



Public Services

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VERN M. REDIFER, P.E. - Director

September 3, 2015

Dear Interested Citizens

As many of you are aware, in the last five years the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Yakima County and Washington State Emergency Management Department (EMD) have been developing a flood risk reduction project in the Cottonwood Grove/Shaw Creek/Wide Hollow Creek area to mitigate future flooding in these residential areas. After several years of flood modeling, environmental study, and alternative development, the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) has been completed and is available for public comment.

We have scheduled a public meeting on Wednesday, September 16th at 7:00 PM at the following location:

**West Valley Junior High School
7505 Zier Road
Yakima, Washington 98908**

A copy of the Environmental Assessment (EA) will be available at the meeting. The draft EA is also available on-line at <http://www.yakimacounty.us/surfacewater/SCFMP/index.php> and at the Yakima County Courthouse 4th Floor, 128 N. 2nd Street, Yakima, WA 98901. If you need a printed copy, please call Cliff Bennett at (509)574-2397.

If you have an interest in this project and would like to know how it might affect you, it is highly encouraged that you attend the meeting. Representatives from agencies supporting this project will be present at the meeting.

The proposed action will:

1. Reduce future flooding in the large residential areas including Cottonwood Grove, Clinton Way and Westbrook subdivision by eliminating Shaw Creek flooding east of 96th Avenue.
2. Reduce flood insurance premiums within these residential areas, specifically Cottonwood Grove.
3. Address the localized flooding that occurred just south of several residences on the north end of the Cottonwood Grove development.
4. Improve water quality in the project area by relocating the existing Shaw Creek located along South 80th Avenue to a more natural and historical location. Both Wide Hollow Creek and Shaw Creek are currently listed in Washington State's list of impaired waters (303(d) list) for not meeting TMDL standards.

Thank you for your interest and involvement.

Sincerely,

Cliff Bennett, Shaw Creek Project Lead