



# Before the Storm

Indiana Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management

SPRING 2015



2015 INAFSM  
ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE  
SEPTEMBER 9-11

POTAWATOMI INN  
POKAGON STATE  
PARK

RESERVE YOUR  
LODGING NOW

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## Visualize Flood Risk with FloodSmart's Flood Risk Scenarios Tool

**One-Step Flood Risk Profile**

**HOW CAN I GET COVERED?**

- Rate your risk
- Estimate your premiums
- Find an agent

Address:

City:

State:

Zip code:

Residential? ☐ Yes ☐ No

**GO!**

[Privacy Policy](#)

The consequences of a flood can be devastating to families, businesses, finances, and the overall health of a community. It is something we hope that people will never have to live through or recover from. But because we know that floods are the most common natural disaster in the United States—in fact, all 50 states have experienced flooding in the last 5 years—it is a safe bet that most people and communities are at risk of flooding in the near future. Using the free [Flood Risk Scenarios Tool](#)

available on [FloodSmart.gov](#) demonstrates that anywhere it can rain, it can flood. FloodSmart is the marketing and education campaign of the National Flood Insurance Program.

This tool demonstrates the different risk scenarios in which a flood can occur.

[Snowmelt](#) is a common cause of flooding during the winter and early spring months. During these times, large amounts of runoff cannot be absorbed into the frozen ground. The water accumulates into lakes, streams, and rivers, causing excess water to spill over their banks.

[Flash floods](#) are the most common severe weather emergency. A flash flood is caused by intense rainfall from one or more downpours, and can also be caused by the collapse of a man-made structure, such as a levee or dam.

Construction and [new development](#) can change the natural drainage patterns in areas around buildings, parking lots, and roads, meaning less land is available to absorb excess water.

[Dams](#) and [levees](#) also pose a flood risk. While these structures assist in the prevention of flooding, there are instances when it can still occur. Dams can become jammed with debris or can fail with the build-up of water pressure—or they can weaken over time and crack or collapse altogether. Levees can be overtopped or breached.

[Tropical storms, hurricanes](#), and [Nor'easters](#) can bring several inches of precipitation in just hours. These heavy rains can lead to se-

## Visualize Flood Risk - Continued

vere flooding by oversaturating the ground, overfilling storm drains, or causing rivers to spill over their banks or levees.

All of these examples are demonstrated in the [Flood Risk Scenarios Tool](#) and can help residents understand the many ways they may be at risk. Since floods can happen anywhere that it can rain, it's important that everyone is financially protected from the dangers of floodwaters. Flood insurance is available to residents and business owners in both high- and moderate- to low-risk areas. And because most policies take up to 30 days to go into effect, the time to act is now.

The Flood Risk Scenarios Tool is available for download through FloodSmart's [Community Resource](#) page. For those interested in using this tool, it easily can be embedded into web-sites. This tool, in addition to other tools and resources on FloodSmart.gov, can assist in educating communities about flood risks and educating residents about the need to purchase flood insurance that will help reduce the financial impact of flooding.

—Floodsmart.gov

## 2015 Awards Nominations



INAFSM is currently accepting nominations for the 2015 Awards. Nominations will be accepted until **May 29, 2015**. Categories for nomination include the following:

**Excellence in Stormwater Management** — This award recognizes an outstanding stormwater management program or an outstanding stormwater manager. Eligible award recipients include local units of government or an individual affiliated with a unit of government that has consistently demonstrated leadership in the area of stormwater management.

**Outstanding Stormwater Project** — This award recognizes an outstanding stormwater project studied, designed, or constructed by a firm for a unit of government or a private entity. Eligible award recipients include both the representing firm and the project owner.

**Excellence in Floodplain Management** — This award recognizes an outstanding floodplain management program or an outstanding floodplain manager. Eligible award recipients include local units of government or an individual affiliated with a unit

of government that has consistently demonstrated leadership in the area of floodplain management.

**Outstanding Floodplain Project** — This award recognizes an outstanding floodplain project studied, designed, or constructed by a firm for a unit of government or a private entity. Eligible award recipients include both the representing firm and the project owner.

**Excellent Strides in Floodplain Management Program** — This award recognizes the most improved floodplain management program. Eligible recipients are local units of government that have succeeded in, or have made a noteworthy effort towards, significantly improving its floodplain management program.

**Chairman's Award for Outstanding Service in Support of INAFSM** — This awards recognizes an individual that, in the opinion of the INAFSM Chair, has provided an outstanding service in support of the Association.

[Nomination forms](#) and full category descriptions may be found on the INAFSM website. Any questions please contact the Awards Chair at [awards@inafsm.net](mailto:awards@inafsm.net)

# 20th Anniversary Conference in 2016



Planning has already begun for our 20th Anniversary Conference. Those of you familiar with the organization know that conferences have been alternating between Brown County State Park and Pokagon State Park in recent years. For the 20th Anniversary conference we will have a change of location.

The 20th Anniversary Conference will be located at the Belterra Casino Resort in Florence, Indiana. **Mark your calendars to join us for this special event, September 7-9, 2016.** We will release information regarding conference costs later this summer to allow you plenty of time to budget for this event.

**2015 Conference Registration NOW OPEN!** Join us September 9-11 for our 19th Annual Conference at Pokagon State Park. Early bird pricing is available now through July 26th. The INAFSM room block is also open for reservations. Be sure to use **GROUP CODE: 0908IN** when calling 1-877-563-4371 to reserve your room.



## Floodplain Training Opportunities

All training opportunities may be found on the INAFSM website along with applicable flyers and links to the organization's website. If viewing this newsletter electronically, click the event to be redirected to the page.

June 9 — [Preparing for Post-Disaster Responsibilities](#) (Vincennes)

June 15-18 — [National Hydrologic Warning Council Training Conference & Exposition](#) (Indianapolis)

June 16 — [DIRT Conference](#) (Brown County)

June 18 — [Preparing for Post-Disaster Responsibilities](#)

(Winchester)

June 24 — [Preparing for Post-Disaster Responsibilities](#) (Columbus)

June 30 — [Preparing for Post-Disaster Responsibilities](#) (Valparaiso)

Are there any training opportunities that you know of and would like to share with other members? Please contact the Outreach Chair at [outreach@inafsm.net](mailto:outreach@inafsm.net) with the information.

*A complete list of all training opportunities may be found on the INAFSM Calendar of Events at [inafsm.net](http://inafsm.net)*

## Stormwater Training Opportunities

All training opportunities may be found on the INAFSM website along with applicable flyers and links to the organization's website. If viewing this newsletter electronically, click the event to be redirected to the page.

August 2-6 — [StormCon](#) (Austin, TX)

Are there any training opportunities that you know of and would like to share with other members? Please contact the Outreach Chair at [outreach@inafsm.net](mailto:outreach@inafsm.net) with the information.



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**INAFSM** encourages interested parties to contribute articles, photographs, and other items of interest for publication. Items and other editorial matters should be directed to:

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**"A unique opportunity for anyone involved with floodplain and stormwater management."**

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