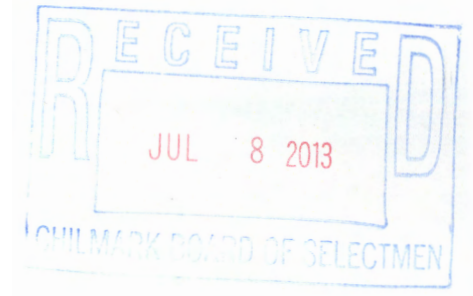




**FEMA**

July 3, 2013

Warren M. Doty  
Chairperson, Board of Selectmen  
Town of Chilmark  
Chilmark Town Hall  
P.O. Box 119  
401 Middle Road  
Chilmark, Massachusetts 02535



**Re: Updated Coastal Flood Insurance Rate Maps – Announcement for the Dukes County Meeting on Tuesday, July 16, 2013**

Dear Mr. Doty:

We would like to invite you to the Consultation Coordination Officer's (CCO) Meeting on Tuesday, July 16, 2013 where we will discuss the updated Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) panels and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) for Dukes County. This meeting is being held to describe the map review process and address your initial questions regarding the flood hazard data that were released on June 3, 2013. The meeting will be conducted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region I, the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (MA DCR), and STARR, a joint venture mapping contractor to FEMA.

Please feel free to pass this invitation along to other community officials who would benefit from this meeting. The meeting has been scheduled for:

**Tuesday, July 16, 2013**  
**2 PM to 4 PM**  
**Martha's Vineyard Regional Transit Authority**  
**11 A Street, Airport Business Park**  
**Edgartown, MA 02539**

At this meeting, we will discuss how the Preliminary Dukes County FIRMs and FIS report were developed, and the process of reviewing and changing data where appropriate. The meeting is particularly relevant to planning staff, zoning administrators, building inspector/code enforcement officers, as well as your flood hazard administrative officer.

On the same day, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM, there will be a community meeting for all Dukes County residents to discuss the updated flood hazard information. This meeting will be held at the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School on Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road in Oak Bluffs.

Subsequent to the CCO Meeting, we will initiate a statutory 90-day comment and appeal period. Your community should review the FIRM and FIS in detail, and identify any changes with labeling (i.e., road names) as well as any areas where they may have questions regarding the flood data. Changes in the Base Flood Elevations (BFE) or the extent of the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) are subject to formal appeal. Your community will receive a letter approximately two weeks before the start of the 90-day appeal period, which will detail the appeal process. The letter will contain information regarding the notification to be published in local newspapers and will provide the first and second publication dates. The appeal period will start on the second publication date. Additional instructions concerning the 90-day appeal period will be provided during the formal coordination meeting. During the appeal period, community officials and/or other interested parties may submit scientific or technical information that would serve to refute the proposed or proposed modified information on the FIRM.

We encourage you to review the text in the FIS report as it pertains to your community and welcome your suggestions for updating or revising the text. If possible, please become familiar with the Preliminary FIRMs as well as the FIS report prior to the meeting so that we may discuss your comments and questions. Community comments are an important part of our mapping process and will be carefully considered before the Dukes County FIRMs and FIS report are published in final form.

All comments and appeals received through the end of the 90-day appeal period will be considered and incorporated as appropriate. Following the resolution of all comments and appeals, FEMA will issue a Letter of Final Determination (LFD).

The State coordinating office will be working closely with your community during the compliance phase to ensure that the local floodplain management ordinance is brought up to current standards. Your community should coordinate with Richard Zingarelli, State NFIP Coordinator with MA DCR, regarding flood hazard area regulations and the process to update the municipality's ordinance/bylaws. Richard can be reached by email at [Richard.Zingarelli@state.ma.us](mailto:Richard.Zingarelli@state.ma.us) or by telephone at (617) 626-1406.

Please RSVP and send any questions or requests for additional information to Tom Tufts of STARR, by email at [Tom.Tufts@STARR-Team.com](mailto:Tom.Tufts@STARR-Team.com) or call (919) 325-4776. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter and look forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard Verville", written in a cursive style.

Richard Verville, Chief  
Hazard Mitigation Assistance Branch  
FEMA Region I

cc: Jennifer L. Christy, Town Clerk, Town of Chilmark  
Leonard Jason, Jr., Inspector of Buildings, Town of Chilmark  
Janet Weidner, Chairperson, Planning Board, Town of Chilmark  
Timothy Carroll, EMA Director, Town of Chilmark  
Chief Brian Cioffi, Police Department, Town of Chilmark  
Chief David Norton, Fire Department, Town of Chilmark  
Pam Goff, Chairperson, Conservation Commission, Town of Chilmark  
Dennis Jason, Harbormaster, Town of Chilmark  
Catherine Thompson, Chairperson, Planning Board, Town of Chilmark  
Kurt N. Schwartz, Director, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency  
Kerry Bogdan, Senior Engineer, FEMA Region I  
Richard Zingarelli, State NFIP Coordinator, Massachusetts Department of Conservation  
and Recreation  
Tom Tufts, Project Manager, STARR  
Alex Sirotek, Regional Service Center, STARR Region I