



# GAFM News

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### A Message From The Chair

GAFM has had a very busy year. In March the Annual Conference was held at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Atlanta. Approximately 150 people attended the multi-day conference. This year we enjoyed a variety of new field tour locations including green infrastructure tours from City of Atlanta, a tour to the Drew Valley flood mitigation project in DeKalb County, and a tour of the floodplain buyout area park in City of Austell. We also spent time connecting with our fellow floodplain professionals, sharing success stories on projects, and training on the latest updates and innovations in the field of floodplain management. Throughout the year a variety of additional training opportunities have been held around the state including webinars with the CRS and NAI committees, a regional trainin in Metro Atlanta, and various classes in Savannah. In June GAFM sent Terri Turner as our representative to teh ASFPM 2014 Conference in Seattle to encourage attendance in Atlanta in 2015. Terri and her team are working hard to make ASFPM 2015 a huge success.



### ASFPM 2015 Conference to be held in Atlanta May 31-June 5, 2015

ASFPM's 39th Annual National Conference, "Mitigation On My Mind," will be held at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Atlanta, Georgia. A very active Conference Planning Committee has some awesome treats in store for the 2015 ASFPM Annual Conference in Atlanta. Plans are close to being finalized on all of the Technical Field Tours and Spouse / Family Tours planning is well underway. The focus of the next few months will be fundraising for GAFM related activities for the Conference, the most important of those being the Welcome Fest, which will be hosted (and entirely paid for!!) by GAFM. The Running of the Chapters (the Road Race) and the Golf Tournament are also a GAFM sponsored events and so sponsorship dollars

there will be very important to our part of making "ASFPM2015ATL" a huge success!! If you have any fundraising ideas or know of someone who would like to sponsor GAFM activities related to the Annual Conference, please contact Brad Loar (floordude@yahoo.com) or Garrett Skinner (Garrett.Skinner@atkinsglobal.com) with your ideas or sponsorship dollars. It is also not too early to start gathering donations / items for the Silent Auction – this event goes to support the ASFPM Foundation and we have seen time and time again those Foundation dollars come back to be spent in Georgia on multiple worthwhile projects! The ASFPM Annual Conferences are recognized as the most important floodplain conference in the United States year after year. With more than 120 speakers and over 1200 participants (my personal goal is 1500 in Atlanta for 2015!!), they are the national conferences all community, state and federal floodplain managers plan to attend. Because of that attendance, many of the most important consulting firms and product vendors associated with floodplain management attend, as well. Inrecent years, the attendance has had about an equal number of private, local, state and federal participants from all over the United States and several foreign countries.

Visit the Conference website at <http://www.asfpmconference.org/> for more information. Volunteer at [asfpm2015atl@gmail.com](mailto:asfpm2015atl@gmail.com). Can't wait to see you in Atlanta!!

### GAFM Board

#### Officers:

Chair - Jill Bazinet - [chair@gafloods.org](mailto:chair@gafloods.org)  
 Vice Chair- Tom Shillock - [vicechair@gafloods.org](mailto:vicechair@gafloods.org)  
 Secretary - Michael Blakely - [secretary@gafloods.org](mailto:secretary@gafloods.org)  
 Treasurer - Dianne Otto - [treasurer@gafloods.org](mailto:treasurer@gafloods.org)

#### Regional Representatives:

Metro - Emily Wingo - [metrorep@gafloods.org](mailto:metrorep@gafloods.org)  
 North - Vee Burnhan - [northrep@gafloods.org](mailto:northrep@gafloods.org)  
 Central - Becky Cox - [centralrep@gafloods.org](mailto:centralrep@gafloods.org)  
 Coastal- Tom McDonald - [coastalrep@gafloods.org](mailto:coastalrep@gafloods.org)  
 Southwest - Farhad Alifarhani - [southwestrep@gafloods.org](mailto:southwestrep@gafloods.org)  
 East - Shari Mendrick - [eastrep@gafloods.org](mailto:eastrep@gafloods.org)

#### At-Large Representatives:

Garrett Skinner  
 Kathy Macias  
 Danelle Alloway

#### Committee Chairs:

Conference - Jill Bazinet - [conferences@gafloods.org](mailto:conferences@gafloods.org)  
 Awards - Emily Wingo - [awardschair@gafloods.org](mailto:awardschair@gafloods.org)  
 NAI - Sean Roche - [naichair@gafloods.org](mailto:naichair@gafloods.org)  
 Mapping - Sam Crampton - [mappingchair@gafloods.org](mailto:mappingchair@gafloods.org)  
 CRS - Emily Schmidt and Danelle Alloway  
 Webmaster - Nick Turner - [webmaster@gafloods.org](mailto:webmaster@gafloods.org)

**Managing Floodplain Development Through  
the National Flood Insurance Program  
L-273**

**February 16-19, 2015  
Georgia Public Safety Training Center  
Room 219D  
Forsyth, Georgia**

The course is designed for local officials responsible for administering their local floodplain management ordinances as well as others involved in floodplain management activities. The course will focus on the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), concepts of floodplain management, the Flood Insurance Study and flood map, effective administration of the local flood ordinance and the relationship between floodplain management and flood insurance. Both FEMA and Georgia floodplain management staff will serve as instructors.

