



ARTICLE 44 Floodplain District

Annual Town Meeting || April 27, 2026

*Kin Lau, Chair
Arlington Redevelopment Board*



Floodplain District

- Arlington participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which requires us to periodically update the local floodplain regulations in the Zoning Bylaw.
- Continued participation in the NFIP:
 - enables property owners to obtain federally backed flood insurance,
 - makes the Town eligible for certain forms of federal disaster assistance.
- Proposed changes refer to FEMA's most recent floodplain maps, using the most current data to establish areas at risk of flooding.
- Article 44 brings the Zoning Bylaw into compliance with state and federal requirements for floodplain management.
- The Department of Conservation and Recreation has reviewed and approved the proposed revisions.



Overview of Proposed Changes

- Stated local purpose for flood resistant standards
- Specifying where the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) can be accessed by the public
- Definitions of terms
- Designation of community Floodplain Administrator
- Requirement of permits for all proposed development in the Floodplain Overlay District
- Statement prohibiting floodway encroachment
- Requirements for review of subdivision proposals







Overview of Proposed Changes continued

- Requirements for elevation and anchoring of recreational vehicles in Flood Zones
- Requirement to notify appropriate officials of any alteration/relocation of a watercourse
- Requirement to notify FEMA of data that changes the base flood elevation
- Requirements for variances to building code floodplain standards and zoning bylaws
- Abrogation and greater restriction section
- Disclaimer of liability
- Compliance with Court Decisions



Floodplain Map

Arlington Flood Zones

-  A: 1% Annual Chance of Flooding, no BFE (Base Flood Elevation)
-  AE: 1% Annual Chance of Flooding, with BFE
-  AE: Regulatory Floodway
-  X: 0.2% Annual Chance of Flooding

