



Yavapai County Flood Control District



Newsletter

September 2012

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WWW.YCFLOOD.COM

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The District has Moved to a Green Building

The Flood Control District, MIS and Development Services have moved to a new building on Commerce Drive. While the District has always been housed with Development Services allowing for a streamlined permitting process,



The directors of the new building, Steve Mank, left, Charlie Cave and Michael Holmes, cut the ribbon while Supervisors Chip Davis and Carol Springer look on.

sharing the building with MIS as well will allow the District to work closer with them on our website and the GIS features the District loves to use for floodplain management. The District also works closely with the Public Works Department and the new location will work well for that partnership. That includes the Emergency Management Department and having our ALERT room next to their facility will assist us in being as



effective as possible during a flood event. Finally, the building has a clear view to several of our repeater stations which will enable us to receive our gauge data from the new building in the near future. Beyond the convenience of location, the new building was built with Stormwater's Best (Story Continues on Page 2...)

Websites for other related organizations:

AZ Dept of Water Resources
www.azwater.gov

AZ Dept of Environmental Quality
www.azdeq.gov

AZ Division of Emergency Management
www.dem.azdema.gov

CORPS of Engineers
www.usace.army.mil

Federal Emergency Management Agency
www.fema.gov
www.floodsmart.gov

National Weather Service
www.weather.gov

National Resource Conservation Service
www.nrcs.usda.gov

US Environmental Protection Agency Region IX
www.epa.gov/aboutepa/region9

New Flood Maps for the Verde River Mean Better Defined Risk for Yavapai County

A multi-year project by the Yavapai County Flood Control District (YCFCD) to re-examine flood risks and develop updated and more detailed, digital flood hazard maps for the Verde River Valley is nearing completion. Replacing flood maps based on studies done almost 30 years ago, property owners along the Verde River from Clarkdale to Beasley Flat will have up-to-date, reliable, Internet-accessible information about their flood risks. As a result of these new flood maps, property owners may learn that their flood risk could be higher or lower than they thought. Changes in flood risk can also mean changes in building and

flood insurance requirements. As someone with a stake in our community's future, YCFCD encourages association members to be aware of how the maps are changing and why, how the changes will affect residents and business owners alike, and learn what options are available.

Flooding: A Frequent and Costly Disaster

Flooding is the most frequent and costly natural hazard in Yavapai County. (See Page 3)



New Building, Continued from Page 1...

Management Practices in mind. The building itself was constructed with a rain harvesting system, which will reduce pollutants from the building from running off and entering the natural water system. In addition, the use of the harvested water will reduce the demand for clean City well water on the site.

The drainage swales around the parking lot were built with base rock. The base rock will slow the velocity of the runoff, filtering out sediments and petroleum pollution prior to the runoff entering the

natural water system. The slower velocities also allow stormwater to infiltrate back into the ground, reducing runoff downstream and restoring the ground water.

As the County continues to be a local leader in green construction, be sure to take a look around the next time you come in for a permit. The building has plenty of green features outside of the storm-water features. The new building is located at 1120 Commerce Drive, Prescott, AZ 86305.



Gauge of the Month



Winter Maintenance



SELIGMAN AIRPORT

Gauge ID: 3890

Gauge Type: Precipitation/Weather

Watershed: Verde River

Location: Seligman/Upper Big Chino Wash

Forbing Park Construction to Begin

The final phase of a drainage improvement project involving Forbing Park has been awarded to the Watkins-Mendoza Company. The project involves the installation of almost 2,500 feet of storm drain along Adams, Shoup and Kile Streets.

The first phases of the project started in 2000 when several engineering firms were interviewed to perform an Area Drainage Master Study. Professional Engineering Consultants, Ltd. was selected to identify drainage patterns in the area and to propose alternate solutions to drainage issues. The study identified several culverts and washes with insufficient capacities and led to the design of the storm drain.

Complicating the project is the lack of depth at the downstream connection to an existing system. Coupled with an existing water and

sewer system with depth challenges of their own, the design required creative solutions to allow the systems to work together and the construction will need to be more precise than a usual project.

The Flood Control District and PEC have worked closely with the City of Prescott to create a solution that works for everyone. One issue involved designing a sanitary sewer than runs through the storm drain, requiring custom construction of the connection.

All of the parties involved have been working on the Forbing Park project for a long



time and are happy to welcome the Watkins-Mendoza Company to bring the project to a successful close.

