

Georgia Association of Floodplain Management (GAFM) Outstanding Achievement Awards

As part of Georgia Association of Floodplain Management's (GAFM's) Annual Conference each year, starting in 2008, GAFM will recognize outstanding individuals or programs at the Annual Conference. There are several awards that have been authorized by the GAFM Board. A description of the award and the criteria for nomination are described in the following sections. Note that these are not annual awards; there is no requirement that each year an award be given in the described categories, nor is there a requirement that only one award be given at any one time for a specific category. Any award will be based on merit as judged by the GAFM Awards Committee in accordance with the criteria described.

In order to nominate an individual or program, please submit to the Awards Committee no more than two pages, as appropriate, describing the individual or program being nominated. Include a description of the reasons the individual or program merits recognition in general accordance with criteria described for each award. Individual or program nominees must be in general compliance with all applicable floodplain management requirements and otherwise have a satisfactory record with respect to floodplain management. All nominations must be sponsored by current members of GAFM.

Nominations should be e-mailed in WORD or PDF format to the Current GAFM Awards Chair.

Awards will be announced at the Annual Conference; some awards will be presented in a local setting (such as a Commission Meeting) subsequent to the Conference so that the individual or program can be recognized in the local community outside of GAFM for their outstanding efforts.

Program Award for Excellence in Floodplain Management

This award recognizes county or municipal programs, or multiple-jurisdictional programs, demonstrating outstanding local commitment to sound floodplain management. The award is open to any municipal or county sponsored program in the State of Georgia. The program can be multi-jurisdictional in nature, for example a multicounty effort, or a combine municipal/county program, or an RDC sponsored program. State of Georgia and FEMA programs are not eligible since this award is focused on local achievement. The award will be announced at the Conference but will be presented in the appropriate local setting.

Nominees should be able to generally demonstrate:

- Improvement to one or more floodplain management outcomes compatible with recognized goals established by GAFM, ASFPM, or FEMA;
- Contributions to knowledge, methods, technology or regulations; and
- • Achievement of floodplain management objectives over a sufficient period of time, where appropriate. Where possible, and as appropriate, information accompanying the nomination should include:
 - Brief description of the nominated program;
 - Key performance data relevant to the outcomes;
 - Benefits in terms of health, safety, convenience, aesthetics and quality of urban living;and
- Independent supporting descriptions and information.

Outstanding Floodplain Manager Award

This award recognizes the individual efforts of an outstanding floodplain manager in the State of Georgia. The individual must have worked, or is currently working in a floodplain management capacity within a municipality or county within the State of Georgia. It is not necessary for them to be a member of GAFM; however, if they are not, an awardee will also be given an honorary membership in GAFM. The award will be announced at the Conference but will be presented in the appropriate local setting.

Nominees should generally have demonstrated outstanding leadership in local floodplain management issues. It is preferred that at least two statements of recommendation, not including the primary nominating statement, be included from local officials or citizens within the community they serve.

The contributions of the nominee should be described in as much detail as appropriate, with specific examples and instances relating to floodplain management included in the nominating document.

Self-nominations will not be considered. This award should be considered as peer-recognition for outstanding local leadership and achievement.

Distinguished Service Award

This award recognizes a current or past member of GAFM who has been an outstanding influence on the credibility, responsiveness, and overall quality of the organization. The nominee should characterize the finest in selfless dedication to promoting and expanding recognition of GAFM as an organization of the highest quality. The nominee should be personally recognizable by a large portion of the GAFM membership as having a critical influence on the success of GAFM. It should be clear in the nominating document that this person's efforts have helped to result in GAFM being recognized as a high quality organization. It is preferred that at least four statements of recommendation, not including the primary nominating statement, also be included. This award will be announced and presented at the Annual Conference.

Meritorious Achievement Award

This award will recognize an individual for achievement above and beyond the "call of duty". It is not necessary for them to be a member of GAFM; however, if they are not, an awardee will also be given an honorary membership in GAFM. The event, achievement, or motivation for this award is highly variable; it does not have to have occurred in Georgia and does not have to be directly related to floodplain management, although at least indirectly it should positively influence the goal of sound floodplain management. For example, outstanding volunteer disaster relief outside of Georgia could provide for consideration of a nominee. Meritorious achievement can be recognized in the area of education, government, policy, research, litigation, outreach, implementation, or other areas that can have a direct or indirect influence on the goal of sound floodplain management. The nominating document should describe in detail the meritorious nature of the individual's work or achievement, and should clearly indicate how this individual has performed beyond what would be considered their normal or average activities and abilities. It is preferred that at least two statements of recommendation, not including the primary nominating statement, be included from persons intimately familiar with the event or activities precipitating the nomination. The award will be announced at the Conference, and can be presented at the Conference, but can also be presented in the appropriate local setting.