Fall Floodplain Institute

NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS

PROGRAM

20th Annual Fall Floodplain Institute
October 14 - 16, 2026
Asheville, NC

Tuesday, October 13	
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM	**NCAFPM Board Meeting** *(Dogwood)*
Wednesday, October 14	
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM	**Vendor Exhibit Setup** *(Biltmore Foyer)*
12:30 – 1:45 PM	**Registration** *(Laurel Registration Area)*
1:45 – 3:15 PM Note: Duration of individual presentations is in brackets [ ].	**PLENARY SESSION 1: OPENING** *(Ballroom – Pilot/Pisgah/ Roan/ Mitchel)* *Master of Ceremonies: Mike Robinson, CFM (NCAFPM Chair)* **Welcome to FFI:** *Mike Robinson, CFM (NCAFPM Chair) [10]* **Welcome to Asheville:** *Amanda Edwards, BOC [10]* **ASFPM/CFM/Chapter Update:** *Bill Tingle, CFM (NCAFPM Executive Director) [15]* **Scholarship Program/Student Chapter:** *Dan Tomczak, CFM, PE (NCAFPM Vice Chair), Holly White [15]* **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region IV Update:** *Valerie Anderson, CFM (Supervisory Emergency Management Specialist, Floodplain Management, and Insurance Branch) [40]*
3:15 – 3:45 PM	**BREAK** – **Refreshments** *(Biltmore Foyer)*
3:45 – 5:15 PM **Note:** Duration of individual presentations is in brackets [ ].	**PLENARY SESSION 2:** *STATEWIDE UPDATES (Ballroom – Pilot/Pisgah/ Roan/ Mitchel)* *Moderator:* **North Carolina Commerce-Community Revitalization Update:** *Maggie Battaglin* [30] **North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) Update:** *Steve McGugan, SHMO/Mitigation Section Chief with Gary Thompson, PLS; Carl Baker, CFM; Tom Langan, PE, CFM; and Steve Garrett, CFM [30]* **NCEM-Hazard Mitigation Building Successful Grant Applications:** *Steve McGugan, SHMO/Mitigation Section Chief, Jason Pleasant (NCEM) [30]*
5:15 – 5:45 PM	**Registration** *(Laurel Registration Area)*
5:30 – 7:00 PM	**Exhibitors' Social** – *Refreshments (Biltmore Foyer)*
7:00 – Until	**Dinner on your Own**
9:00 – 11:00 PM	**Hospitality Suite Open** *(Room 220 Thomas Wolfe Suite)*

Thursday, October 15

7:00 – 10:30 AM	**Registration** *(Laurel Registration Area)*		
7:00 – 8:30 AM	**Morning Meet and Greet -** *(Biltmore Foyer)*		
8:30 – 10:00 AM Note: Duration of individual presentations is in brackets [ ].	**PLENARY SESSION 3: STATEWIDE UPDATES** *(Ballroom – Pilot/Pisgah/ Roan/ Mitchel)* *Moderator:* **State Climate Office:** *Tim Glotfelty (NCSU) [30]* **DEQ State Resiliency Update: Blueprint, Stu Brown; State Resilience Office,** *Gian Tavares (NCDEQ) [30]* **North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Resiliency Update:** *Kurt Golembesky, PE, CFM [30]*		
10:00 – 10:30 AM	**BREAK – Refreshments** *(Biltmore Foyer)*		
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM Note: Duration of individual presentations is in brackets [ ].	**1-A Technical Session** *(Pilot/Pisgah Room)* *Moderator:* **One** *Building Resilience in Action* *Ryan Cox (Insight)* [30] **Two** *More Than a Culvert: Turning Flood Control into Community Connection* *Lydia Ward (Freese)[30]* **Three** *EMA Updates for Local Governments Acquiring Flood-Prone Property* *Taylor Morris (UNC Chapel-Hill)[30]*	**1-B General Session** *(Roan/ Mitchel)* *Moderator:* **One** *Positioning Natural Floodplain Management in Southern Appalachia* *Tyler Sammis (American Rivers) [30]* **Two** *The First Line of Flood Defense Isn't a Permit: It's Better Community Decision-Making* *Ashli Barefoot (Insight) [30]* **Three** *Flood Risk Reduction in the Rocky Branch Watershed* *Andrew Martin (ESP Associates) [30]*	**1-C Field** *(Dogwood)* **One** *Biltmore Cottage Variance: MEETING POINT [30]*
12:00 – 1:15 PM	**LUNCH BUFFETT INCLUDED** *(Buffet Biltmore Foyer) (Pilot/Pisgah/ Roan/ Mitchel)*		
1:30 – 3:00 PM Note: Duration of individual presentations is in brackets [ ].	**2-A Technical Session** *(Pilot/Pisgah Room)* *Moderator:* **One** *Planning Frameworks for Resilience: Re-imagining Opportunities After Hurricane Helene* *Mike Robinson, CFM (Summit Design and Engineering Services) [30]* **Two** *One Piece in the Larger Puzzle of Recovery – Acquisition after Hurricane Helene* *Corey Barber (NCDPS) [30]* **Three** *ASCE 24 and the National Flood Insurance Program: Key ASCE 24-24 Provisions Aligned with CRS Activity 430, Higher Regulatory Standards* *Melissa Mitchell (Tetra Tech) [30]*	**2-B General Session** *(Roan/ Mitchel)* *Moderator:* **One** *From Recovery to Resilience: Rebuilding Lake Lure After Hurricane Helene Through Strategic Funding and Floodplain Informed Infrastructure Planning* *Jennifer Davis [30]* **Two** *A True Tale of Ten Tasks: Gastonia's Approach for Developing a Data-Driven Stormwater Management Strategy* *Neal Banerjee (Freese)[30]* **Three** *Transitioning FIMAN from 1D to 2D: A Case Study in Lumberton, NC* *Ethan Everett (ESP Associates) [30]*	**2-C Collaborative Session** *(Dogwood)* **One** *Practitioner Voices for Statewide Impact: A collaborative Session on Improving North Carolina's Flood Resilience* *Gian Tavares (NCDEQ), Holly White (NCDEQ) [60]*

