poore, CFM		
	315 S. 9 <sup>th</sup> St., Suite 201		
	Lincoln, NE 68508		
PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: <u>NeFSMA</u>			
Please copy this form if more than one person would like to attend, and send a separate form for each individual.			
Or: You can go directly to NDNR's Flood complete the form there. We request tha directly to NeFSMA.			
I would like the vegetarian lunch	(also included in the \$10 registration	fee).	
Name		-	
Position/Title			
Community or County		-	
Address		_	
		_	
Phone		_	
E-mail			



**Protecting Our Communities** 



Friday, July 31, 2009 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Nebraska State Office Building Lower Level 301 Centennial Mall South Lincoln, Nebraska

## Nebraska Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association



## Fourth Quarter 2009 Newsletter

### 2009 NeFSMA BOARD MEMBERS

Chair: Laurie Carrette Zook, P.E., CFM laurie.carrette@hdrinc.com

Vice Chair: Rock Krzycki rkrzycki@lincoln.ne.gov

Second Vice Chair: John Cambridge, P.E., CFM john.cambridge@hdrinc.com

**Secretary:** Paul Gonzales, P.E., CFM pgonzales@schemmer.com

Treasurer: Jesse Poore, CFM Jesse.Poore@FHUENG.COM

At Large Board Members: Nate Hartman <u>NHartman@lincoln.ne.gov</u> Emily Holtzclaw, P.E., CFM emily.holtzclaw@ch2m.com

> Visit NeFSMA on the web at: http://www.nefsma.net/

### **2010 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS**

The good news: NeFSMA reached the <u>100</u> <u>voting member</u> mark in 2009. That is an incredible increase from previous years' memberships.

Annual dues for the upcoming year of 2010 will soon be due. Please see the website at <u>www.nefsma.net</u> or contact Jesse Poore at (402) 438-7530. Annual dues are \$35 for individual and \$100 for corporate/organization memberships (allows 2 voting members) plus additional members that can serve as alternates.

# UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP AND ANNUAL MEETING

The final quarterly membership meeting for 2009 has been planned for Columbus. This is planned to be a full day of activities beginning with a general presentation on the levee accreditation program, followed by the annual meeting and concluding with concurrent levee and stormwater focused sessions.

- **Topics:** General Session on Detangling the Levee Accreditation Process, the NeFSMA Annual Meeting, and Concurrent Sessions on Levee Accreditation, Surviving an EPA Audit and How to Conduct an Industrial Inspection
- When: Thursday, November 5, 2009
- Where: New World Inn and Conference Center 265 33rd Ave Columbus, NE 68601 (402) 564-1492
- Time:Program 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with<br/>lunch served during the program.
- Cost: \$20.00 (Lunch included)

### Who Should Attend?

All NeFSMA members. Any community with a levee, Phase I and II NPDES communities, or any community responsible for industrial inspections.

Please RSVP (via registration form on page 5) to Jesse Poore at <u>Jesse.Poore@FHUENG.COM</u> or call (402) 438-7530 by <u>November 2nd</u>.



### CHAIR'S COLUMN

by Laurie Carrette Zook, P.E., CFM

As I sit and type my last Chair's Column for NeFSMA, I do it with celebration. I celebrate on what we have accomplished as a group and as a board in the last year.

What have we accomplished? A lot for a volunteer board!

✓ Our membership has grown in 2009 to include over 48 organizations and almost 160 members (voting and non-voting).

✓ The NeFSMA website has been redesigned and updated to provide our membership with information. Visit <u>www.nefsma.net</u> to check it out!

✓ A travel stipend was established to encourage presentations by members or students at a national level conference. To date, we have not seen any application, so see the website for the application form.

√ The paperwork to become a chapter member of Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) is near completion and the membership will take a vote on becoming a chapter member at the November 5<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting. Paul Woodward, ASFPM Region 7 Representative and NeFSMA past chair will lead the discussion.

✓ The Board attempts to provide quarterly meetings or workshops to its membership. On July 31st NeFSMA partnered with Nebraska Department of Natural Resources for its inaugural floodplain manager's conference. This conference was attended by over 100 floodplain managers and others interested in floodplain management. The workshop was a success and is on its way to be an annual event. On September 9<sup>th</sup>, NeFSMA held a post construction BMP workshop/tour of projects in Omaha. We had 40 professionals attend the workshop. I was excited to see what the city of Omaha and Douglas County were doing for postconstruction BMPs. A job well done!

