

LARIMER COUNTY
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT



FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT GUIDE



SECTIONS 1-3:
FLOODPLAIN REGULATIONS



1. INTRODUCTION

These guidelines have been prepared to aid in understanding the processes and submittal documentation necessary for the review and approval of floodplain development activity occurring in the Larimer County Floodplain Overlay (FPO) District. These guidelines are not intended to replace any requirements for floodplain submittals to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) or the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB). This is a living document and will be updated as necessary by County staff.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The information contained in this document was adapted from several sources, including the City of Fort Collins, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB).

3. FLOODPLAIN REGULATIONS

Larimer County floodplain regulations exist to (1) help preserve, protect, and improve the safety, health, and property of Larimer County residents from the adverse impacts of flooding and (2) meet or exceed minimum federal and state standards for floodplain regulation which qualify Larimer County property owners for flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

The NFIP was created through the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (NFIA). The purpose of the program was to reduce flood damage and losses through the enforcement of floodplain regulations and management practices. Under the NFIP, local communities agree to adopt and enforce federal and state floodplain regulations in addition to their own local ordinances. In exchange, community residents and property owners become eligible to purchase subsidized federal flood insurance and the County becomes eligible to receive federal disaster aid. Floodplain regulations which govern floodplain development in Larimer County include:

1. Article 12 of the Larimer County Land Use Code (LCLUC)
2. National Flood Insurance Act of 1968
3. 44 Code of Federal Regulations §65.3 (44 CFR §65.3)
4. Section 2 Colorado Code of Regulations 408-1 (2 CCR 408-1)
5. CWCB Rules and Regulations for Regulatory Floodplains in Colorado (CWCB Rules and Regulations)

Article 12 of the LCLUC can be viewed by navigating to the Larimer County Floodplains Website at www.larimer.org/engineering/floodplains.