

# The Index

Georgia Department of Natural  
Resources Floodplain Management  
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[www.GeorgiaDFIRM.com](http://www.GeorgiaDFIRM.com)

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## LINKS OF INTEREST:

[www.GeorgiaDFIRM.com](http://www.GeorgiaDFIRM.com)

[www.FloodSmart.gov](http://www.FloodSmart.gov)

[www.fema.gov/hazard/flood](http://www.fema.gov/hazard/flood)

<http://msc.fema.gov>

*The Index is a publication of GA DNR Floodplain Management; for editorial comments or questions, please contact Collis Brown at 404-362-2606, or write to [Collis.Brown@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:Collis.Brown@dnr.state.ga.us)*

## NEW FLOOD INSURANCE RATING OPTION REDUCES COSTS

The National Flood Insurance Program recently announced that people whose properties were newly mapped into high-risk areas **since October 1, 2008** will be eligible to purchase a lower-cost Preferred Risk Policy (PRP) for two years starting January 1, 2011.

After that period expires, they may then be eligible for grandfathering.

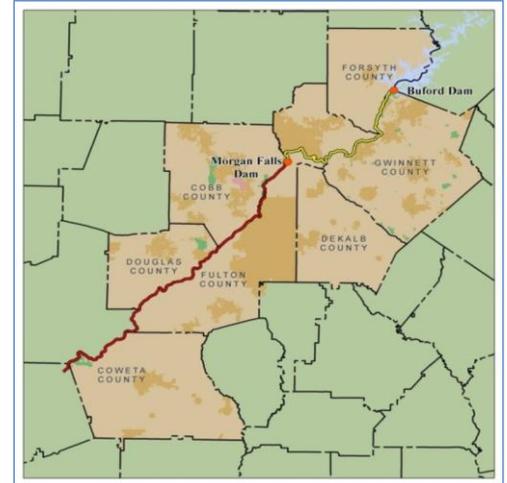
For more details, visit

[www.FloodSmart.gov/PRPExtension](http://www.FloodSmart.gov/PRPExtension)



## Upper Chattahoochee River Basin (UCRB) Mapping Project Kicks Off

In April 2010, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources – Floodplain Management (GA DNR) held a meeting to formally launch a new mapping project that will assess and re-map flood risks along a 107-mile stretch of the Chattahoochee River Basin. County and community officials along with industry stakeholders from the seven\* involved counties learned that the new study will replace outdated detailed studies within the basin that date back as far as 1977. The dated maps used data from only a limited number of detailed studies and no longer reflect changes in drainage patterns due to increased growth or erosion. The updated maps will incorporate studies using new technology that results in more accurate measurement and modeling. The models will also incorporate data collected from recent flooding, such as the widespread floods of September 2009 to ensure that the new flood maps reflect the effects of actual flooding events that have occurred in the region.



Since that meeting, scoping meetings have been held with each county and extensive surveying has been performed. **Preliminary flood maps are targeted to be available for public review during the summer 2011 and be effective the summer of 2012.** With the new maps, government agencies, residents, and businesses throughout the upper Chattahoochee River region will have more up-to-date information about their flood risks and the data will be easily available online.

\* *Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Forsyth, Fulton and Gwinnett*

FEMA's Map Modernization effort is now transitioning into a new multi-year program called Risk MAP (Mapping, Assessment, Planning). Likewise, GA DNR is facilitating the implementation of Risk MAP in Georgia through its Georgia Flood M.A.P. program.

## What's New at GeorgiaDFIRM.com?

As part of the transition to Georgia Flood M.A.P. Program, the GeorgiaDFIRM.com website has been updated to more effectively distribute comprehensive information about the program to floodplain management officials, property owners, and other community stakeholders. The website contains background information, status reports, technical data, outreach materials, and valuable links to other pertinent information.

