Floodplain Development – Permitting Procedures

Floodplain-related questions may be answered by:
- Building and Code Official (Floodplain Administrator)
- Town Clerk/Treasurer (backup Floodplain Administrator)

INQUIRY TELEPHONE OR IN PERSON:
- Individual is asked what type of project is being proposed.
- Determined if the project in a flood zone.
  - If so, all development requires a Floodplain Development Permit.
  - NOTE: Other ordinance requirements and/or permits may be required outside of the floodplain requirements.

PERMIT ISSUANCE:
- The property is located by address and reviewed to determine if the project is in a flood zone. If yes, a floodplain development permit is required.
  - Use the Virginia Flood Risk Information System (VFRIS) or FEMA’s National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) to determine this.
- Permit application is submitted and reviewed.
  - The following information is collected during the review:
    - Flood zone
    - BFE
    - Type of work/development
    - For Buildings (if applicable):
      - Project cost
      - Flood openings
      - Elevations
      - Floodproofing
      - Attached or detached garages
      - Plumbing, mechanical, and electrical information
      
      NOTE: Some of this information may be submitted as part of a Building Permit
  - If an existing structure, property assessed value is used to determine if the development is a substantial improvement or substantial damage. If so, require structure to be brought into conformance with the current floodplain ordinance.
- The floodplain development application and all attachments is kept on file in perpetuity.
- If all requirements are met, the applicant is granted a Floodplain Development Permit.
- If development occurred outside the scope of work, the Floodplain Administrator will notify the developer of the violation and require appropriate action. Enforcement will be carried out as stated in the Floodplain Ordinance.