

Elevation Certificates

Agenda



Introductions & Housekeeping

Overview

Basics of the Elevation Certificate

Building Diagrams

Exercise

Common Errors

Using ECs in Floodplain Development Review

Questions

Test

Presenter



Becca Fricke-Croft, CFM

STARR II/FEMA Region 10 Service Center

Continuing Education Credits

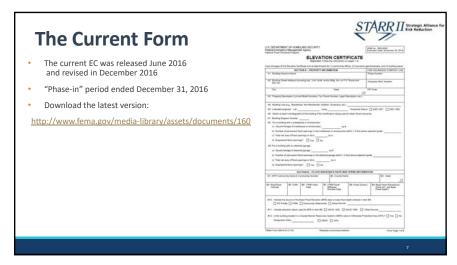


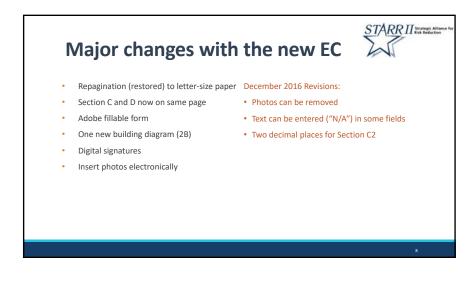
For full credit (2 CEC hours)

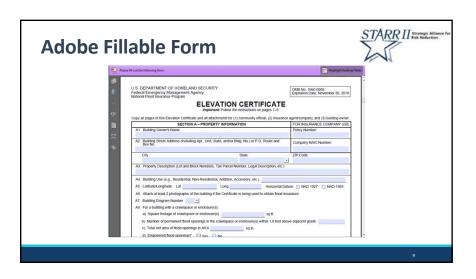
- You must participate in the polls and activities
- You must pass a short test at the end of the presentation
- 70% is passing
- Two attempt

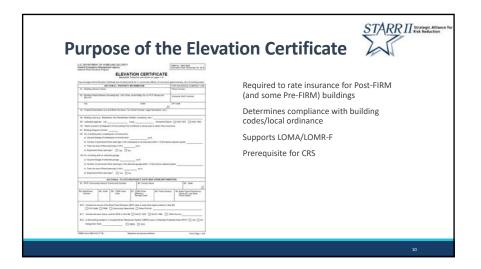
If you do not pass the test, but attend and participate in the entire session, 1 CEC will be awarded.

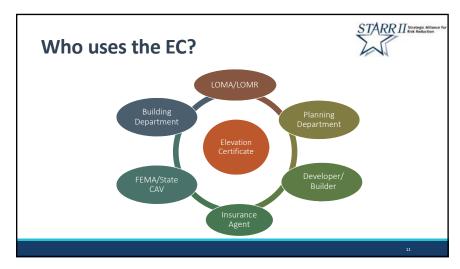










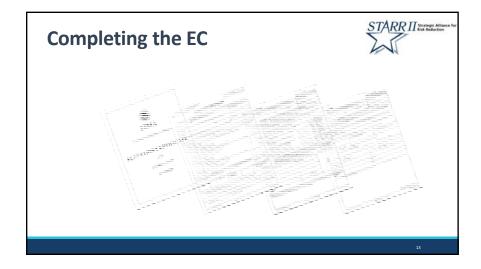


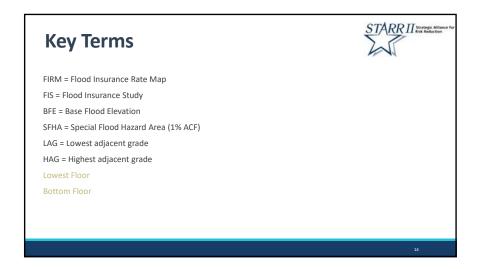
Does the EC certify a building as "compliant"?

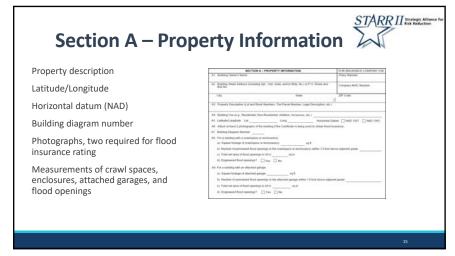


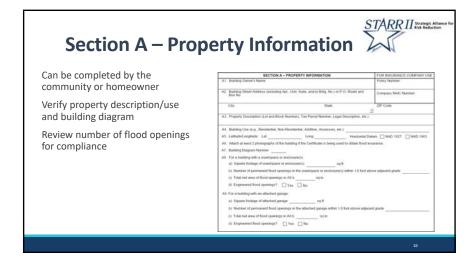
The Elevation Certificate is a report of existing conditions. The surveyor/engineer's stamp <u>does</u> tify hat the structure complies with federal, state, or local ego ations to a y certifies the elevations in Section C.

