Using the Website to Determine Your Flood Risk

Overview

The data available at www.tsarp.org can help you determine your flood risk. This information will help you make informed decisions about flooding. For information about what is being done to reduce the risk of flooding, see the Harris County Flood Control District's website at www.hcfcd.org.

Available Tools

The www.tsarp.org website has information about flooding along with two tools to help you determine your risk of flooding.

- **FEMA Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Lookup**
  You can enter your address, zip code, or FIRM panel number, or you can use the zoom tool on the map. The website will bring up an Adobe Acrobat (.PDF) file of the official FEMA Preliminary FIRM.

  Note: Popup windows must be allowed for this site by your browser to download the PDF file. No advertising pop-up windows are generated by this website.

- **Interactive Mapping Tool**
  This tool allows you to search for your location the same way the FEMA Preliminary FIRM Lookup tool does, but it does not show you the official FEMA Preliminary FIRM map panel. Instead, it provides an interactive map that allows you to add many other layers of data, such as:
  - Current FEMA floodplain information
  - 2-foot and 10-foot ground contour data
  - Aerial Photos

Finding the Tools

There are various links to both mapping tools throughout the website, including links on each one that take you to the other. However, the easiest way to get to the FEMA Preliminary FIRM Lookup tool is by clicking on the large blue box at the top of the home page.

The "View the Maps" page contains links to each tool as well as information about how they work. This page is located under the "Preliminary Release" page which is the top link on the left hand side of the page. The "Preliminary Release" page contains information about everything that pertains to the release of the FEMA Preliminary FIRMs.

Specific FEMA Preliminary FIRM panels and other maps and data can be downloaded directly from the "Products" page.

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Using the Tools

For both tools you can insert your address and zip code right in the box below the map. If you know the specific FIRM panel number that you want to view, you can click on the "Search By FIRM Panel" button to the right and insert the information below the map. Both tools also allow you to use the navigation tools to the left to click right on the map and zoom into an area.

FEMA Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Lookup

By clicking on the "Download PDF" button under the Navigation tools you can then click on the map and download a specific FIRM panel once they are fully zoomed in. (Popups must be allowed by your browser.)

Once a FIRM panel is downloaded it is still linked to other FIRM panels. By clicking on the compass in the lower left hand corner you can move to the next FIRM panel in any direction.

Interactive Mapping Tool

Additional layers of data can be added to the map by clicking on the "Add Data" tab at the top of the legend. Simply click the box next to the data you want to add, such as current FEMA floodplains or 2-foot contours, and then scroll down and click on the "Refresh Map" button. The data will be added to the map.

Maps can be turned into PDFs and printed by clicking on the "Save/Print This Map" button in the lower right. (Popups must be allowed by your browser.)

Links

Here are the specific links for some of the most important pages on the TSARP website:

Page Name	Link
TSARP Home Page	www.tsarp.org
FEMA Preliminary FIRM Lookup	http://maps.tsarp.org/website/tsarp_firm/viewer.htm
Interactive Mapping Tool	http://maps.tsarp.org/viewer.htm
Preliminary Release	www.tsarp.org/preliminaryrelease.html
View the Maps	www.tsarp.org/viewmaps.html
Public Information Fairs	www.tsarp.org/public_information_fairs.html
Appeals and Protests	www.tsarp.org/appeals.html
Products	www.tsarp.org/products.asp
Flood Insurance	www.tsarp.org/family/flood_insurance.html