

**For website: (link to press release)**

**DO YOU KNOW YOUR FLOOD RISK?**

**Learn more at the Flood Risk Open House**

Bergen County is hosting an Open House to show FEMA's Proposed Flood Maps.

Learn about your risk of flooding and what the new flood maps mean to you.

**Tuesday, July 18, 2017, between 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.**

**Bergen County Law and Public Safety Institute, Recruit Training Rooms 204 – 207**

**281 Campgaw Road**

**Mahwah, NJ 07430**

Community officials, FEMA representatives, and insurance specialists will be available to answer your questions.

For more information or if you are unable to attend, visit [www.msc.fema.gov/portal](http://www.msc.fema.gov/portal) or contact a map specialist at the FEMA Map Information eXchange (FMIX) at (877) 336-2627.

**Press Release:**

**FEMA Proposes New Flood Insurance Rate Maps for Bergen County, NJ**

***Flood Risk Open House scheduled for July 18, 2017***

**DATELINE** – On May 5, 2017, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) released preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) to communities in Bergen County for public comment. Since that time, the maps have gone through a period of due process and are slated to become effective in 2018. The maps provide updated information about the community's flood risk, inform insurance rates and purchase requirements, and help property owners make decisions about how to protect themselves and their properties against future flood events. The FIRM and the associated Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report are the basis for each community's floodplain management measures.

FEMA will host a Flood Risk Open House meeting on **Tuesday, July 18, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** at the Bergen County Law and Public Safety Institute, in Recruit Training Rooms 204 – 207, located at **281 Campgaw Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430**. Representatives from the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, FEMA, and their mapping partners will be on hand to answer questions related to the proposed FIRM, the floodplain, and flood insurance. There will be no formal presentation at this meeting; therefore, attendees are encouraged to arrive any time during the hours of operation. In order to properly assist you, **residents and property owners should plan to bring a copy of the elevation certificate and flood insurance policy for their property, if available.**

As a result of these map changes, some properties in Bergen County may be included in a high-risk flood zone, known as the Special Flood Hazard Area, for the first time. This may result in those affected homeowners being required to purchase flood insurance. Flooding is the number one natural disaster in the United States. It is vital that property owners understand their current flood risk, and take advantage of the tools and/or programs available to make their property and community safer and stronger against future flood risk.

Additional information on mapping is available on FEMA's Flood Map Service Center (<https://msc.fema.gov/portal>) and flood insurance information can be found at <https://www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program> .