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## LANE COUNTY'S FLOOD MAP HAS BEEN UPDATED AND IS READY FOR REVIEW

FEMA, in cooperation with the state of Oregon, Lane County, the city of Cottage Grove, and other local communities, has updated flood maps to better show the risk of flooding in Lane County. To help inform the community, FEMA has put together a virtual resource. Residents can visit it online to learn more about this map update. You can view the virtual resource at: [bit.ly/clmapupdate](http://bit.ly/clmapupdate).

Through this virtual resource, property owners and community residents can learn about the flood mapping process and what the changes mean for them. They can also get information about the National Flood Insurance Program. Residents can learn who to contact if they need more support.

We encourage you to visit the virtual resource, review your flood risk, and ask questions via the contact information it provides. You can preview the maps directly through the [Flood Map Comparison Tool](#). You can also ask for a flood map for your property by emailing [PropertyIDMap@starr-team.com](mailto:PropertyIDMap@starr-team.com).

Flooding is the most common and expensive natural disaster in the United States. Studies show that the high-risk areas on flood maps have a 26% chance of being flooded at some point during a 30-year mortgage. Learn more about the costs of flooding and flood insurance on the Flood Smart website at [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov)



### Upcoming Events

- **Regular City Council Meeting**

The 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. At City Hall - Council Chambers 400 E Main Street.

- **City Tree Branch Pick-Up**

Limb Pick Up Dates: April 24th-28th & May 15th-19th. For information visit the City of Cottage Grove website or call the Public Works Dept. at 541-767-4100.

- **Science on Tap**

The Coast Fork Watershed Council hosts Science on Tap at the Axe and Fiddle on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Get more information on their website: [coastfork.org](http://coastfork.org)

- **STEAM Tuesdays**

Explore STEAM concepts with hands-on activities. Join Melinda Garcia from OSU Extension Service Lane County 4-H at the Cottage Grove Library at 3 pm.

# RIPARIAN AREA

Clean Water News

Cottage Grove Public Works & Development Department  
 Update for Riparian Corridor Neighbors



SPRING ADDITION

MARCH 2023

## FINAL DAY TO COMMENT IS APRIL 19, 2023 Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Updates

### WHY ARE THE FLOOD MAPS CHANGING?

Flood risk changes over time, and mapping technology has improved. By working with the state, county and local communities, FEMA is using updated data and newer technology to update the flood maps. Updated maps will more accurately represent the risk of flooding in your community.

The new map can help Cottage Grove residents better understand flood risks. This leads to more informed decisions about how to guard against damage and loss.

Owners of structures in high-risk areas will be required to have flood insurance for loans from federally regulated or insured lenders. We encourage everyone to be aware of their flood risk and purchase flood insurance. The revised map is available online for public review and comment. The appeal period is being determined, and will be announced soon.

You can view the maps here: <https://arcg.is/0fGKTr0>

### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR ME?

The new flood map, officially known as a Flood Insurance Rate Map, identifies areas of flood risk (high, moderate, low). It will influence financial, planning, investment and development decisions.



More information can be obtained by contacting Eric Mongan, your local Floodplain Administrator at [planner@cottagegroveor.org](mailto:planner@cottagegroveor.org)

## Row River Nature Park

City staff toured the Row River Nature Park with representatives from The Freshwater Trust and Coast Fork of the Willamette Watershed Council. The intent of the tour was to look at the 3.3 acres of the park that will be leased for restoration and provision of shade for the Row River. The Freshwater Trust in partnership with the Watershed Council will remove invasive vegetation and plant native trees to provide future shade to the Row River.

The invasive vegetation removal will start this spring to prepare the 3.3 acres for planting in late fall early winter. They will plant a minimum of 5 different native species of trees and bushes with approximately 150-300 large stature trees and up to 700 additional bushes and or trees to provide a healthy mix of native trees to restore the property to original forest conditions. City staff will be adding wood chips to existing trails to improve access for park users. Additional signage will be added to educate park users of the project and wildlife in the park.



## Cottage Grove Receives 2022 Tree City USA® and Growth Award

Cottage Grove was named a 2022 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation to honor its commitment to effective urban forest management. This is the City's 29<sup>th</sup> year being recognized as a Tree City USA®.

The community also received its sixth Tree City USA Growth Award for demonstrating environmental improvement and an outstanding level of tree care.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters.

If ever there was a time for trees, now is that time. Communities worldwide are facing issues with air quality, water resources, personal health and well-being, energy use, and extreme heat and flooding. Cottage Grove is doing its part to address these challenges for residents both now and in the future.

More information on the program is available at [arborday.org/TreeCityUSA](http://arborday.org/TreeCityUSA).



### 1-ON-1 SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE



Scan the QR Code to learn more about the flood map update. Using the contact information provided on the site, please reach out to our team to ask questions and request more information.

