

MAPPING THE RISK

FLOOD MAP MODERNIZATION

Notice of Public Open Houses March 30th, 31st, & April 1st, 2010: Erie County, New York Map Modernization and the National Flood Insurance Program

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will be holding three **Public Open House Meetings** on March 30th, March 31st and April 1st, 2010 to discuss the new Erie County **Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map**, and the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in general. If you have questions about the preliminary DFIRM, please visit <http://rampp-team.com> or contact Paul Weberg at (212) 680-3638 or paul.weberg@dhs.gov. If you have questions about the NFIP, floodplain management or flood insurance, please contact Melissa Ryan at (212) 680-3625 or melissa.ryan@dhs.gov. The NYSDEC floodplain management section, at (518)402-8151, can answer questions about both the map and the NFIP in general.

Map Modernization: What is it? The local Map Modernization project is part of a nationwide effort to update the country's flood hazard maps so that they reflect the most current flood risks. Erie County residents and businesses now have up-to-date, reliable, Internet-accessible information about their flood risk on a property-by-property basis.

How are residents and businesses affected? FEMA has developed a website to help Erie County property owners view the change in flood hazard designation. The website, which will be available in March 2010, is located at <http://www.rampp-team.com/ny.htm>

Why Update the Maps? Why Now? Flood hazard maps, also known as Flood Insurance Rate Maps, are important tools in the effort to protect lives and properties. Over time, water flow and drainage patterns have changed dramatically due to surface erosion, land use and natural forces.

New Maps = A Safer Public By showing the extent to which areas are at risk for flooding, the new flood maps will help home and business owners understand their current flood risk and make more informed decisions about protecting their property. These maps will also allow community planners, local officials, engineers, builders and others to make important determinations about where and how new structures and developments should be built to maximize safety.

TIMES & LOCATIONS:

Tuesday, March 30
Stop in anytime between
4:00-8:00PM
Old First Ward Community
Center Gymnasium
62 Republic Street
Buffalo, NY 14204

Wednesday, March 31
Stop in anytime between
4:00-8:00PM
Town of Clarence
Town Park Clubhouse
10405 Main Street
Clarence, NY 14031

Thursday, April 1
Stop in anytime between
4:00-8:00PM
Village of East Aurora
Boys and Girls Club
24 Paine Street
East Aurora, NY 14052
(Use the Savage Place Entrance)

Join FEMA Region II and the
NY State Department of
Environmental Conservation
to learn about and discuss:

- ❖ *The National Flood Insurance Program*
- ❖ *The Erie County DFIRM*
- ❖ *How to Read the New Maps*
- ❖ *Building Standards*
- ❖ *Insurance Ratings & Premiums*
- ❖ *Flood Mitigation*