Verde River Cont. from Page 1

The first step in reducing the risk of flooding is to know your flood risk. Flood risks vary from property to property, even within the same neighborhood. Risks change over time due to surface erosion, land use and natural forces. Using the latest technology and flood modeling, the new digital maps will incorporate more accurate ground elevation and previous flooding event data and result in more detailed, reliable and current information about today's flood risks. The result: a better picture of the areas most likely to be impacted by flooding and a better foundation from which to make key flood risk-reducing decisions.

Stay Informed

Changes in flood risk can mean changes in building and flood insurance requirements and rates. To help ensure that everyone within the remapped area along the Verde River has access to the most accurate and up-to-date information about their flood risk and these changes, a series of Public Workshops are planned for the end of October for the public to view the maps and ask questions. While the new maps are not tar-

geted to become effective until late 2013 or early 2014, it is important to understand what the changes are now and their potential impact.

For more information about these meetings

and to view the maps, visit YCFCD's website at www.YCFlood.com. For more information on this study, contact Lynn Whitman – District Engineer, Yavapai County Flood Control District – at 928-771-3197 or via email at lynn.whitman@yavapai.us.



Getting Your Family Together During an Emergency

Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so plan how you will contact one another. Think about how you will communicate in different situations.

Complete a contact card for each adult family member. Have them keep these cards handy in a wallet, purse or briefcase, etc. Additionally, complete contact cards for each child in your family. Put the cards in their backpacks or book bags.

Check with your children's day care or school. Facilities designed for children should include identification planning as part of their emergency plans.

Family Communication Tips

Identify a contact such as a friend or relative who lives out-of-state for house-

hold members to notify they are safe. It may be easier to make a long-distance phone call than to call across town, so an out-of-town contact may be in a better position to communicate among separated family members.

Be sure every member of your family knows the phone number and has a cell phone, coins or a prepaid phone card to call the emergency contact. If you have a cell phone, program that person(s) as "ICE" (In Case of Emergency) in your phone. If you are in an accident, emergency personnel will often check your ICE listings in order to get a hold of someone you know. Make sure to tell your family and friends that you've listed them as emergency contacts.

Teach family members how to use text messaging (also known as SMS or Short

Message Service). Text messages can often get around network disruptions when a phone call might not be able to get through.

Subscribe to alert services. Many communities now have systems that will send instant text alerts or e-mails to let you know about bad weather, road closings, local emergencies, etc. Sign up by visiting your local Office of Emergency Management web site.

Also make sure each family member knows two ways out of every room of your house. Choose a meeting place away from the house and practice exiting the house from various locations and meeting in the designated spot.

More information on keeping your family connected can be found at www.ready.gov.

Yavapai County Flood Control District

1120 Commerce Dr.
Prescott, AZ 86305

Phone: 928.771.3197
Fax: 928.771.3427

The Yavapai County Board of Supervisors also serve as The Board of Directors for the District.

10 S. Sixth St.
Cottonwood, AZ 86326

Phone: 928.639.8151
Fax: 928.639.8118

The initial floodplain ordinance was adopted December 1981, and has been revised over the years.

Please visit the County website for more information:

- Applications, Forms and Instructions
- Building Codes
- Community Plans
- Drainage Criteria Manual
- Fees/Impact Fees
- Flood Hazard Status Reports
- Flood Protection Information
- General Plan
- Ordinances
- Regulations
- Storm Water Management Program
- Related Links & More

<http://www.yavapai.us>

COUNTY TOLL FREE TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ash Fork, Bagdad, Seligman, Yarnell 800.771.2797

Black Canyon City and Phoenix Area 602.495.8800

COUNTY SWITCHBOARD NUMBERS

Prescott 928.771.3100 - Verde Valley 928.639.8100

The Drainage Criteria Manual, was first adopted November 1998, and revised August 2005. The current Ordinance and Drainage Criteria Manual are available on line at the County website or may be purchased at the Prescott and Cottonwood District offices.

Services Performed

The District is available for assistance or technical advice on the following topics:

- National Flood Insurance Program
- District ALERT System
- Flood Insurance Rate Maps
- Flood Status Information on a Parcel of Land
- Flood Protection & Safety
- Local Flood Hazard
- Development & Permitting within the 100 year floodplain
- Construction in or adjacent to a significant watercourse
- Storm Water Quality and Pollution Control

Flood protection information and links to other agencies are available on the County website. Go to www.ycflood.com for archived issues of this newsletter.