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Updating flood insurance maps helps to better predict flood zone areas for community and home insurance planning.

NEW MAPPING SHOWS COMMUNITY FLOOD RISKS

LIVE OAK, FLA., Apr. 14, 2017 – Area residents and governments will have the opportunity to review updated mapping information to better prepare and protect homeowners and communities in the event of flooding.

The Suwannee River Water Management District (District), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Florida Department of Emergency Management (FDEM) are hosting open house meetings for residents and officials in Dixie, Levy and Taylor counties during the month of April to review the proposed Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) maps and answer questions.

“Flood information and protection are core to the mission of the District and we are proud to work with FEMA and FDEM and receive feedback from the community to ensure accurate,

sound data for the development of the updated maps,” said Noah Valenstein, executive director of the District.

The updated maps are part of FEMA’s plan to modernize all flood hazard maps nationwide and will provide better, more accurate floodplain mapping of the District. Once adopted, the maps will be used to determine which properties are located in special flood hazard areas for flood insurance purposes.

Property owners, lenders, realtors and insurance professionals are encouraged to attend and provide comments on the maps. A list of the meeting dates and locations are listed below.

| Dixie County | Taylor County | Levy County |
|--|---|--|
| Tuesday, April 25, 2017 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM EST | Wednesday, April 26, 2017 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM EST | Thursday, April 27, 2017 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM EST |
| Dixie County Emergency Operations Center 17600 SE Highway 19 Cross City, FL 32628 | Forest Capital Hall 204 Forest Park Dr. Perry, FL 32348 | Tommy Usher Community Center 506 Southwest 4th Avenue Chiefland, FL 32626 |

Meetings for Columbia, Bradford, Alachua and Union counties will be held in the coming months. Refer to the District website for more information.

The mission of the Suwannee River Water Management District is to protect and manage water resources using science-based solutions to support natural systems and the needs of the public. The District holds true to the belief of water for nature, water for people. Headquartered in Live Oak, Florida, the District serves 15 surrounding north-central Florida counties.

For more information about the District, visit www.mysuwanneeriver.com or follow us on Facebook and Twitter, search @SRWMD.

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