

Benefits of Using the I-Codes in a Community's Floodplain Management Program

Strong floodplain management regulations are integral to protect a community from the potentially devastating effects of flooding, which can occur without warning. Integrating the I-Codes as part of a community's floodplain management strategy furthers one of the long-term objectives of the National Flood Insurance Program: to reduce flood damage and losses. Communities that enforce the 2009 and later editions of the I-Codes can rely on the flood provisions of those codes for buildings and structures in flood hazard areas. Floodplain management regulations must also address other aspects of development in flood hazard areas.

There are various advantages to using the I-Codes as part of a community's floodplain management program, including:

- Reduced conflicts between building codes and floodplain management regulations
- Building construction requirements regarding perils are consolidated and are easy to reference
- Increased assurance of quality building
- Building codes have some increased standards and more specific requirements than the NFIP requirements
- Increased consistency in permit conditions and requirements
- Regulation of all buildings and structures, in flood hazard areas resulting in consolidated and strengthened enforcement; effective, routine inspections; and increased compliance of regulations in existing buildings

For more information about how a community can use the I-Codes as a part of its floodplain management strategy, see *Reducing Flood Loss Through the International Codes: Coordinating Building Codes and Floodplain Management Regulations*, Fourth Edition, 2014.

Source: ICC, et al., *Reducing Flood Loss Through the International Codes: Coordinating Building Codes and Floodplain Management Regulations*, Fourth Edition, 2014. Available: <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/96634>.