The final meeting of the year is scheduled in November in Columbus. This is a full day of activities beginning with a general presentation on the levee accreditation program, followed by the Annual Meeting and concluding with concurrent levee and stormwater focused sessions. We will have presentations by FEMA, USACE, local consultants, and municipalities. Election of officers will be held during the Annual Meeting.

As this is my second term as Chair, I will be leaving the board. It has been an exciting 2

years and I know that NeFSMA will be in the hands of a very competent board. Thanks for the friendships made along the way. I plan to stay involved with NeFSMA and help it become a better organization.

As always, if you have any suggestions or comments on what NeFSMA can or should do, please contact any of the board members. We want to hear from you.



### A Successful First Conference for Nebraska Floodplain Managers in Lincoln, Nebraska by Paul Gonzales, P.E., CFM

Over one hundred people attended the first statewide floodplain conference at the State Office Building on July 31, 2009 that was hosted by Nebraska Department of Natural Resources and Nebraska Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association.

Attendance was much better than expected as conference attendees representing 39 counties and 49 communities throughout the state were sometimes crowded into meeting and presentation rooms. Both NDNR and NeFSMA agreed that this was a good problem. Future meetings and programs are already in the works for 2010.

Presentations on the following subjects were given:

- FEMA Elevation Certificate Workshop
- Structural and Non-Structural Options for Reducing Flood Losses
- Emergency Management for Floodplain Managers
- Floodplain Management 101
- Hydrology and Hydraulics for the Non-Engineer
- Flood Insurance Basics and the National Flood Insurance Program

A special thanks goes out to all presenters and the programming committee. Copies of the PowerPoint presentations can be downloaded from the NeFSMA website.

### September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Post Construction Stormwater Management Meeting in Omaha, Nebraska

by Paul Gonzales, P.E., CFM

NeFSMA hosted a post construction stormwater management BMP workshop/tour of projects in Omaha. We had 40 professionals attend the workshop.

A special thanks to the City of Omaha, Douglas County, Lamp Rynearson Associates, BCDM, and Omaha Public Schools for hosting the tour. Thanks also to the Douglas/Sarpy County Extension for providing our meeting facilities. Information about the some of the Post-Construction BMPs can be found at the City of Omaha's Environmental Services at www.omahastormwater.org.



### **ASFPM National Conference Highlights**

by Paul Woodward, P.E., CFM

As your elected regional board member for the national Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM), I was FORCED <sup>(2)</sup> to go to Orlando, Florida for over a week. What a tough job, right? However, amidst all the fun and sun, a lot of issues were addressed that will likely affect each of us and our profession for years to come. These issues range from the big picture of congressional National Flood Insurance reform and levee safety to local tools that every community can incorporate to reduce their flood risk.

Big changes may come during the next several years as congress continues to search for ways to make the NFIP somewhat fiscally sound. To date, the American taxpayers are still reimbursing the NFIP for the huge losses suffered during Katrina, Rita, and most recently the floods in lowa. Congress is considering such options as expanding the mandatory purchase of flood insurance in lower risk areas, such as behind levees and in 500-year or future floodplains. Visit <u>www.floods.org</u> for the latest updates on national legislation.

Expanding coverage increases the need for more accurate floodplain maps and a better understanding of our nation's levees; an endeavor that FEMA continues to lead as they transition from Map Modernization to "Risk Map". If you're wondering what Risk Map is, don't feel bad, so is everyone else. Many ideas about the vision for Risk Map were discussed at the conference, and FEMA will likely be releasing more information very soon.

Last, but not least, there has been a lot of talk about the future of floodplain management and how to improve it. If you haven't already, please check out the latest report from the ASFPM entitled "Floodplain Management Foundation 2050". This report paints a bleak picture of what will happen if we don't try to make changes to our current policies. Based on these discussions, ASFPM has been working hard to support positive changes at all levels of government. National Flood Programs and Policies in Review - 2007 identifies ways in which national policies and programs for reducing flood damage and for protecting the natural resources and functions of our floodplains can be improved. Little ways that all of us can improve floodplain management is to follow No Adverse Impact. Again, visit the updated ASFPM website at www.floods.org to find out more.