3:00 – 3:30 PM	**BREAK – Refreshments** *(Biltmore Foyer)*		

Thursday, October 15 (cont.)

3:30 – 5:00 PM Note: Duration of individual presentations is in brackets [ ].	**3-A Technical Session** *(Pilot/Pisgah Room)* *Moderator:* **One** *Pending [30]* **Two** *Hazard Mitigation Planning* *Carl Baker (NCDPS) [30]* **Three** *So... It's Time to Update the Plans Again? Lessons from North Carolina's Statewide Local Mitigation Plan Updates* *Nathan Slaughter (ESP Associates) [30]*	**3-B General Session** *(Roan/ Mitchel)* *Moderator:* **One** *HMGP OMG* *Nathan Pennington (Buncombe County) [*30] **Two** *Applying the North Carolina Resilient Communities Planning Guide in Swannanoa* *Nicole Goddard (NCDEQ)[30]* **Three** *ASCE North Carolina Infrastructure Report Card Updates* *Chas Webb (Raleigh)[30]*	**3-C CFM Review** *(Dogwood)* *Facilitator:* *Steve Garrett, CFM, State NFIP Coordinator (NCEM)*
6:00 – 11:45 PM	**Downtown Shuttle Provided buses leave from Crowne Plaza Main Entrance to Asheville River Arts District & South Slope then back to Crown Plaza. Shuttle runs a continuous loop until 11:45. RIDERS MUST HAVE THEIR FFI NAME TAG VISABLE TO BOARD THE BUS**		
7:30 – 11:00 PM	**Hospitality Suite Open** *(Room 220 Thomas Wolfe Suite)*		

Friday, October 16

7:30 – 8:30 AM	**Registration** *(Laurel Registration Area)*		
7:30 – 8:30 AM	**Morning Meet and Greet -** *(Biltmore Foyer)*		
8:30 – 10:00 AM Note: Duration of individual presentations is in brackets [ ].	**4-A Technical Session** *(Pilot/Pisgah Room)* *Moderator:* **One** *After Helene: How Disaster Data Analysis is Shaping Policy and Mitigation Action in Henderson County, NC* *Stephen Julka (Fernleaf) [30]* **Two** *[Where is the Road? The Creation and Maintenance of NCDOT Lidar Road Ribbon* *Kurt Golembesky, PE, CFM (NCDOT) [30]* **Three** *Beyond the Dam: Adapting Hazard Creep Monitoring for Any Flood Zone* *Dave Michelson (UNCA) [30]*	**4-B General Session** *(Roan/ Mitchel)* *Moderator:* **One** *Advancing Flood Resilience with the French Broad River Basin Action Strategy* *Melanie Lander (NCDEQ) [30]* **Two** *LiDAR Change Detection (LCD) Reveals the True Extent of Helene's Impacts on WNC Landscapes* *Philip Prince (Appalachian Landslide Consultants, PLLC) [30]* **Three** *Major Changes: Community Response to Future Hazard Risks After a Disaster* *Shannon Capezzali (Buncombe County) [30]*	**4-C CFM Exam** *(Dogwood)* *8:30 – 11:30 AM* *[3 hr.]* *Proctor:* *Bill Tingle, CFM Melonee Brock, CFM*