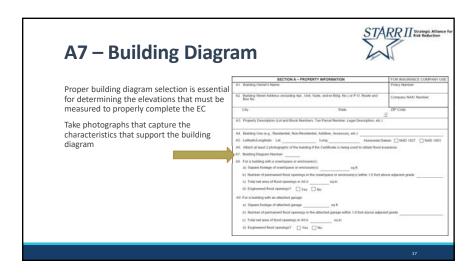
THE COMMUNITY mus rewithe conficate for completeness and accuracy, and determine if the structure is compliant!









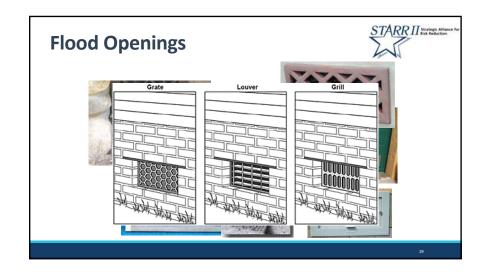


Flood Openings (A8 & A9)



A permanent opening that allows for the free passage of water automatically in both directions without human intervention.

- Under the NFIP, a minimum of two openings are required for every enclosed area or crawlspace.
- The openings shall provide a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot area enclosed, excluding any bars, louvers, or other covers of the opening.



Engineered Flood Openings



Individual Engineered Flood Openings Certification or an Evaluation Report issued by the International Code Council Evaluation Service (ICC ES) must be submitted to document that the design of the openings will allow for automatic equalization of hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls.

More About Flood Openings



A window, a door, or a garage door is not considered an opening; but openings may be installed in doors.

Subtract area of grates, louvers, or grills

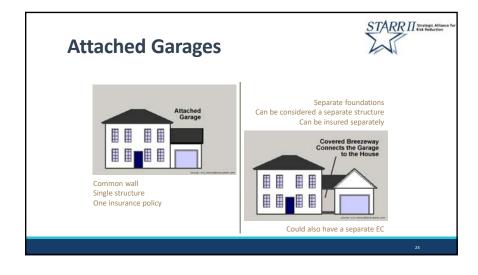


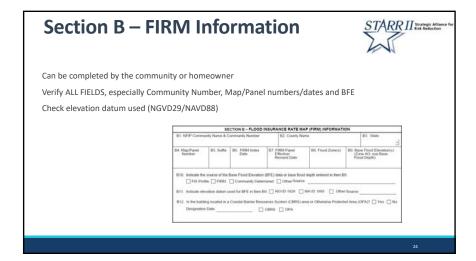
More About Flood Openings

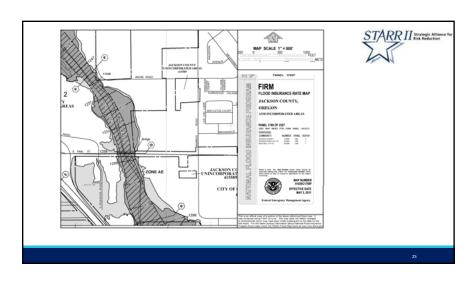


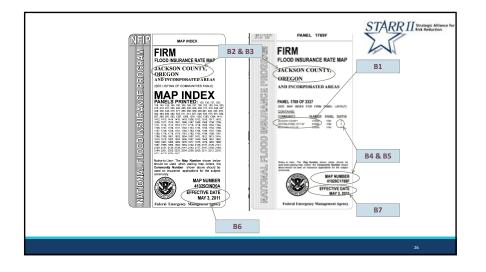
The bottom of the openings must be <u>no higher than one foot above</u> the higher of the exterior or interior grade or floor immediately below the opening.

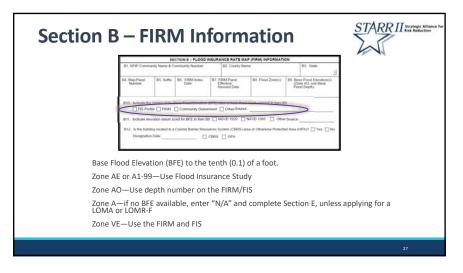
For more guidance on openings, see NFIP Technical Bulletin 1 – 'Openings in Foundation Walls and Walls of Enclosures.'"

