



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CITY OF ATHENS TO RETAIN CLASS 8 NFIP CRS RATING

Athens, Tennessee – October 23, 2020 – The City of Athens has received notification for the results of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) field verification findings based on a 5-year cycle verification. The Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (DHS/FEMA) has determined that the City of Athens will retain its current rating as a Class 8 in the NFIP CRS. The flood plain activities implemented by the city qualify the community for a 10 percent discount on flood insurance premiums for NFIP policies issued or renewed in Special Flood Hazard Areas, effective on or after April 1, 2021.

“I commend you on your community actions and your determination to lead your community to be more disaster resistant. This commitment enhances public safety, property protection, and protects the natural functions of floodplains, and reduces flood insurance premiums”, William H. Lesser, CRS Coordinator for the Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration stated in a letter to City Manager, C. Seth Sumner.

A report from a visit on September 5, 2018 was provided to explain the recommendations of Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO) to DHS/FEMA that a total of 1,176 credit points were verified resulting in a recommendation that the Athens community remain classified as a CRS Class 8.

“I would like to thank our Public Works personnel for their hard work and assistance in helping us achieve this rating,” says Anthony Casteel, Director of Community Development and the city’s CRS Coordinator. “It could not have been done without the great strides they take to maintain stormwater throughout the City of Athens.”

The CRS rating will automatically be renewed annually until the next verification visit in accordance with the established 5-year cycle or unless there are modifications or new CRS activities added.