



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Braunfels Awarded Reduction in Flood Insurance Premiums

New Braunfels, TX – The City of New Braunfels has received official notification from FEMA that residents, business and residential renters, and business owners in New Braunfels can now enjoy a 20 percent reduction in flood insurance premiums because of the City’s active participation in the National Flood Insurance Program’s (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS).

CRS is an incentive program that encourages communities to adopt floodplain management activities exceeding the minimum NFIP requirements. CRS has three goals, which are:

1. Reduce flood losses.
2. Facilitate accurate insurance ratings.
3. Promote the awareness of flood insurance.

In return for a community’s adoption of standards that go above and beyond the minimum NFIP requirements, flood insurance premium rates for residents within the participating community are discounted. These discounts are designed to reflect the reduced flood risk to property owners resulting from the community’s floodplain management activities. The amount of the discount varies according to the community’s level of effort and is a tangible result of the flood mitigation activities the City has implemented to protect lives and reduce property damage.

New Braunfels first made application to the CRS Program on January 20th 2010. From the very beginning City officials have recognized the value of the CRS Program in reducing risk to floodplain property owners, and have actively pursued a variety of floodplain management activities to reduce flood risks to the residents. The discount on premiums for flood insurance policy-holders in the community is based upon mitigation activities undertaken by the community.

“I commend your communities’ actions and your determination to lead your community to be more disaster resistant,” said David Miller, Associate Administrator with the Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration. “This commitment enhances public safety, protects property, preserves the natural functions of floodplains and reduces flood insurance premiums.”

The City of New Braunfels was awarded a Class 6 rating under the CRS, which provides a 20 percent discount on flood insurance premiums for property located within special flood hazard areas and a 10 percent discount in non-special flood hazard areas within the community.

Communities are placed into classes ranging from Class 10 (lowest class) to Class 1 (highest class) based on the total number of points accrued and other specific CRS requirements. All participating communities start out as a Class 10, which offers no flood insurance premium discount, and each class increase results in an additional 5 percent premium discount.

New Braunfels residents and business owners who have, or would like to obtain, flood insurance should contact their insurance carrier to be sure that their policy reflects this reduction in the premium.

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