Sign-in will begin at 8:00 am Monday, February 16 and class will run from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm Monday through Thursday. FEMA will provide course materials. There is no charge for the class but travel, lodging, meals and miscellaneous expenses are the attendee's responsibility. A cafeteria is onsite and is convenient for lunch.

The deadline for enrolling is February 1, 2015. You can email your reservation request to [Thomas.tkacs@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:Thomas.tkacs@dnr.state.ga.us). "Attn: L-273." You can call 404.651.8478 with any questions. Spaces will be filled on a "first in" basis.

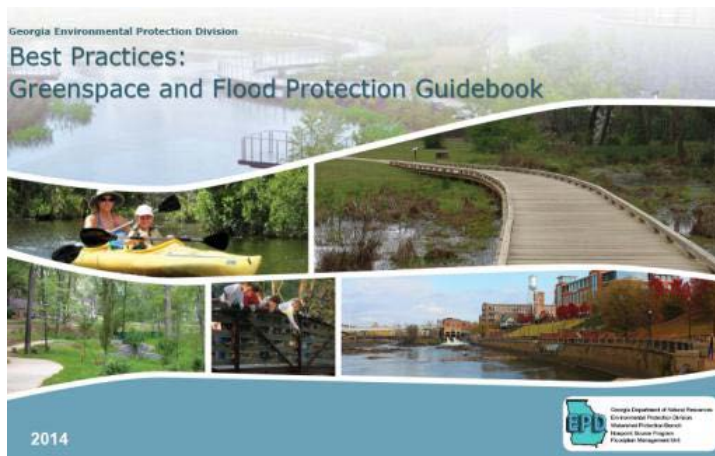
Lodging. There are many choices in Forsyth and north Macon. A few are listed below. Please make your reservations directly with the motel.

Comfort Suites 343 Harold Clarke Parkway Forsyth, GA 31029 855.809.3508	Holiday Inn Express 520 Holiday Circle Forsyth, GA 31029 855.799.6861	Days Inn 343 North Lee St. Forsyth, GA 31029 478.994.2900
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**Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) Exam**

The Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) exam will be administered Friday, February 20, 2015 from 9:00 to 12:00. Exam registration is through ASFPM. The exam fee is \$100 for ASFPM members and \$375 for nonmembers. You may apply for ASFPM membership concurrent with your exam application. The CFM Exam application deadline is February 6, 2015, two weeks prior to the exam date. ASFPM membership applications and CFM Application materials are available for download at:  
[www.floods.org](http://www.floods.org).

You must apply for the CFM exam through the ASFPM. Registration is separate from the class registration. Walk-ins will not be allowed to take the exam. Do not submit exam fee to GA-DNR.



**Best Practices:  
Greenspace and Flood  
Protection Guidebook**

EPD will host 6 workshops on the newly published Best Practices: Greenspace and Flood Protection Guidebook. These workshops are free for representatives from local governments and non-profit organizations. The advanced training will also include presentations on the Community Rating System (CRS) program and how it can be used to provide savings to your community and property owners in your community.

This training is funded by Georgia Environmental Protection Division and FEMA Grant EMS-2013-GR-5253.

To reserve your space for one of the free training sessions and for complete directions to the training location, please contact Kim Shorter at [kim@sustainablewaterplanning.com](mailto:kim@sustainablewaterplanning.com) or 404-410-1188. Lunch will be provided, so please include any dietary restrictions in your RSVP.

Tuesday December 2nd - 10:00 am - 2:00 pm	Augusta, GA -	Phinizy Swamp Nature Park Phinizy Center for Water Sciences Campus - Education Classroom 1858 Lock & Dam Road, Augusta, Georgia 30906
Thursday, December 4th - 10:00 am - 2:00 pm	Decatur, GA -	Decatur Library 215 Sycamore Street, Decatur, Georgia 30030
Tuesday, December 9th - 10:00 am - 2:00 pm	Macon, GA -	Macon Amerson Water Treatment Plant Conference Room Dr Lee Road, Georgia 31211
Thursday, December 11th - 10:00 am - 2:00 pm	Columbus, GA -	Oxbow Meadows 3535 S Lumpkin Road, Columbus, Georgia 31903
Tuesday, December 16th - 10:00 am - 2:00 pm	Valdosta, GA -	300 N Lee Street (Smithland Place), Valdosta, Georgia 31601
Thursday, December 18th - 10:00 am - 2:00 pm	Dawsonville, GA -	Etowah Water and Sewer Authority 1162 Highway 53 East, Dawsonville, Georgia 30534



## Website Updated

<http://www.gafloods.org>

Thank you to our new webmaster, Nick Turner, for making the updates to our website. You should be able to find the links to the annual conference presentations, updated board member emails, and information on various training sessions throughout the state. Please send all notices for additions to the website to [:chair@gafloods.org](mailto:chair@gafloods.org) and [webmaster@gafloods.org](mailto:webmaster@gafloods.org).

Please note, you may need to clear your internet history, cookies, or temporary internet files to access the updates.

## Upcoming NAI Committee Lunch & Learn Webinar:

NAI, the CRS, and the new NAI How-To Guides - Wednesday, December 3rd, 2014 12:00pm - 1:00pm  
 Presenter - French Wetmore, SFM with French & Associates, Ltd.  
 RSVP: <https://mbakercorp.webex.com/mbakercorp/onstage/g.php?d=661892777&t=a>

## Photos from March 2014 Annual Conference

