

# Flood Zone Definitions and Flood Determination Terminology

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## Flood Zones

**B, C and X** These areas have been identified in the community FIS as areas of moderate or minimal hazard from the principal source flood in the area. However, buildings in these zones could be flooded by severe, concentrated rainfall coupled with inadequate local drainage systems. Local storm water drainage systems are not normally considered in the communities FIS. The failure of a local drainage system creates areas of high flood risk within these rate zones. Flood insurance is available in participating communities. (Zone "X" is used on new and revised maps in place of Zones B and C.)

**D** Unstudied areas where flood hazards are undetermined but flooding is possible. Flood insurance is available in participating communities.

**N/A** Nonparticipating community or part of a community. There are no FIRMS's printed for the majority of these areas unless they did participate in the NFIP at one time. Flood insurance is not available in a nonparticipating community.

**V** SFHA's along coasts subject to inundation by the 100-year flood with the additional hazards associated with storm waves. Because detailed hydraulic analyses have not been performed, no base flood elevations or depths are shown.

**VE & V1-V30** SFHA's along coasts subject to inundation by the 100-year flood with the additional hazards due to velocity (wave action). Base flood elevations derived from detailed hydraulic analyses are shown within these zones. (Zone VE is used on new and revised maps in place of zones V1-V30.)

**A** SFHA's subject to inundation by the 100-year flood. Because detailed hydraulic analyses have not been performed, no base flood elevations or depths are shown.

**AE & A1-A30** SFHA's subject to inundation by the 100-year flood determined in a FIS by detailed methods. Base flood elevations are shown within these zones. (Zone AE is used on new and revised maps in place of zones A1-A30.)

**AH** SFHA's subject to inundation by 100-year shallow flooding (usually areas of ponding) where average depths are between one and three feet. Base flood elevations derived from detailed hydraulic analyses are shown within these zones.

**AO** SFHA's subject to inundation by 100-year shallow flooding (usually sheet flow on sloping terrain) where average depths are between one and three feet. Average flood depths derived from detailed hydraulic analyses are shown within these zones.

**A99** SFHA's subject to inundation by the 100-year flood, which will be protected by a federal flood protection system when construction has reached specified statutory progress toward completion. No base flood elevations or depths are shown.

## Definitions

<b>SFHA</b>	Special Flood Hazard Area	<b>NSFHA</b>	No Special Flood Hazard Area
<b>FIS</b>	Flood Insurance Study	<b>FIRM</b>	Flood Insurance Rate Map
<b>FEMA</b>	Federal Emergency Management Agency		
<b>NFIP</b>	National Flood Insurance Program		