

120 W. Washington Street Hagerstown, MD 21740 240-313-2382

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

James Jenkins, Manager Phone: 240-313-2384

Email: jajenkins@washco-md.net

COUNTY HOSTS OPEN HOUSE FOR PROPERTY OWNERS AFFECTED BY THE 2015 FEMA FLOODPLAIN MAP UPDATES

HAGERSTOWN, Md. (October 23, 2015) – The Washington County Plan Review and Permitting Departments in conjunction with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Maryland Department of the Environment will host an open house question and answer session to review changes to floodplain maps and discuss the impact on property owners November 9, 6 - 8 p.m. at the Washington County Free Library in Hagerstown.

A multi-year flood-risk update project was undertaken to re-examine the flood risks in Washington County. The risk of flooding changes over time due to erosion, land-use changes, weather events, and other factors. As a result of these changes, this created the need to remap the floodplain to more accurately define the flooding risk. To learn more about the 2015 map updates, go to www.washco-md.net/floodplain.

Homeowners are encouraged to review preliminary maps prior to the meeting: www.msc.fema.gov, http://www.mdfloodmaps.com/ and https://www.rampp-team.com/md.htm.

During the open house, representatives from each agency will be on hand to provide guidance and an overview of new local and state requirements. Homeowners can ask questions specific to their property and learn more about obtaining flood insurance if necessary.

It is important to investigate your flood risk status and contact your insurance agent to make necessary modifications to your coverage while the maps are still preliminary.

For media interested in more information, contact Public Relations and Community Affairs Manager James Jenkins at 240-313-2384.

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About Washington County, Maryland Government

Washington County, Maryland Government strives to fulfill its duty to the citizens of Washington County with regard to operational efficiency, fiscal responsibility, and responsiveness to the needs of the community. This vision is used to ably assist the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County in achieving goals for moving the County forward as present needs and future plans are addressed.

According to the Maryland Department of Legislative Services, the Washington County General Fund has one of the lowest costs per capita for services provided of all 23 counties and Baltimore City. This is attributed to the efficiency, staffing levels, and cost containment exhibited in Washington County Government operations. Visit www.washco-md.net for more information.

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