Archived: Friday, September 6, 2019 3:06:03 PM
From: The Stormwater Report
Sent: Thursday, September 5, 2019 12:10:33 PM
To: sboynton@pwea.org
Subject: The Stormwater Report: New visualization tool mixes FEMA data with video-game technology to model flood damages before they occur
Sensitivity: Normal

Water Environment Federation
WEB VIEW • VOL. 9, NO. 9

Ahead of the game: New visualization tool mixes FEMA data with video-game technology to model flood damages before they occur

The U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offers a long list of tools and datasets to help U.S. residents understand their specific property's risk of experiencing severe flooding. However, terms like *100-year flood* and *storm surge* do little to help users visualize the real-world effects of flooding on homes, vehicles, and other possessions. What if FEMA had a tool that borrowed from the world of video games to bring flood-risks to life? Learn how a new tool could revolutionize flood-risk outreach efforts.

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Not your father's 100-year storms: Study claims stormwater infrastructure design standards fail to keep pace with today's precipitation

Despite strengthening regulations, the precipitation data used in the design of much of today's stormwater management infrastructure may be outdated. Stormwater infrastructure designed to handle what yesterday's stormwater professionals would consider a "100-year storm" – a storm with a 1% chance of occurring in a given year – will likely fail to manage flooding from today's severe storms, argues a new study from University of Wisconsin—Madison (UWM) and Carnegie Mellon University (CMU; Pittsburgh) researchers. Read more about the importance of keeping design standards up to date.

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Submit abstracts for the National Stormwater Symposium 2020

Taking place March 15 to 17 in Cincinnati, abstract submissions are now being accepted for the WEF Stormwater Institute National Stormwater Symposium 2020.

Submission deadline: Oct. 3

Greek government to receive €70 million for flood-control projects

In July, flooding caused by an intense rainstorm in the Halkidiki region of northern Greece led to 7 deaths and more than 100 injuries. The flooding, which occurred in the middle of one of Greece's traditionally driest months, knocked out water and power in much of the affected area for several weeks. The flood effects incapacitated this popular tourist destination during its busiest season. The Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB; Paris, France) recently announced that it will loan the Greek federal government €70 million to help modernize its flood-prevention infrastructure. The investment will help Greece protect its rich cultural heritage from flood damages.

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Penn State plots new course for on-campus green infrastructure

It's easy to make small, incremental changes. In the world of stormwater, that might mean installing a rain garden or green roof. And while the little changes can help, it's the big plans that make the most significant differences. That's what Hong Wu, assistant professor of landscape architecture at Pennsylvania State University (PSU; State College) had in mind when she proposed a comprehensive water quality improvement plan for the university. Her vision is to make PSU a national leader in green stormwater infrastructure. Get more details on PSU's innovative green infrastructure initiatives.