### 2023 ARBOR MONTH PLANTING EVENT April 1, 2023 at 9:00 AM

The City of Cottage Grove Urban Forestry Committee would like to invite you to participate in the Urban Forestry Committee's Tree Planting Event to be held on April 1, 2023 at 9:00 AM at the south parking lot of Bohemia Park (off Monroe Avenue).

The Urban Forestry Committee will be planting ten new street trees in the park strip area on the north side of Monroe Avenue. These ten trees are part of the Committee's effort to plant 50 new or replacement street trees in celebration of Arbor Month.

If you have any questions please contact Eric Mongan, City Planner at 541-942-3340.

### WHY ARE THE FLOOD MAPS CHANGING?

Flood risk changes over time, and mapping technology has improved. FEMA, in cooperation with the state of Oregon, Lane County, the city of Cottage Grove, and other local communities, is using newer data and technology to create updated flood maps that represent the risk of flooding in your community.

New maps help your community understand its flood risks. They can help you make informed decisions about protecting yourself from damage and loss.

### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR ME?

The new flood maps, officially known as Flood Insurance Rate Maps, identify areas of flood risk (high, moderate, low). They affect financial, planning, investment and development decisions.

Owners of structures in high-risk areas will be required to have flood insurance for loans taken through federally regulated or insured lenders. We encourage everyone to be aware of their flood risk and purchase flood insurance.

### WHAT CAN I LEARN ABOUT MY RISK?

Our goal is to help residents understand the risks of living, or owning property, in or near a flood zone. We want you to know some steps you can take to protect your home and family. On the website, you can:

- Learn about the flood mapping process.
- Ask about the risk to your property and learn what happens next.
- Understand flood insurance implications.
- See how the map revision could affect your property and community.

Engineers, flood insurance specialists, local community contacts and other experts are available to answer questions and provide information.

The revised map is ready for public review and comment. You can view the maps and learn more about your risk here: [bit.ly/clmapupdate](http://bit.ly/clmapupdate).

### QUESTIONS?

Contact Your Floodplain Administrator, Eric Mongan, at [planner@cottagegrove.org](mailto:planner@cottagegrove.org).



## CENTRAL LANE, OREGON FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM) UPDATE Fall 2022

Your community's draft Flood Insurance Rate Map is ready for your review.

FEMA is working with the state of Oregon, Lane County, the city of Cottage Grove, and other local communities to update your Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). This map uses new data and technology and will better represent the risk of flooding in Cottage Grove. New maps help your community better understand its flood risks. They can help you make more informed decisions about protecting yourself from damage and loss.

### MAP CHANGES AND YOUR FLOOD RISK

The flood map identifies the areas with a high risk of flooding. These are known as Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs). The map shows them as zones starting with the letter "A." If your home or business is in a SFHA and you have a federally backed mortgage, your lender will require flood insurance. When the updated flood map goes into effect, flood insurance requirements for your property may change.



The current effective flood maps for the city of Cottage Grove were developed in 1999.

The new flood map will help your community better understand its current flood risks and make more informed decisions about how to protect itself from loss and damage.

To learn more about what this update means for you, visit: [bit.ly/clmapupdate](http://bit.ly/clmapupdate)

### COMMENTS AND APPEALS

When FEMA releases a preliminary flood map, the agency offers a public comment and appeal period. In that time, constituents of affected communities can review the map and help make sure it properly shows the flood risk.

FEMA has collected the latest technical information to inform how we understand the flood risk. However, it is crucial that the people affected by the maps provide their feedback and specific local knowledge. The official appeal period that follows the delivery of the new map will be 90 days.

Please submit any comments or appeals to your local community representative:

CITY OF COTTAGE GROVE : Eric Mongan, City Planner (541) 942-3340 | [planner@cottagegrove.org](mailto:planner@cottagegrove.org)

### FLOOD INSURANCE

Flood damage is incredibly expensive. However, it does not have to drain your bank account. To protect the life you have built and provide for financial well-being in the event of a loss, buy flood insurance. It will help you recover faster and more fully.

There are two circumstances under which you are required to carry flood insurance.



1. Your lender will require you to carry flood insurance for the life of the mortgage IF:
  - \*Your building is in a SFHA (high-risk zone) on the current flood map.
  - \* You have a federally backed mortgage (insured by the taxpayers).
2. The government will require you to carry flood insurance IF:
  - \* Your home is in a SFHA, and you or a prior owner accepted federal disaster assistance for flood damage. At that time, an agreement was signed to maintain flood insurance for your home or building. You must maintain that coverage to be considered for any future federal disaster aid.

There are often options for finding lower-cost flood insurance, depending on your home's flood history and how it was built. To take advantage of these lower cost options, it is critical to **contact your insurance agent**.

For more information, visit <https://www.floodsmart.gov/>.