VERMONT

Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation   *Agency of Natural Resources*
Watershed Management Division
Essex Junction Regional Office
111 West Street   [phone]   802-522-4999
Essex Junction, VT 05452

6/10/2024

Valerie Capels, Town Administrator
1 South St. PO Box 249
Bristol, VT 05443
(802) 453-2410 x1
townadmin@bristolvt.org

Dear Valerie,

This is to confirm a Community Assistance Visit I have scheduled with you to discuss your community's participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and address any questions you may have about the program and your responsibilities. This meeting is scheduled for June 19th, 2024 at 1pm and will be held at Bristol Town Hall.

During the meeting, we will be able to discuss the current flood hazard area regulations that the Town of Bristol has adopted, various scenarios where they would apply, and available tools and resources for flood hazard area review. Additionally, we can discuss the current FEMA floodplain mapping in Town and other flood hazard area management methods and opportunities as they relate to the types of flooding and flood damages that may occur within the community.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) conducts these visits for the purpose of maintaining periodic contact with communities participating in the NFIP in order to assess their needs for technical assistance and coordination, as necessary. In addition, the visits provide an opportunity for assessing the effectiveness of local floodplain management ordinances and enforcement practices. FEMA has requested the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation to conduct this visit on its behalf. Officials involved in the community's floodplain management program and development review and approval process should be present at the meeting on 6/19/2024.

In this regard, we ask that you have the following materials available for our meeting:

1. A copy of your local adopted flood hazard bylaws in accordance with Section 60.3 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR);

2. Records of any permits for development in the designated Special Flood Hazard Areas in your community, issued in the last 3 years;

3. Records of as-built elevations of structures built in the designated Special Flood Hazard Areas in accordance with Section 59.22 (a) (9) (iii), 44 CFR for permits issued in the last 3 years;

To preserve, enhance, restore, and conserve Vermont's natural resources, and protect human health, for the benefit of this and future generations.

4. Appropriate staff to explain the process the community uses to review proposed development in the Special Flood Hazard Areas, including new buildings and other structures and new and replacement of manufactured homes; improvements to existing buildings and structures; development other than buildings such as mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations, and stream or channel alterations and maintenance;

5. Appropriate staff to explain the community's enforcement procedures including variance procedures and on-site inspection of construction in the Special Flood Hazard Areas;

6. Records of all variances requested for flood hazard area development (denied or approved) in the past 3 years;

7. Questions or concerns the community may have pertaining to its Flood Insurance Rate Map and the Flood Insurance Study including their accuracy, completeness, or need for other flood data.

Prior to our meeting, I will conduct a tour of Bristol's floodplain areas to determine the types of development occurring and extent of human investments in the Special Flood Hazard Area. This tour will also help to provide me with some familiarity with the flood hazards in your community. If you have any questions regarding the Community Assistance Visit, please call me at (802) 522-4999 or email me at asa.brayton@vermont.gov.

Sincerely,

Asa Brayton

Asa Brayton
Regional Floodplain Manager
VT DEC Rivers Program

cc (email):   Kyle Molton, Senior Floodplain Management Specialist, FEMA Region I
                    Ryan Fisher, Floodplain Management Specialist, FEMA Region 1
                    Rebecca Pfeiffer, State Floodplain Manager, VTDEC
                    Kyle Medash, Western Regional Floodplain Manager, VTDEC