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Administration Building
406 Craven Street
New Bern, NC 28560
Fax 252-636-2728
hr@cravencounty.gov

Commissioners 252-636-6601
Manager 252-636-6600
Finance 252-636-6603
Human Resources 252-636-6602

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Media Contact: Amber M. Parker
(252) 636-6602

Community Rating System Activity 510 Annual Floodplain Management Progress Report

NEW BERN, N.C. – Craven County is required to release an annual Floodplain Management Progress Report to update residents on this past year's floodplain management activities. Specifically, this report satisfies Craven County's requirement of Activity 510 of the Community Rating System (CRS) program which will help ensure citizens maintain their 10% flood insurance discount.

In terms of Hazard Mitigation, Craven County has been carrying out implementation of the Pamlico Sound Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan approved by FEMA on June 3, 2015. These efforts have included outreach to all property owners located within the flood hazard area. More specifically, properties which have been deemed repetitive loss as defined by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) received additional information regarding options for acquiring assistance to mitigate their property from potential threats associated with flooding. Craven County's Planning and Inspections Department has also carried out a comprehensive program to educate realtors, builders, and contractors about issues associated with floodplain development. These efforts have involved direct mailings to these entities, as well as maintenance of a library of materials in the County Planning and Inspections Office, and at New Bern branch library.

Aside from all outreach efforts defined under the CRS program, the County has also continued to enforce land development regulations associated with sound floodplain development. This effort includes enforcement of a freeboard elevation requirement, and strict enforcement of the County's Floodplain Development Ordinance. In terms of structural mitigation, the County continues to elevate structures through the annual Flood Mitigation Assistance program through FEMA, as well as funding associated with the impacts of both Hurricanes Matthew and Florence.

Craven County, along with the other jurisdictions located within the Pamlico Sound Region are currently in the process of updating the Pamlico Sound Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. The planning process is underway, and it is anticipated that the updated plan will be submitted to FEMA by late 2019.

Questions about the content of this progress report can be directed to the Craven County Planning Department at 252-636-6618.

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