

## **Emmet County News Release**

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## Emmet County Residents Invited to Attend Flood Map Information Open House

Members of the public can drop in to review new preliminary flood plain maps and learn about flood risks in their community.

Representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will host a Flood Map Information Open House for Emmet County on next month. The open house will provide county residents with an opportunity to review a recently completed preliminary Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and its accompanying preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs).

The FIS and the FIRMs provide base flood (also known as the one percent annual chance event) information, designate areas that are subject to significant flood hazards within the county, and offer information public officials may use when permitting development in the floodplain.

The open house will be staffed with representatives from various local, state, and federal agencies who will provide the most current information about flood risk, flood insurance, floodplain development regulations and the process for floodplain mapping within Emmet County. The newly prepared preliminary floodplain maps will be on display. Once the maps become effective, they will be used as the basis for flood insurance as well as local flood protection regulations adopted under the National Flood Insurance Program. FEMA also intends that the maps be used to assist planning processes and outreach efforts for better resiliency in response to flood and storm events.

The Emmet County public open house will be held Thursday, Aug. 15, from 5-7 p.m. at Harbor Springs City Hall, 160 Zoll Street in Harbor Springs. FEMA representatives will hold an additional meeting on Thursday, Aug. 15, from 2-4 p.m. for elected officials, community staff and officials, and other community consultants.

Property owners, realtors, lenders and insurance agents are urged to attend and take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about flood risk and hazard mitigation within their community. Digital files of the Preliminary FIRMs and FIS report can be downloaded at <a href="www.fema.gov/preliminaryfloodhazarddata">www.fema.gov/preliminaryfloodhazarddata</a>. For more information, contact the FEMA News Desk at FEMA-RS-News-Desk@fema.dhs.gov.