

HAMILTON COUNTY RESIDENTS INVITED TO SEE PRELIMINARY FLOOD MAPS

Attend Open House and Learn about Flood Risks in Your Community

ATLANTA—Newly revised digital flood insurance rate maps for Hamilton County, TN. will be available for residents to review at a public open house on April 13. Flood maps show the extent to which areas are at risk for flooding, and are used to help determine flood insurance and building requirements.

The open house provides the residents of Hamilton County and its municipalities the opportunity to see the preliminary maps, learn about their risk of flooding, and ask questions about what the new maps will mean for their property. Residents can meet one-on-one with a variety of specialists who will be available to talk about flood insurance, engineering, building permits and more.

The April 13th open house will be held between 4-7 p.m. at:

Development Resource Center Room 1A
1250 Market St.
Chattanooga, TN 37402

The new maps were produced through a partnership between Hamilton County, the state of Tennessee, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). They are more precise than older maps because better flood hazard and risk data and the latest science make the maps more accurate. The ultimate goal is protecting property owners and the community from the risks associated with flooding. Over time, flood risks change due to construction and development, environmental changes, floodplain widening or shifting, and other factors—which is why it's important that maps are updated periodically.

Property owners—both home and business owners along with renters, realtors, mortgage lenders, surveyors and insurance agents are encouraged to attend the open house. All who attend can meet with specialists to ask questions, and learn more about flood risk and hazard mitigation within their communities. Residents may also visit their local community's office to view the maps in person, or call their local floodplain manager with questions about where their property is located on the preliminary maps.

By law, federally regulated or insured mortgage lenders require flood insurance on properties that are located in areas at high risk of flooding. Standard homeowners', business owners', and renters' insurance policies don't cover flood damage, so flood insurance is an important consideration for everyone. NFIP policies can be purchased from any state licensed property and casualty insurance agents who people already deal with for other property insurance needs. Visit www.floodsmart.gov for more information about flood insurance and to locate a local agent.

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