10:00 – 10:30 AM	**BREAK** – **Refreshments** *(Biltmore Foyer)*	
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM Note: Duration of individual presentation is in brackets [ ].	**PLENARY SESSION 4: CLOSING PLENARY** *(Ballroom – Pilot/Pisgah/ Roan/ Mitchel) Moderator:* **BLE For You and Me** *Stacey Fuller (NCDPS) [30]* **GROW NC Updates:** *Scott Elliot (Deputy Director) [30]* **Prize Giveaways (Must be Present to Win!):** *Mike Robinson [30]*	

2026 Fall Floodplain Institute Presenters and Moderators

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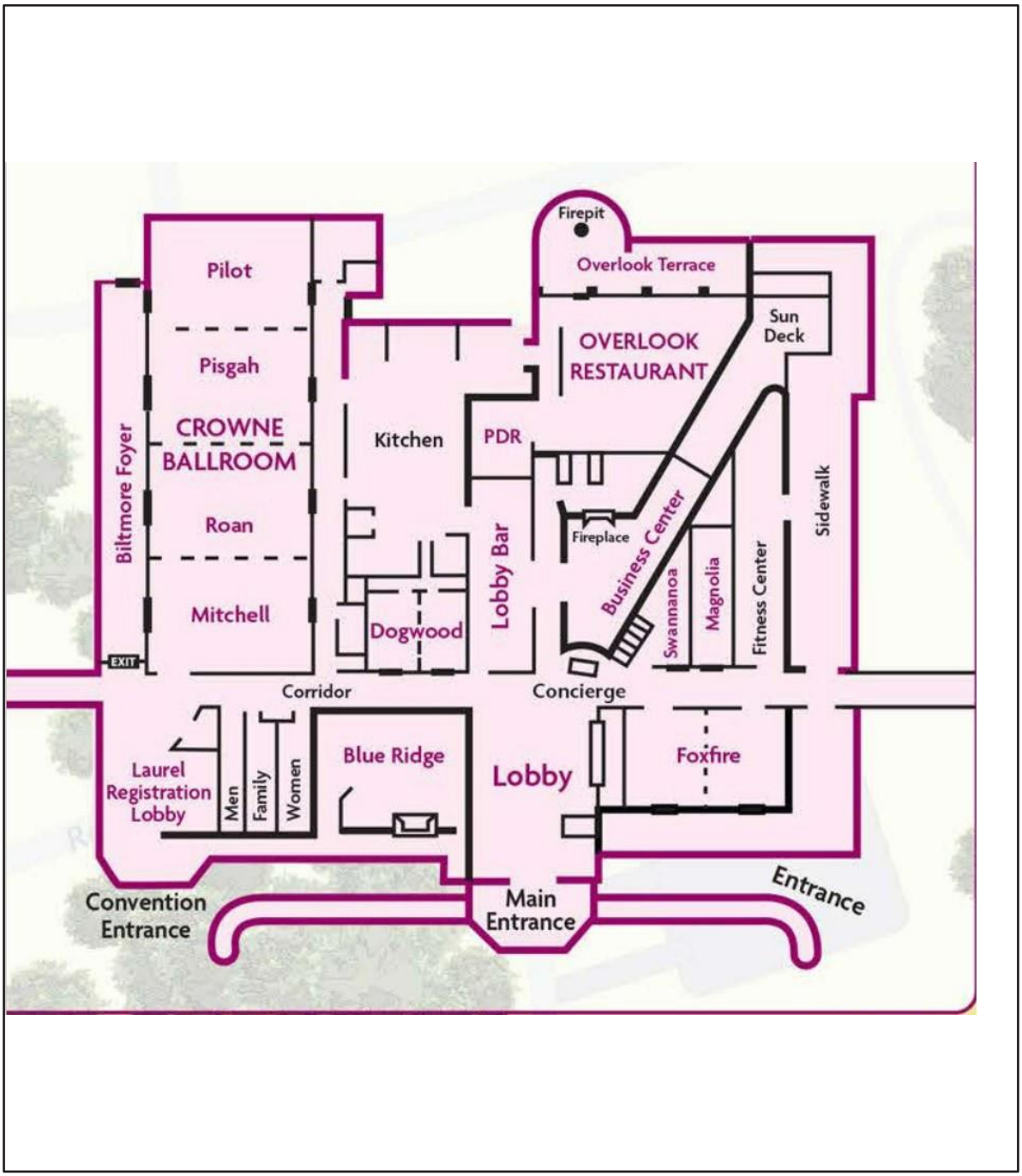
Crowne Plaza Floorplan