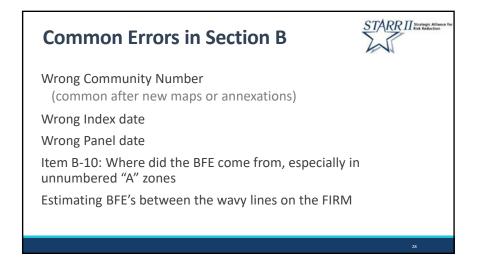


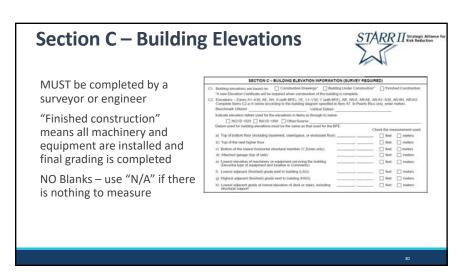


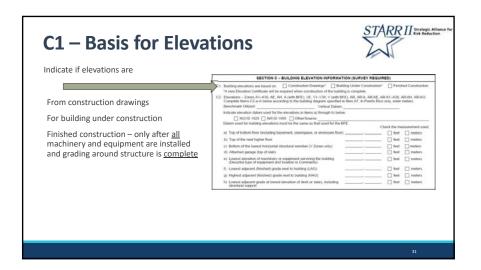


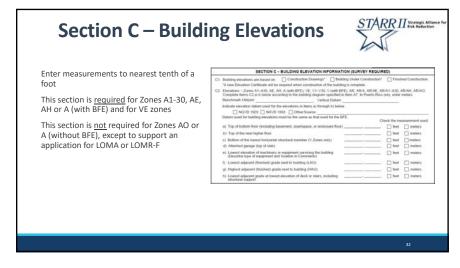


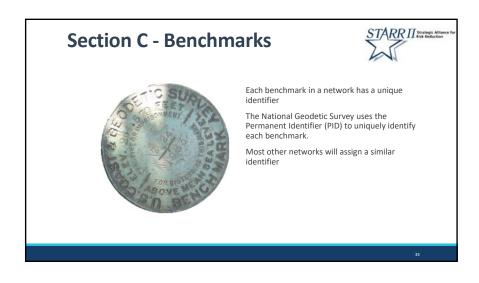


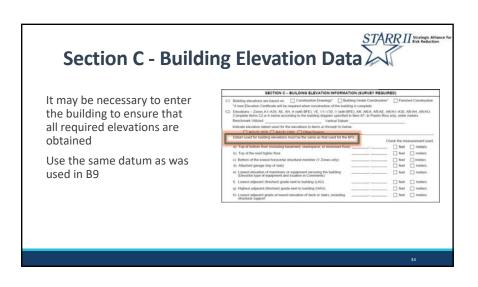


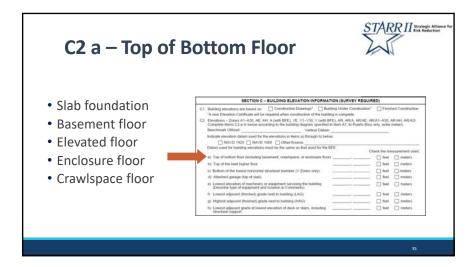


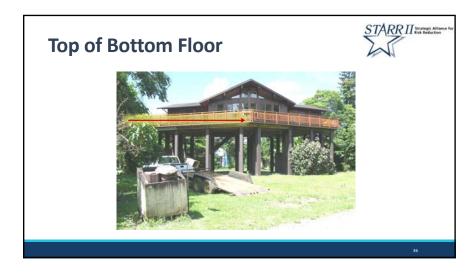


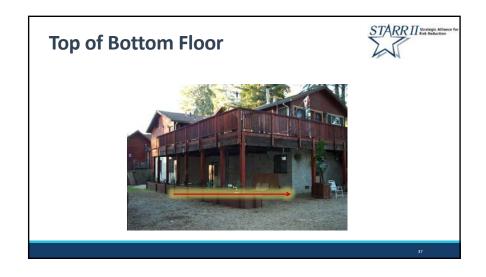




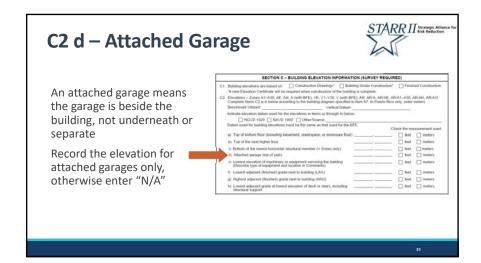


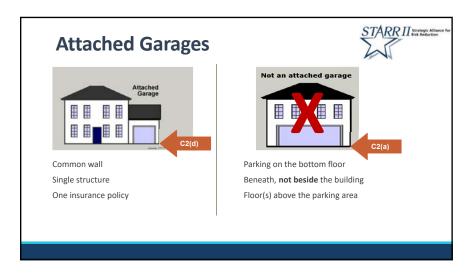


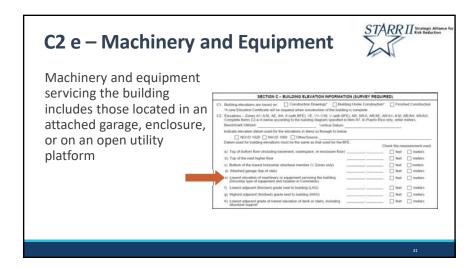








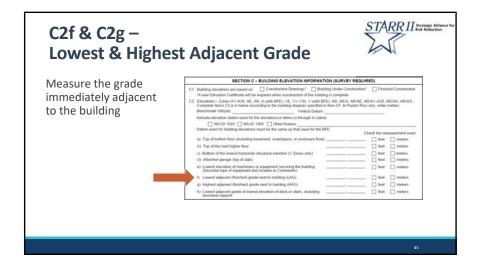


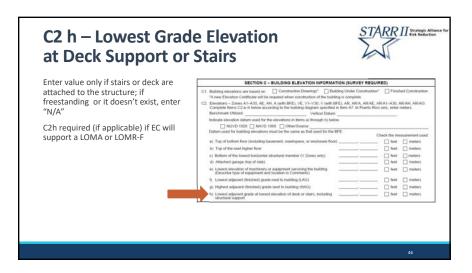












Common Errors in Section C



STARR II Strategic Allianc

Surveying for Finished Construction too early

Information certified in C2(a-g) does not support Building Diagram used

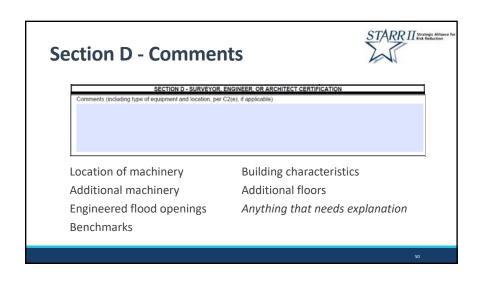
Datum not converted to that of B9 (BFE)

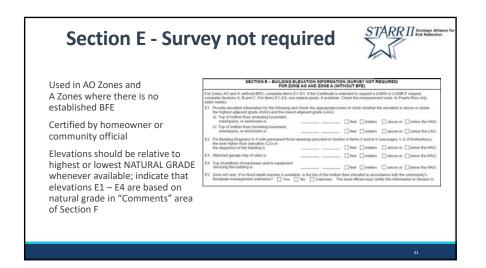
No entry for C2e (machinery and equipment)

Leaving field blank or entering "0" instead of using "N/A" when there is nothing to measure



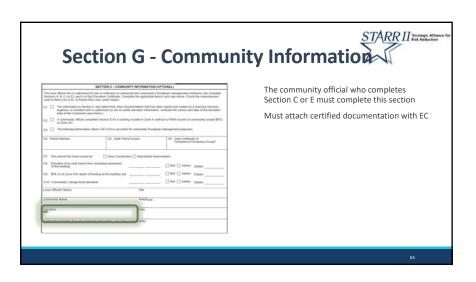






Notes on Section E In Zones without a BFE, Section E is all that is required to obtain flood insurance • Section E may be completed by a property owner or owner's representative • May also be completed by a surveyor or community floodplain manager To support a LOMA or LOMR-F • Section C must also be completed and elevations certified by a licensed surveyor, architect, or engineer





Section G - Community Information



Use Section G to document corrections or changes

Enter permit information

Community determined BFE

Community identified Design Elevation

Identify attachments

Comments, or anything that requires explanation

Suggestions for Surveyors



The EC is used to communicate important information to many different audiences for many different reasons; accuracy is key.

