FEMA to Update Flood Maps in Ventura County, Camarillo, Fillmore and Santa Paula

Release Date: ?? 12, 2021

OAKLAND, Calif. — The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is updating flood maps in Ventura County and for communities along the Santa Clara River. The maps, scheduled for release later this year, will identify the current flood hazards and help building officials, contractors and homeowners make effective mitigation decisions, thereby contributing to safer and more resilient communities.

Before the preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) become effective, there is a 90-day appeal period from Mar. 11 to June 9. During that time, residents with technical and scientific information, such as detailed hydraulic or hydrologic data, can appeal the flood risk information on these maps. Everyone can view the preliminary FIRMs at fema.gov/preliminaryfloodhazarddata.

Flood hazards are dynamic and change for many reasons, including weather patterns, erosion and community development. Officials from FEMA, Ventura County, and the cities of Fillmore and Santa Paula reviewed new data and river studies. These changes may affect future building standards or insurance requirements. The preliminary flood maps represent varying degrees of change in each community and continue to be reviewed by community officials. For example, parts of the city of Camarillo are plotted on one of the map panels, but there are no floodplain revisions for the city.

The local mapping project is part of a national effort led by FEMA to increase local knowledge of flood risks and support actions to address and reduce the effects of flooding on new and improved structures. FEMA encourages residents to review the preliminary flood maps to learn about local flood risks, potential future flood insurance requirements and identify any concerns or questions about the information provided.



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Risk of flooding affects almost every corner of the nation. In total, 98% of counties have experienced a flood event, which makes floods the most common and widespread of all weather-related natural disasters.

For more information, contact Ventura County at (805) 654-3027 or Yesenia Silva <u>yesenia.silva@ventura.org</u>, or the cities of Camarillo at (805) 388-5340 or Naftalia Tucker <u>ttucker@cityofcamarillo.org</u>, Fillmore at (805) 946-1647 or Roxanne Hughes <u>roxanneh@fillmoreca.gov</u>, or Santa Paula at (805) 933-4212 or Clete Saunier <u>pw@spcity.org</u>.

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