



FEMA RECOGNIZES TOWN OF SULLIVAN'S ISLAND FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT EFFORTS

(December 17, 2010)

DECREASE IN FLOOD INSURANCE PREMIUMS

FEMA has awarded Sullivan's Island with a Class 6 designation in the FEMA Community Rating System (CRS). This places the Town in an elite category: top ten (10%) percent of all CRS communities in the nation and one of only ten (10) South Carolina municipalities with a Class 6 or better rating.

What does this mean for the Town and residents?

- **Island-wide savings of \$327,427/year**
- **An average savings of \$374/year per National Flood Insurance Policy**

What does a resident need to do to get savings?

- **Flood Insurance policy renew after October 1, 2010?**
 - 20% Community Discount should automatically appear on renewal policy
- **Flood Insurance policy renew before October 1, 2010?**
 - 20% Community Discount should appear on policy renewal next year

Call your flood insurance agent if Community Discount does not appear on policy

How did the Town earn this rating?

Several Town initiatives over recent years lead to the improved rating:

- Implementation of a storm water authority;
- Participation in the Charleston Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan and Committees;
- Digitization of records and retention in off-site storage;
- Open space protection, such as exists in the RC1 and RC2 (ocean and marsh side) districts;
- Use of Geographic Information System (GIS) technology to better inventory and document marsh as open space increasing it from 85 acres to 215 acres.
- Enforcement and increased information outreach to citizens through Town's enhanced multiple media outlets (new Town website and E-Newsletter along with traditional mail-outs, flyers, etc)

Town Council and Staff note the real success story lies with Island residents.

While the two-person Building Department (Randy Robinson and Kat Kenyon) work hard to manage the program, Floodplain Manager Robinson notes, "we earned this achievement thanks to the support of the residents and their diligence in following the rules to make Sullivan's Island a Flood Safe Community."

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