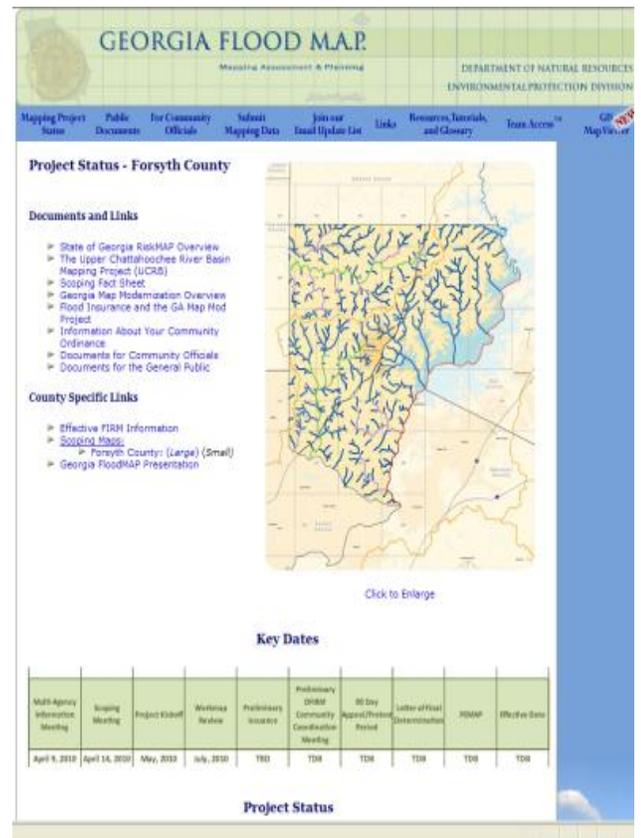
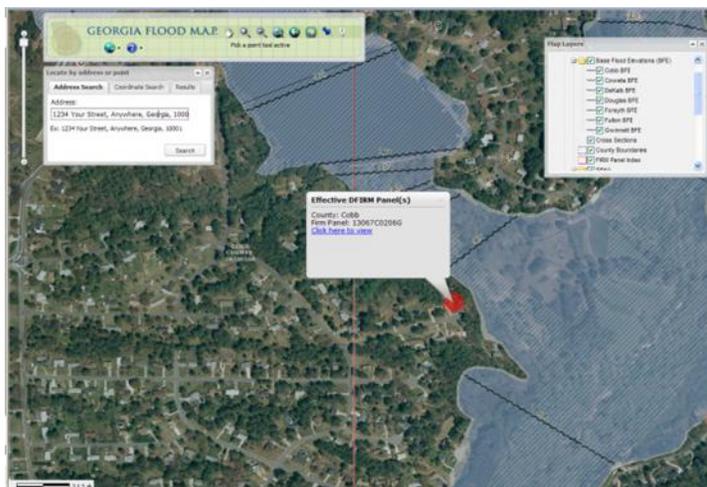
### Project Status Easily Available

As county mapping projects meet certain milestones, users are able to see the associated information on the county-specific project status pages. Project information such as specialized outreach documents, county-specific web links, key dates, project status indicator and a project scope of work table is available on each county page for the UCRB Project as well as for future GA DNR flood map projects.

- ▶ Review bi-weekly Project Status Pages
- ▶ View and/or print Project Scope Maps
- ▶ Keep up-to-date on important project meeting dates
- ▶ Print County-Specific Project Outreach documents

### Flood Risk Assessment Data Easily Available

A new addition to the website is the Flood M.A.P. Viewer which has been designed to provide users with easy access to updated flood risk information. It also provides Georgia communities with a portal for flood risk assessment information. Flood risk for individual properties can be more easily assessed. Elected officials and emergency planners can both understand where to focus a response effort after a flood but also can obtain estimated economic loss information based on the established flood risk for their community. **Everyone should make use of this valuable tool!**



### Coming Soon: A Property Flood Risk Snapshot

Property-owners needing a quick reference for property specific flood risk information will soon be able to view and print a flood risk snapshot of their property based on updated flood risk data as it is developed. These snapshots will provide users with panel information, flood zone designation, proximity to nearest high-risk flood zone, common flood risk definitions, as well as flood risk schematic, all on one printable document. This information can be useful to property owners when discussing with floodplain administrators risk mitigation options or when buying or selling a home.

