

Press Release for Neosho County, Kansas

Properties located within the FEMA Designated Floodplain

March 1, 2017

Pursuant to Neosho County Floodplain Resolution R-09-JJ

Floodplain Development permits are REQUIRED prior to ANY *development* in the Special Flood Hazard Areas (area's that have a 1% or greater chance of flooding in any given year). Permits need to be obtained from the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources (DWR) **AND** the Neosho County Floodplain Management office.

Neosho County is a participating *Community* in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This program allows area residents to purchase affordable flood insurance.

The *Community's* floodplain management regulations, limit development allowed in Special Flood Hazard Areas. The regulations specify that all new buildings to be constructed in Special Flood Hazard Areas are required to have their lowest floor elevated one foot above the base flood elevation. The regulations also specify that **substantial improvement** of existing buildings or buildings that have sustained **substantial damage** must be brought into compliance with the requirements for new construction in Special Flood Hazard Areas.

Failing to comply with floodplain management regulations can put Neosho County in jeopardy of losing flood insurance, disaster assistance and Federal backed loans and grants for our citizens.

To find out if your property is located in a Special Flood Hazard Area, contact the Neosho County Floodplain Office at 620-244-3801.

Development - as defined by FEMA:

Any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, levees and levee systems, land clearing (i.e. tree removal), mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation, drilling operations or storage of equipment and materials.