

# MORRIS COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

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Kathryn A. DeFillippo

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County Administrator  
John Bonanni

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Diane M. Ketchum

October 20, 2016

*Ron*  
Hon. Ronald P. Francioli, Mayor  
Township of Hanover  
1000 Route 10 P.O. Box 250  
Whippany, NJ 07981-0250

Dear Mayor Francioli:

In the wake of Hurricane Irene, the Board of Chosen Freeholders (BCF) created the Flood Mitigation Program (FMP) to move our residents out of harm's way through the purchase of flood-affected homes. On October 13, 2016, the BCF expanded the FMP's scope by establishing a Community Rating System (CRS) Assistance Program.

Flood insurance rates are rising nationwide as a result of federal legislation which gradually removes federal subsidies that benefitted property owners in flood-prone areas. The CRS Program provides a discount on flood insurance premiums for all flood insurance policy holders when communities implement flood hazard mitigation measures to better communicate and protect against future flood events.

Morris County's CRS Assistance Program will provide professional input and technical resources to support the efforts of municipalities, including the formation of a 'Morris County User Group' to enhance the knowledge base and encourage cooperative efforts between municipalities. Please see the attached BCF Resolution and the CRS Assistance Program Rules & Regulations.

If you are interested in learning more about this new program, please contact Jennifer McCulloch, Morris County's CRS Coordinator at 973-829-8119 or [jmcculloch@co.morris.nj.us](mailto:jmcculloch@co.morris.nj.us).

Respectfully,

Kathryn A. DeFillippo  
**Freeholder Director**

Enclosures

cc: Municipal Governing Body, *via email*  
Municipal Administrators, *via email*  
OEM official, *via email*  
Engineer, *via email*  
Floodplain Manager, *via email*

## 6.17 Morris County Community Rating System (CRS) - Assistance Program

- 1. Management of local CRS programs is the responsibility of the participating municipality.**
  - a. Municipal participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) CRS program is voluntary;
  - b. Once a community receives its initial CRS classification, municipalities are responsible for continuing to implement their credited Activities in order to keep, maintain and improve upon their CRS classification as specified in Section 114.b of the NFIP CRS Coordinator's Manual (FIA 12/2013);
  - c. Morris County is not obligated to provide services to municipalities in order to retain, maintain, or improve upon their status in the CRS program.
  
- 2. Assistance from Morris County must satisfy a specific CRS Activity as identified in the NFIP "CRS Coordinator's Manual" (FIA-12/2013).**
  - a. Municipal requests for assistance must reference a specific Activity by NFIP Activity Number and Element;
  - b. All requests to the County must be submitted in writing or e-mail to the Division of Planning and Preservation Flood Mitigation Program/CRS Coordinator;
    - i. Municipalities shall provide the County with a clear description of the type of assistance being requested;
    - ii. The County will provide municipalities with a response as to the level of assistance available for each request made;
    - iii. Municipalities may be asked to provide additional information or data in order to process a specific request.
  
- 3. The Morris County CRS Assistance Program is intended to promote awareness of the NFIP CRS program among municipal officials responsible for implementing local mitigation activities.**
  - a. Requests for assistance must come directly from the municipality's Administrator, Construction Official, OEM Coordinator, Engineer, Floodplain Manager or the designated community CRS Coordinator; any of whom shall act in the capacity of the community's authorized CRS requestor;
  - b. Communities who rely on professional consultative services to manage and/or coordinate their CRS program must make all requests through their municipal Administrator;
  - c. A municipal Administrator relying upon professional consultative services to manage and/or coordinate the community's CRS program must:
    - i. Provide requests for assistance in accordance with item #2
    - ii. Provide requests for assistance on municipal letterhead or from the Administrator's municipal e-mail account;
    - iii. Act solely in the capacity as the community's authorized CRS requestor;
  - d. The County will only provide requested data and/or information to the community's authorized CRS requestor in accordance with these rules.
  
- 4. The Morris County CRS Assistance Program is intended to help municipalities that may not have the subject matter expertise or technical capability to successfully participate and/or advance in the NFIP CRS program.**
  - a. The Morris County Users Group is open to municipalities seeking to advance their knowledge and understanding of the NFIP CRS program;
  - b. Due to limited County resources, assistance will be prioritized based on a community's technical capacity and professional, subject-matter capabilities;
  - c. The County will not provide duplicative consulting services, data or analysis for those communities relying upon professional consultative services to manage and/or coordinate their CRS program.