

NEW FLOODPLAIN MAPS

As part of a national effort to modernize floodplain maps, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has released revised Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) for Yellowstone County.

Substantial changes to the floodplain maps for Yellowstone County include:

- The Yellowstone River - border to border in Yellowstone County
- Five Mile Creek - confluence of Yellowstone River upstream to Alexander Road
- Cove Creek - railroad crossing to Rimrock Road.

Other minor changes to the floodplain may occur on Pryor Creek, Alkali Creek, Arrow Creek, Fly Creek, and the Clarks Fork.

You Have an Opportunity to Comment on the New Maps:

There is a 90-day appeal period where landowners who are affected by changes in the floodplain maps can submit appeals, comments or protests regarding the revised maps. Appeals will need to have supporting technical data to validate any changes to the floodplain. All appeals, comments, or protests must be submitted to the Yellowstone County Floodplain Office at P.O. Box 35004, (217 N. 27th Street), Billings, Montana, 59107. It is important to note that the County does not review comments, protests, or appeals, but rather forwards this information on to FEMA for their review and decision.

Public Meetings:

You are invited to attend either of two public meetings to review this process and the new maps:

- Wednesday, April 14th, 6:30 PM, Parnly Billings Library, 510 North Broadway, Billings
- Thursday, April 15th, 6:30 PM, Huntley Project School, 1477 Ash Street, Worden

Take a look at how the new floodplain maps will affect you and your property!

Click on the link below to access the County's interactive mapping site where you can access a map of your property with the current floodplain maps and / or the new preliminary floodplain maps.

<http://www.co.yellowstone.mt.gov/mapping/des.asp>

Then follow the directions below:

- Click on *Layer List* to open the options dialogue box.
- To find your property, click on *Parcel Query*. The easiest way to search for your property is with the tax id number (you can find this on your property tax statement) or search by name as printed on your property tax statement (last name first). [HINT: Use only one search criteria at a time].

- When your tax record is found, it will appear below the map area. Click on Show to see your property on the map.
- To see the floodplain maps, click on Floodplain Layers, then click on New Preliminary Maps or Current Maps (color) or both.

Websites:

- Yellowstone County: www.co.yellowstone.mt.gov/des/floodplain/
- Montana DNRC Floodplain Program: www.mtfloodplain.mt.gov
- Montana Map Modernization Program: www.montanadfirm.com
- FEMA mapping website: www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm
- National Flood Insurance Program: www.floodsmart.gov

Contact Information:

- FEMA:
 - Flood Insurance Questions
Marijo Brady marijo.brady@dhs.gov (303) 235-4835
 - Mapping Questions
Chris Tagert CTagert@mbakercorp.com (303) 994-5450
- Yellowstone County Floodplain Contacts:
 - James L. Kraft, County Floodplain Administrator
jkraft@co.yellowstone.mt.gov (406) 256-2775
 - Kim Palmieri, City of Billings Floodplain Administrator
palmierik@ci.billings.mt.gov (406) 657-8273
 - James Caniglia, City of Laurel Floodplain Administrator
jcaniglia@laurel.mt.gov (406) 628-4796
- Montana DNRC
 - Celinda Adair, State of Montana Map Modernization Program Coordinator
cadair@mt.gov (406) 444-6656
 - Traci Sears, State of Montana National Flood Insurance Program Coordinator
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