

Chapter 9. Action Plan

The culmination of this *Floodplain Management Plan* is the series of action items presented in this chapter. This chapter assigns recommended projects and deadlines to the appropriate offices.

9.1 Village Board of Trustees

9.1.1 Continue to explore and fund the Flood Assistance Program and Flood Assistance staff positions to help protect properties from smaller, more frequent floods, drainage issues, and sewer backup problems.

Deadline: Ongoing

Funding: \$50,000 should be budgeted each year for the rebate programs and unspent funds should be carried over to the following year.

9.2 Flood Liaison Committee

9.2.1 Continue to follow flood programs and provide information and recommendations to the Village Board, staff and residents. Meet on a quarterly basis to monitor the implementation of this *Plan* and prepare a written progress report to the Village Board at least annually. Include a specific evaluation of the public information program strategy (Section 9.5).

Deadline: Ongoing

Funding: Staff time

9.2.2 Continue to work with the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association and other regional groups to encourage coordination and cooperation on:

1. Remapping the Little Calumet watershed's floodplains,
2. Flood warning and response,
3. Channel maintenance,
4. Public information activities, especially during a flood awareness week,
5. Adoption of the SSMMA model stormwater and flood damage prevention ordinance, and
6. Participation in the Community Rating System.

Deadline: Ongoing

Funding: Staff time

9.3 Flood Assistance Coordinator

9.3.1 Continue to attend training and collect references on floodplain management, code enforcement procedures, State and Federal requirements, development regulations, floodproofing, financial assistance and post-flood mitigation programs. Pursue potential funding opportunities through the FEMA and IEPA grant programs. Follow all flood-related developments and report progress to the Flood Liaison Committee.

Funding: Staff time

9.3.2 Assist residents in obtaining financial assistance through the Flood Assistance Program's rebates.

Deadline: Ongoing

Funding: Staff time

9.3.3 Monitor other communities' efforts to develop flood response plans for critical facilities. Once their lessons have been learned, work with two local critical facilities to help them develop flood response plans for the appropriate flood hazard.

Deadline: Make initial contacts within 3 months of reviewing the other communities' efforts.

Funding: Staff time

9.4 Flood Assistance Coordinator/Director of Communications (Public Information Program Strategy)

9.4.1 Ensure that the following ongoing public information activities are implemented each year:

1. The flood protection library
2. Articles on flood protection in *South Holland Today*
3. Displays at various festivals and public activities
4. Distribution of the mayor's annual letter on flood protection to floodplain residents.
5. Playing flood-related videos on flood protection and the Village's flood activities on cable TV
6. Providing flood map information to inquirers
7. Providing advice on flood protection and retrofitting
8. Providing advice on selecting and dealing with contractors

Deadline: Ongoing

Funding: Staff time. The annual mayor's letter goes to approximately 45 floodplain residents households at a cost of \$120.00, which is included in the Communication Department's annual budget.

9.4.2 Update, expand, and/or initiate the following public information activities:

1. Increase the information and links on the Village's web site
2. Critique the materials provided to the schools each year and revise them as needed
3. Review and update the *Guide to Flood Protection*
4. Prepare short messages and inserts for utility bills.
5. Provide materials for the New Residents' Package given to all newcomers to the Village.
6. Prepare a standard talk with PowerPoint slides for presentations at neighborhood meetings, civic groups, and similar forums.

Deadline: Report progress at each annual Flood Liaison Committee status review meeting.

Funding: Staff time

9.4.3 Work with neighboring communities to develop and implement joint public information activities that benefit everyone in the region, including:

1. Conduct a Flood Awareness Week that coordinates Village efforts with the efforts of neighboring communities and state and federal agencies that are sponsoring awareness weeks.
2. Train insurance agents on flood insurance
3. Conduct floodproofing open houses
4. Educate contractors and home improvement stores' staff on property protection measures, construction regulations, and Village services

Deadline: Hold a coordination meeting with neighboring communities in January of each year.

Funding: Staff time

9.4.4 Ensure that the activities pursued under this public information program strategy (Sections 9.4.1 – 9.4.3) convey the following messages:

1. The types of flooding that can occur in the Village
2. A map of the area covered by the Flood Insurance Rate Map
3. What various government agencies are doing about flooding
4. Flood safety precautions, especially “turn around don’t drown.”
5. Flood insurance and what an insurance policy covers
6. Floodproofing and other property protection measures
7. Why sewers backup and sewer backup protection measures
8. The natural and beneficial functions of the Village’s floodplains and open spaces
9. Flood warning procedures
10. Floodplain development permit requirements.
11. The substantial improvement/damage requirements.
12. Rules on dumping in channels and channel maintenance procedures

Deadline: Provide copies of each project to the Liaison Committee meetings

Funding: Staff and Committee time

9.5 Emergency Response Committee

9.5.1 Critique the “Flood Warning and Response Plan” after each time that it is implemented and update and revise the document as needed.

Deadline: Prepare a written critique within 30 days of a flood that warrants implementation of the system.

Funding: Staff time

9.6 Department of Public Works

9.6.1 Implement the Drainage Maintenance SOP.

Deadline: Ongoing. Respond to problems identified by the Flood Assistance Coordinator's inspections and citizen calls within seven days.

Funding: Staff time and equipment