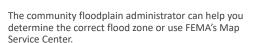
Read the Instructions , they are detailed and helpful.

Refer to FEMA 467-1, Floodplain Management Bulletin Elevation Certificate, May 2004 for further instruction.

Selecting the correct Building Diagram is very important.

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Suggestions for Surveyors



When determining BFEs in AE zones, use the flood profiles in the FIS, not the FIRM panel alone.

The floodplain administrator may call you to clarify information on the EC or to ask you to correct it if necessary.



Building Photographs

Photographs are optional unless the Elevation Certificate is being used to obtain flood insurance.

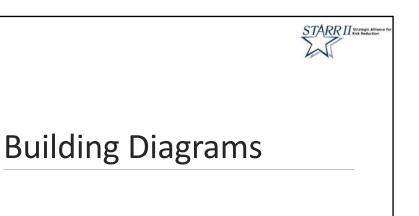
The certifier must provide at least two photographs showing the front and rear of the building taken within 90 days from the date of certification.

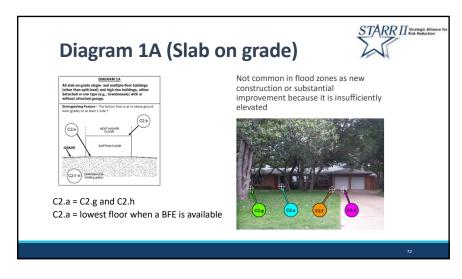
Date must be included on photos.

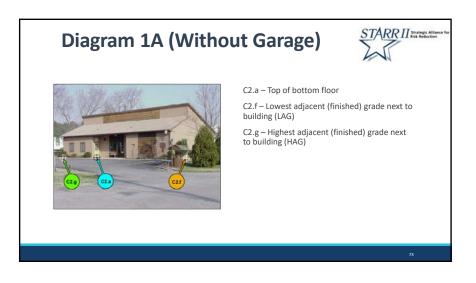
Photographs should capture key elements, such as foundation, flood openings, mechanical and building diagram.



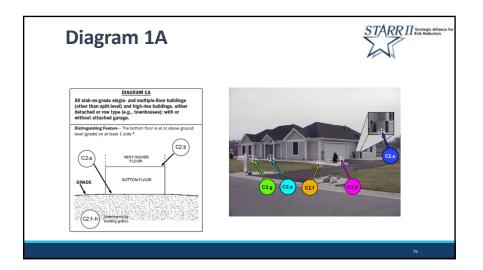
For more information: RXTraining@starr-team.com