### **NeFSMA Board of Directors and Committees**

by Jesse Poore, CFM

On November 5th, NeFSMA will be commencing our 6th election of Board Members since NeFSMA arrived on the floodplain and stormwater scene. We have benefitted from some strong and visionary leadership over the years and hope to continue that effort with a renewed interest placed upon capacity building. The all-volunteer Board of Directors works diligently to ensure the many purposes of NeFSMA are met. Although we believe 2009 was our strongest year to date, the current Board believes even more can be done in the years to come. To do so will require stronger involvement from our membership both by individuals and our partner agencies/corporations.

We want to hear from you before our November meeting. Let us know if you are interested in serving either as a Board Member or as a committee member. Our current committees include Program/Education, Membership, and Publications. A list of all the Board positions and their responsibilities can be found on our revamped website at <u>www.nefsma.net</u>. We want to get you involved anyway we can. Send a quick email to our Membership Committee Chair, Jesse Poore (jesse.poore@fhueng.com), and let him know about your interest.



### **NeFSMA Partnering Opportunity**

by Jesse Poore, CFM

With such diverse membership and the cross disciplinary focus that NeFSMA provides, it should be no surprise that our educational events attract attendance and interest from a wide range of professionals. From floodplain administrators, city

managers and resource agencies to scientist, architects, planners, professional engineers and many more, NeFSMA is making friends and making a difference in Nebraska.

Currently, NeFSMA is exploring a potential partnership opportunity that would bring additional professional exposure to our growing Association. The Storm Water Awareness Network (SWAN) is a Nebraska-based group of professionals who make themselves available for technical education about construction site stormwater quality and proper Best Management Practices. This type of education is beyond the direct purpose of NeFSMA, but is something that we support because the demand for qualified professionals in the construction stormwater industry is increasing at a rapid pace. It may be possible for NeFSMA to support SWAN in ways that brings additional educational opportunities to our members as well as potentially increase our membership.

If you have any thoughts or concerns about this potential partnership, please contact our Membership Committee Chair, Jesse Poore (jesse.poore@fhueng.com). More information will be provided at the Annual Meeting in Columbus.

# WANT TO BE A CERTIFIED FLOODPLAIN MANAGER (CFM)?

by Laurie Carrette Zook, P.E., CFM

The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources is a supporter of the Association of State Floodplain Managers. A part of that support includes encouraging individuals that work in fields related to floodplain management to train and take a test to become Certified Floodplain Managers (CFMs). NDNR will proctor the CFM exam on **November 20<sup>th</sup>**, **2009** at the offices of the Papio-Missouri River NRD in Omaha. This will be an all day event with a review session in the morning followed by the exam in the afternoon. Although the review session in not required, it is very beneficial and worth the time.

The ASFPM website, <u>http://www.floods.org</u> provides access to a study manual, in PDF format, covering the material that will be included in the exam. Applicants must schedule with and pay fees to ASFPM to take this exam. Please coordinate your interest in taking the exam with NDNR. **Contact Bill Jones** at 402-471-3932 or bill.jones@nebraska.gov.



## Nebraska Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association

Presents

General Session on Detangling the Levee Accreditation Process, the NeFSMA Annual Meeting, and Concurrent Sessions on Levee Accreditation, Surviving an EPA Audit and How to Conduct an Industrial Inspection

## Thursday, November 5, 2009

10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Registration opens at 10:00 a.m.

New World Inn and Conference Center 265 33rd Ave Columbus, NE 68601

Registration: \$20 per person (includes lunch)

Persons attending will receive a certificate for 5 PDH's

RSVP by November 2, 2009

Send registration to: Jesse Poore at jesse.poore@fhueng.com or call (402) 438-7530 or mail to c/o Jesse Poore Felsburg Holt & Ullevig 315 S. 9th Street, Suite 201 Lincoln, NE 68508

Name:				
Company/Organization/Agency:				
Address:		Phone:		
City:	State:	Zip:		

Check Enclosed (Payable to NeFSMA)