

* This news release was previously released by the City of Springfield Oct. 28.

NEWS RELEASE: Nov. 6, 2008

FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map public meeting Friday morning

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has released updated Flood Insurance Rate Maps, showing flood hazard areas in Springfield and Greene County. The public is invited to review these maps and meet with FEMA officials at a public meeting hosted by Greene County at 11 a.m., Friday, Nov. 7, 2008, in Room 212 of the Greene County Historic Courthouse, 940 Boonville Ave.

As a result of the new mapping, some properties will be newly identified as floodplains, or special flood hazard areas, while other properties will be removed from the floodplain.

The newly digitized maps are part of FEMA's national Map Modernization program using aerial photos and other data to identify floodplain areas not shown in FEMA's 2002 Flood Insurance Rate Maps. The digital maps also show seamless transitions between municipal and county jurisdictions, making it easier for property owners, homeowners, lenders and insurers to identify floodplain properties. The maps will be shown on paper at the public meeting, but will be available in a digital format on FEMA's Web site after the new maps are adopted.

The new mapping will affect all of the municipalities and unincorporated areas of Greene County. Mapping within the City of Springfield reflects new floodplain boundaries and new flood elevations in some areas. The new mapping is much more accurate as a result of improved mapping technology available since the existing maps were developed more than 30 years ago.

FEMA allows the public a 90-day appeal period to review the maps and provide them with additional technical information regarding the proposed flood elevations and floodplain boundaries.

The City of Springfield will host additional public information meetings to provide affected property owners and interested residents with more information on the impact of the new FEMA maps on specific properties. A mailout containing additional information regarding these meetings will be sent to affected property owners within the next two weeks.

For more information, contact: Nick Heatherly, City of Springfield Director of Building Development Services, 864-1059; or Kevin Barnes, Greene County Stormwater Engineer, 868-4147.