



County of Gloucester
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MEDIA RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE ANNOUNCEMENT
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Gloucester Achieves Class 6 CRS Rating

Gloucester County Administrator J. Brent Fedors has announced that as of October 1, 2016 Gloucester County has joined select company within the Commonwealth of Virginia in being recognized with a Class 6 Community Rating System (CRS) designation.

The CRS is a National Flood Insurance Program run by FEMA through which localities' floodplain management efforts are measured and rated using a prescribed series of available creditable activities. Prior to this improvement Gloucester County held a Class 7 rating.

In addition to enhanced services provided to the community, participation in the CRS provides discounts for flood insurance policy holders in the County. Moving from a Class 7 community to a Class 6 community increases the flood insurance discount Gloucester citizens enjoy from 15% to 20%, which is welcomed at a time when insurance premiums have been rising. In announcing this achievement, Mr. Fedors remarked, "There are only four localities in the Commonwealth of Virginia that are credited with a Class 6 CRS rating (three in northern Virginia and Gloucester), and none with a better rating. This fact speaks very well for the hard work undertaken by county staff in many departments and community volunteers that serve as part of our Floodplain Management Committee."

One of the new initiatives that helped push Gloucester past the Class 6 threshold was the creation of a "program for public information" (PPI) focused on educating our citizens, contractors, surveyors, realtors, lenders, and others in the community that may potentially come in contact with flooding. This initiative was largely citizen volunteer driven and the County is greatly appreciative

of their efforts. Also critical to the new designation was Board of Supervisors support for updated local floodplain management ordinances in 2014.

Citizens are encouraged to visit Gloucester's website, www.gloucesterva.info, and select "flood protection information" from the "stay informed" section on the homepage to learn more. Additional information about CRS is available from FEMA at: www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program-community-rating-system.

End of Announcement