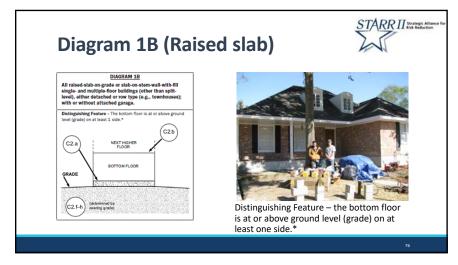


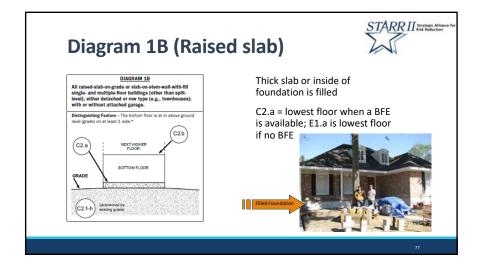


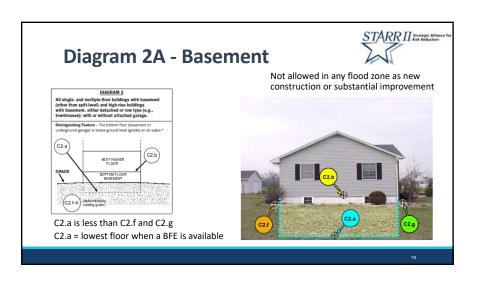


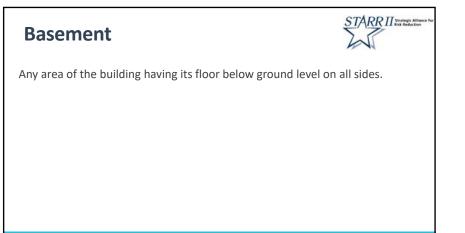


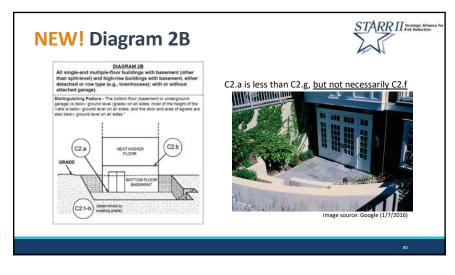


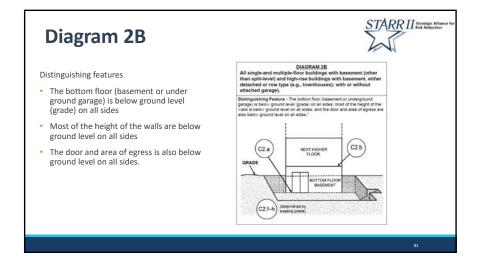








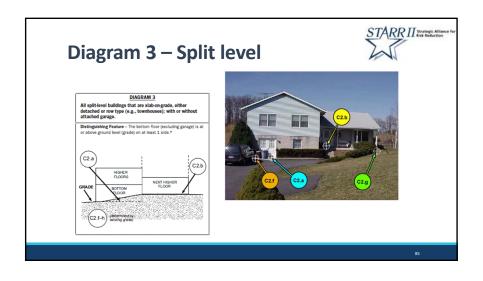


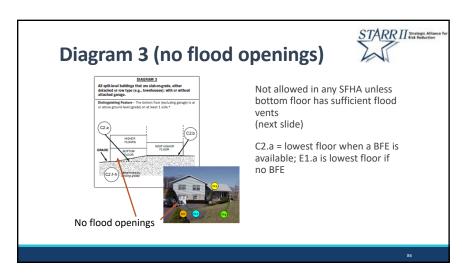


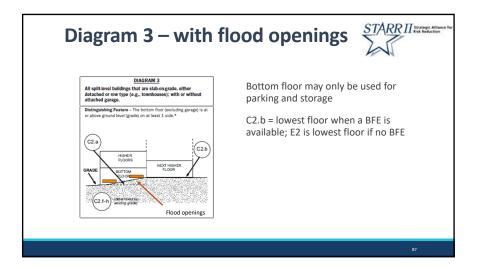


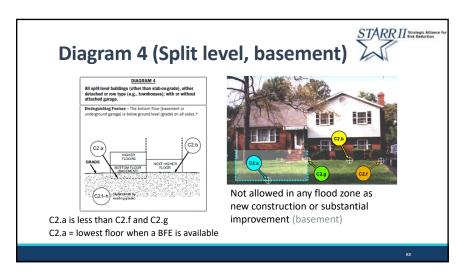


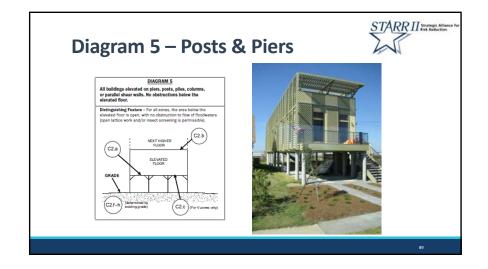








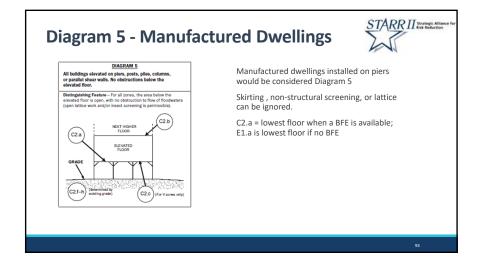




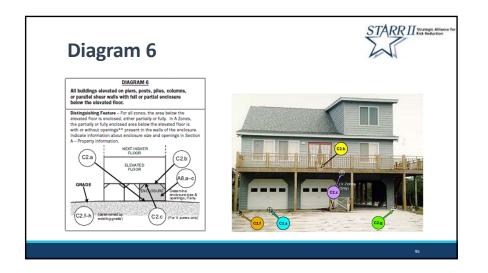


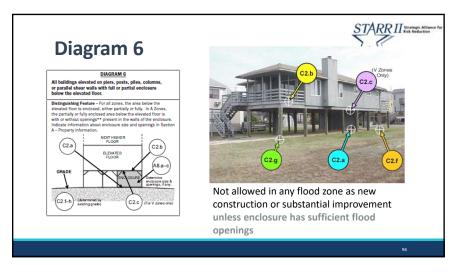


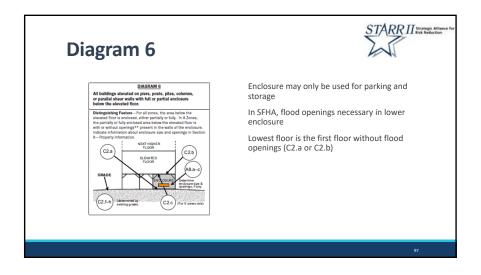


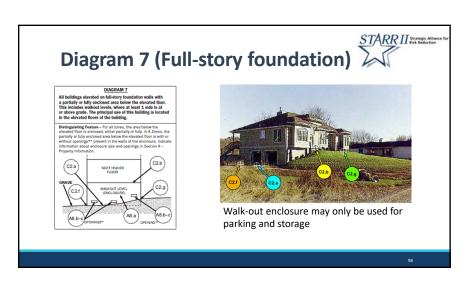


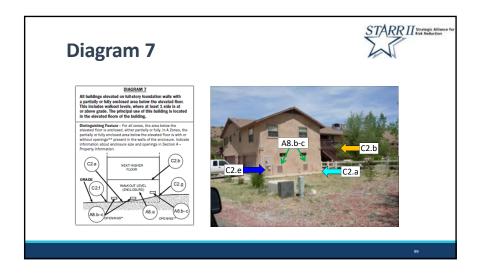


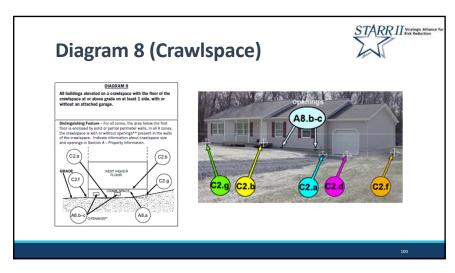


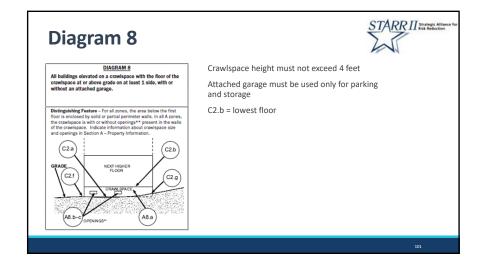


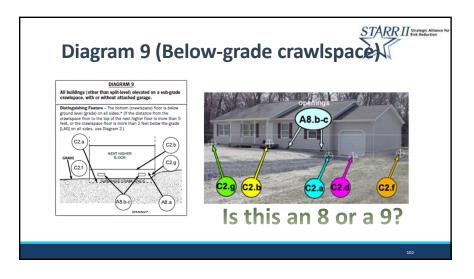


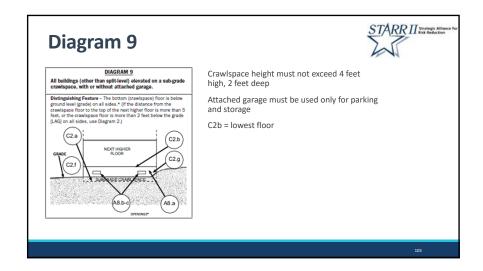


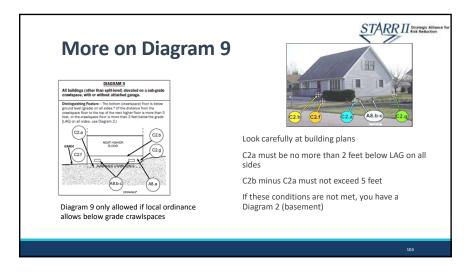


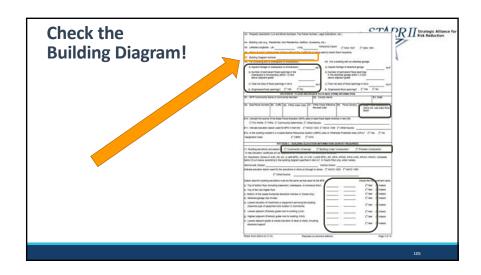


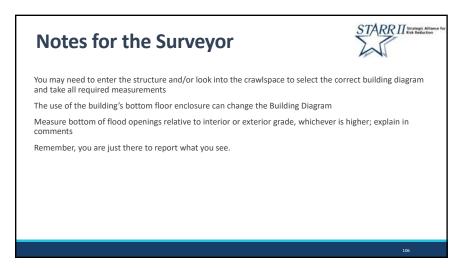




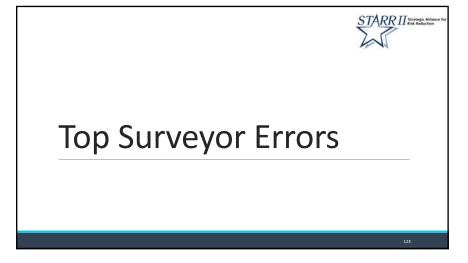
















Missed Machinery—Go Inside!







Common Surveyor Errors



Assuming that a structure built on fill or natural ground above BFE is "above the floodplain" and therefore

Using the wrong datum, not converting to the one used on FIRM

Leaving fields blank

NO COMMENTS!

Top Community Errors



Not requiring a "Finished Construction" EC for final review

Crossing out entries to make corrections

Not using Section G to make comments, modifications (e.g. added flood vents), or to enter permit

Accepting Elevation Certificates without reviewing for accuracy or for compliance with local regulations.

Helpful Hints for Reviewers



Make a "complete and correct" finished construction EC a condition for Certificate of Occupancy.

