



Department of Water Resources
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News Release

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Sacramento County Floodplain Management Program Receives National Recognition *Program Mitigates Community Flood Risk and Reduces Flood Insurance Premiums*

Sacramento County, CA: Effective May 1, 2013, FEMA will upgrade Sacramento County's Community Rating System (CRS) ranking to a "3" for its outstanding achievements in mitigating regional flood risks. As a result of the CRS 3 rating, Sacramento County residents in flood prone areas will receive up to a 35 percent discount on their flood insurance premiums. This savings equates to \$1.1 million in annual savings for Sacramento County residents. Nancy Ward, FEMA Region IX Administrator, will present a plaque commemorating the CRS 3 achievement at the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors' hearing on March 12, 2013 at 9:45 a.m. The hearing will be in the Board of Supervisors' Chambers at 700 H Street.

Out of 21,000 communities in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), 1,211 participate in the voluntary CRS program. A ranking of "3" makes Sacramento County the fifth highest ranked CRS community in the nation. "This accomplishment bears even more significance because Sacramento is considered one of the nation's most at-risk major metropolitan areas for hazardous flooding. This CRS rating showcases our dedication to make Sacramento County a safer place to live by ensuring our residents are prepared to mitigate, reduce, and recover from flood losses," says Sacramento County Board of Supervisors Chair, Susan Peters.

Under the National Flood Insurance CRS program, flood insurance premiums are adjusted downward to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from programs that focus on public information, flood hazard mapping, flood preparedness and flood damage reduction. Since 2008, when Sacramento County achieved a CRS class "5" ranking, Sacramento residents have saved over \$5 million in flood insurance premiums. "The inclusive and forward looking strategy employed by Sacramento County floodplain managers strongly supports the hazard mitigation that we at FEMA are fostering," said FEMA Region IX Administrator, Nancy Ward. "The system as deployed in Sacramento County can serve as a recognized example for other communities on how to better protect their citizens from flooding."

For more information about the Sacramento County flood preparedness programs, please visit www.StormReady.org.