



Florida CRS Initiative

July 2017

Notice:

Florida communities will not be required to submit a Recertification in October 2017. See new dates (depending on your location) to the right:

Education:

Mark your calendars

CRS Resources 2017 Class Schedule

www.CRSResources.org/training

Date	Title
August 15	Preparing an Annual Recertification
August 16	Flood Warning & Response (Activity 610)
September 19	Preparing an Annual Recertification
September 20	Floodplain Management Planning (Activity 510)
October 17	Introduction to the CRS
October 18	Developing a CRS Program for Public Information (PPI)

~All classes

1:00 pm Eastern/10:00 am Pacific

Outreach:

You can find the downloadable version of the rack cards for printing:

<http://www.floridadisaster.org/mitigation/CRS/>

2017 CRS Coordinators Manual - Released:

The 2017 CRS Coordinator’s Manual was approved by the Office of Management and Budget and was uploaded in final form to the www.CRSresources.org and FEMA.gov websites. Please continue to use the 2013 CRS Coordinator’s Manual for annual Recertification, but begin to use the 2017 CRS Coordinator’s Manual if your community is due for a Cycle Visit in 2017 or 2018.

Speaking of **Recertification**, ISO announced that the annual Recertification period will no longer be October 1 of each year for Florida CRS communities. For most of the state, May 1 will be the new Recertification date, with Recertification packages sent by Christina Turpin roughly 45 days in advance (Mid-March). For Miami-Dade and Monroe County communities, the Recertification date will be February 1, so please look for Recertification packages from Keith Harper to be sent Mid-December.

Starting January 1, 2018, ISO will begin centralized review of all **Elevation Certificates**. This will enable consistent review of all ECs in CRS-participating communities across the nation, as well as remove some of the workload from the ISO/CRS Specialists so they are better able to serve their communities and improve processing time. Communities will continue to provide a permit list and all Finished Construction Elevation Certificates for the entire 3- or 5-year Cycle, along with all ECs collected annually during Recertification years.

Activity 510 changes in 2017 CRS Coordinator’s Manual:

The 2017 CRS Manual has added emphasis to Activity 510, Planning Step 5(c), which will now be more closely reviewed and evaluated. Each community participating in a countywide LMS must include a discussion of historical flood damages, including both Repetitive Loss Areas and properties with only 1 flood insurance claim.

A generic discussion of the county “as a whole” of the “Flooding Hazard” in the LMS plan may not meet the requirements for this step for CRS purposes. Please review the Repetitive Loss Area Analysis (RLAA) requirements beginning on page 510-29 for more insight on what information is expected in LMS planning Step 5(c). You are not required to prepare an RLAA unless you fail to properly complete Planning Step 5(c) and are a Category C Rep Loss community (50+).

This is not a new element or prerequisite, but greater scrutiny of this planning step will occur going forward. It seems that greater planning and cooperation between the counties and their municipalities (cities, towns and villages) will be required to accomplish this planning step. You can use an appendix to the LMS for each participating community to address Step 5(c) individually to keep this information organized. Each participating community needs to adopt the LMS by Resolution. The next planning step we want to bring to your attention is Planning Step 2: Involve the Public. The term “public” is defined on page 510-8 and 9. If your community is attempting to achieve CRS Class 4 or better, you must earn at least 50% of total credit and 50% of Step 2, 5 and 8 credit.

FFMA Training

Schedule:

Latest schedule/register:
FLfloods.org/calendar

Date	Location	Course
July	26 Fernandina Beach	EC Basics
	27 Madison Co.	EC Basics
	28 Ormond Beach	EC Basics
Aug	15 St. Lucie Co.	CCCL
	15 Auburndale	SI/SD
	24 Sumter Co.	Fund'mntls of FPM
	25 Sumter Co.	CFM Exam
Sept	13 Greenacres	EC Basics
	18-21 Live Oak	L-273
	22 Live Oak	CFM Exam
Oct	3 Pinellas Co.	CCCL
	4-5 Doral	Essentials of CRS
	6, 13, 20, 11/3 Osceola Co.	G194 (4 separate days)
	14 (Sat) Sumter Co.	Determining the BFE
	16-19 Pinellas Co.	L-273
	20 Pinellas Co.	CFM Exam

Contact Us

The Florida CRS Initiative provides services to Florida Communities such as education, one on one assistance, User Group participation or technical assistance with navigating the CRS Cycle visit.

Have questions?
 Contact us, we are at your service!

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Activity 510 continued:

Some communities are beginning to create a “Citizen Advisory Group” to organize the involvement of members of the public. There must be a minimum of 3 meetings to sufficiently cover the planning steps outlined on Page 510-7:

- Step 4. Assess the hazard
- Step 5. Assess the problem
- Step 6. Set goals
- Step 7. Review possible activities
- Step 8. Draft and action plan

We should not expect a Citizen Advisory Group or unaffiliated members of the public to already fully understand CRS, so you may need to use the examples in the CRS Manual as a hand-out to direct and lead the discussion or conversation. Look at Figure 510-4 (Page 510-20) and Figure 510-5 (Page 510-24) for examples of the types of information that the Citizen Advisory Group or general public need to discuss and/or contribute. Remember that members of “public” include citizens, contractors, agency partners, and other stakeholders such as business owners, religious institutions, lenders and insurers, who each bring a unique perspective to the process, which can generate creative ideas for LMS projects.

In closing, developing a Citizens Advisory Group seems to be a valuable method to satisfy Step 2: Involve the Public, but development of the group itself will not be sufficient for CRS credit. There are tasks that the group must meet, as outlined above.

Updated LMS Crosswalk for the 2017 CRS Manual:

Danny Hinson has worked with ISO and the FDEM Mitigation Planning staff to update the LMS Crosswalk document for communities to use with their Activity 510 documentation. This document helps the ISO/CRS Technical Specialist to review each LMS plan to score the pertinent information more quickly, and to not miss anything that should be worthy of CRS credit. A copy of this file is included with the email distribution of this newsletter, but it can also be downloaded here: [Florida LMS/CRS Crosswalk](#)

Repetitive Loss Information from ISO

Repetitive Loss information is currently being disseminated from ISO. You will receive an email from Keith Harper with ISO, which gives you a password and instructions that a second email will follow with a .ZIP file. If the second email does not arrive, please email Danny or Josh, with the contact info to the left. Many communities’ IT policies do not allow for .ZIP files to be received via email, so files can be retrieved and sent by other means if necessary.

This information is sent annually to CRS communities so that they may address the Repetitive Loss requirements in the CRS Coordinator’s Manual, especially mapping the RL Areas and sending annual outreach to those RL Areas. Category C RL communities must also address the RL situation in their Floodplain Management Plan, LMS or RLAA, as described above.

The Florida CRS Initiative will be adding a staff member in the Orlando area soon. Stay tuned for an announcement on our newest resource to help Florida communities navigate the CRS process. In the meantime, please continue to reach out to Danny Hinson or Josh Overmyer for CRS assistance or to give a presentation to your CRS User Group.