Never assume the EC was filled out correctly because it has the "professional's" seal on it.

Establish a review process that determines if the EC is complete and correct.

Fill out as much of the EC as you can at the time of permit application (Section A and B).



Using Elevation Certificates in the Development Review Process

8 Steps to Plan Review



- 1) Is it "Development"?
- 2) Is it in the Special Flood Hazard Area?
- 3) Permits
- 4) Substantial Improvement
- 5) Base Flood Elevation Require an Elevation Certificate
- 6) Lowest Floor Elevation
- 7) Inspections
- 8) Record Keeping

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Step 3: Permits



Floodplain Development Permit (FDP) application

- -Fees as required by your ordinance
- -A location or plat map
- -Plans showing existing and proposed conditions
- -Pre-construction Elevation Certificate

Additional state or federal permits

 Wetlands, below ordinary high water line, in a scenic corridor, or adjacent to a fish-bearing stream, etc.

Step 5: BFE – Require EC



Inform the applicant of the need for an Elevation Certificate and the need to hire a surveyor.

Surveyor should include at least three visits:

- Pre-construction
- Mid-construction
- · Finished construction (As-Built)

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Step 6: Lowest Floor Elevation



Lowest floor of the building must be built to, or above BFE

• Check your local ordinance for additional freeboard requirements

Flood protection methods:

Elevate on piers, posts, columns or walls

Elevate on fill

Floodproofing (non-residential buildings only)

Verify the Building Diagram on the Elevation Certificate

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Permit Approval/Denial



