COUNTY OF MORRIS
Office of Communications & Digital Media

PRESS RELEASE:
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For Immediate Release

Public Invited to Review Flood Maps in Morris County, N.J.

90-Day Appeal and Comment Period Underway for Proposed Flood Map Updates

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is inviting the community to participate in a 90-day appeal and comment period regarding its proposed updates to the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for Morris County, New Jersey – updates that could impact the use of properties near the special flood hazard area (SFHA).

The appeal and comment period began Sept. 25, 2026, and is the latest step in a flood mapping process that has been underway for several years. Residents, business owners and other community partners are encouraged to review the revised preliminary flood maps to better understand local flood risks and potential future flood insurance requirements.

FEMA Milestones for Morris County Flood Mapping

- **2022-2024** — Regular coordination meetings with local officials on mapping progress.
- **Dec. 20, 2024** — Flood Risk Review meeting to review draft flood hazard data.
- **Nov. 17, 2025** — Revised Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps released.
- **Jan. 8, 2026** — Community Coordination and Outreach Meeting to review the preliminary maps and discuss updates to local floodplain management ordinances and flood insurance.
- **Jan. 8 and 13, 2026** — Public open house meetings to review the preliminary maps.
- **Sept. 25, 2026** — 90-day appeal and comment period begins.
- **Late 2027/Early 2028*** — New Flood Insurance Rate Maps expected to become effective and any applicable flood insurance requirements to take effect. **The timeline is subject to change pending completion of the appeal review process.*

The updated maps were produced in coordination with local, state and FEMA officials. Significant community review of the maps has already taken place. Before the maps become final, eligible communities and other interested parties can identify potential errors or questions about the information and submit appeals or written comments.

An **appeal** may be submitted when a person believes the technical or scientific information used to develop the flood map is incorrect. Appeals must include technical information, such as hydraulic or hydrologic data, supporting the claim. Appeals cannot be based on the effects of proposed projects or projects that began after the flood study was underway.

Written comments may be submitted for errors that do not affect the flood hazard information. Examples include a missing or misspelled road name within a Special Flood Hazard Area or an incorrect corporate boundary.

Not all communities or map panels in Morris County are eligible for the current appeal process. Map panels that became effective Aug. 19, 2025, are not subject to this appeal period. The current appeal period applies only to communities that received revised preliminary map panels as part of the Nov. 17, 2025, partial countywide update.

The preliminary maps can be viewed through the FEMA Flood Map Viewer for Morris County. The revised maps, study report and associated data also are available for download and digital viewing through FEMA's Map Service Center.

Appeals and written comments should be submitted through the appropriate local municipal floodplain administrator. They also may be submitted directly to FEMA and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) at:

- FEMA-R2-RAB-Appeals@fema.dhs.gov
- george.ibrahim@dep.nj.gov
- joseph.ruggeri@dep.nj.gov

Following the appeal and comment period, FEMA will review and resolve submitted appeals and comments. Once the review process is complete, FEMA will notify communities of the effective date of the final maps.

Most homeowners' insurance policies do not cover flooding. Cost-saving options are available for property owners who are newly mapped into a high-risk flood zone. Property owners can learn more about flood insurance options by speaking with their insurance agent or visiting FloodSmart.gov.

For questions about the flood mapping process, contact FEMA Region 2 Office of External Affairs at 212-680-3699 or FEMA-R2-ExternalAffairs@fema.dhs.gov. Residents also may contact Morris County Flood Mitigation Program Coordinator Mike DiGiulio at mdigiulio@co.morris.nj.us.

For general questions about FEMA flood maps, contact a FEMA Map Specialist toll-free at 1-877-FEMA-MAP (1-877-336-2627) or FEMA-FMIX@fema.dhs.gov.

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Image: Screenshot of the online page for the Morris County draft flood hazard viewer developed by the NJDEP and FEMA.

Image: Screenshot of FEMA's Map Service Center webpage.