



October 1, 2013

# Press Release

## Rock County Flood Risk Information Open House Scheduled

*General public provided opportunity to find out more about floodplain management in their community*

Madison – Representatives from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), in cooperation with the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), will be hosting a Flood Risk Information Open House on Wednesday, October 30 beginning at 6:00 p.m. at Marshall Middle School, in the Cafeteria, 25 South Pontiac Drive, Janesville, WI. This Open House will provide the public with an opportunity to review a recently completed preliminary Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and its accompanying preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) that include base flood information and areas subject to significant flood hazards within the county. Information included in the FIS and the FIRMs is utilized by both public officials when permitting development in the floodplain and the federal government when making flood insurance determinations. Please note, there will not be a presentation at the Open House, rather this is an opportunity to view the preliminary maps and FIS in preparation for the upcoming 90-day appeal period.

The Open House will be staffed with representatives from various local and state agencies, to provide you the most current information about flood risk, flood insurance, floodplain development regulations, and the process for floodplain mapping within Rock County communities. New preliminary floodplain maps have been prepared and will be on display. Once the maps become effective in approximately one year, these maps will be used by floodplain permit officials, builders and developers, lenders, realtors, insurance agents and the general public to determine flood risk, develop mitigation measures, and encourage wise and responsible risk management decision-making.

Property owners, realtors, lenders, and insurance agents are encouraged to attend and take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about flood risk and hazard mitigation within their community. If you have any questions regarding this meeting, please contact G. Fritz Statz, at (608) 266-2709 or Gary Heinrichs at (608) 266-3093, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Floodplain Planners.

FEMA prepares the nation for all hazards and manages federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident. FEMA also initiates mitigation activities, trains first responders, works with state and local emergency managers, and manages the National Flood Insurance Program and the U.S. Fire Administration. FEMA became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security on March 1, 2003.