

Excerpt from Chapter 18.120

18.120 Definitions

18.120.030 Meaning of Specific Words and Terms

86. Flood-related definitions:

- a. “Base flood” - The flood having a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. Also referred to as the “100-year flood.”
- b. “Critical facility”- A facility for which even a slight chance of flooding might be too great. Critical facilities include, but are not limited to schools; nursing homes; hospitals; police, fire, and emergency response installations; and installations which produce, use or store hazardous materials or hazardous waste.
- c. “Floodway” - The channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than one foot.
- d. “Floodway fringe” - The area of the special flood hazard area lying outside of the floodway.
- e. “Special Flood Hazard Area”- The land area covered by the floodwaters of the base flood is the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) on NFIP maps. The SFHA is the area where the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP's) floodplain management regulations must be enforced and the area where the mandatory purchase of flood insurance applies. The SFHA includes Zones A, AO, AH, A1-30, AE, A99, AR, AR/A1-30, AR/AE, AR/AO, AR/AH, AR/A, VO, V1-30, VE, and V. Also referred to as the “100-year floodplain.”