If the development complies with floodplain regulations and is reasonably safe from flooding, approve it and issue the permit

- -Conditional approval
- -Flag for inspection as floodplain development
- Enter the permit into a log of floodplain development permits and in Section G4 of the Elevation Certificate

If the proposed development does not comply, deny the permit application with a written explanation of the denial

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Step 7: Inspections



Site inspections ensure that the project is built according to the plans

After the foundation is staked out, but before construction begins

When the foundation is complete

. (Under Construction EC Required)

When construction is completed

- · After ALL mechanical and building utilities installed
- After final grading completed
- · Verify flood-resistant materials below BFE
- Count flood vents in lower enclosures
- Verify completed Finished Construction Elevation Certificate

 $Issue\ the\ Certificate\ of\ Occupancy\ only\ after\ full\ compliance\ is\ demonstrated\ and\ the\ final\ Elevation\ Certificate\ is\ submitted.$

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Step 8: Record Keeping



Keep all pertinent records, for completed projects and denied permits, *forever*:

- -Permit application/review checklist
- -Engineering data (plans, specifications, hydraulic and hydrologic analyses, No-Rise Analyses)
- -Correspondence relating to the project
- -Variance or appeals proceedings
- -Inspection documentation
- -BFE data for subdivisions of at least 5 acres or 50 lots
- -Finished Construction Elevation Certificates
- -Certificate of occupancy
- -Floodproofing Certificate (non-residential structures)

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