

# Find out about FLOOD & WIND Hazards at your Louisiana location!



When you're planning, building, remodeling or insuring a home, it's important to know your exposure to natural hazards such as floods and high winds.

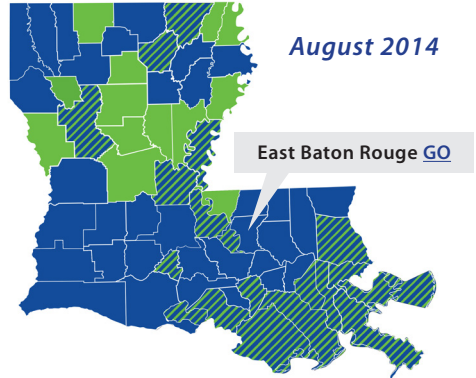
Throughout Louisiana, building to minimize flood and wind damage is a code requirement.

Use this online tool to study conditions at your site or to explore how flood maps are changing in your parish.

## Map Effective Date

-  Before 2003\*
-  Map changes pending
-  2003 or later

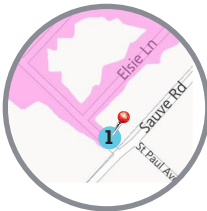
\* Area within the parish may have newer maps.



[LSUAgCenter.com/floodmaps](http://LSUAgCenter.com/floodmaps)

## Choosing the right FIRM . . . and the right spot ON the FIRM

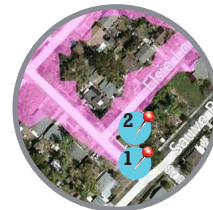
1



**Pink SFHA:** *Preliminary* or *Future FIRM*  
**Blue SFHA:** Digital *Effective FIRM*  
**Gray SFHA:** May be *Effective* or *Historical*

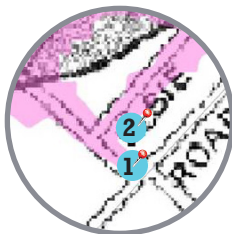
**Search** for the address – Places a pin in the **street**.  
Displays most recent map.

2



**Verify location.** Turn on the Hybrid Layer. Place a pin by the **house**. Read flood zone for the house.

3



**Turn on the Effective or Historical FIRM.**  
See how risk has changed or may change.

**Always use an Effective FIRM when rating insurance or enforcing mandatory purchase.**



Louisiana Flood Map

Print Cancel

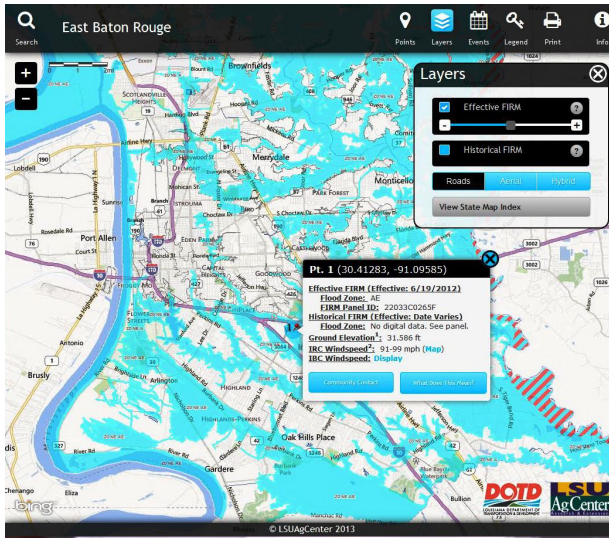


**Print-Preview** captures your map-view and points-data.

**Print it or Email the link** – to save the view or share it with a client.

| Point | Latitude | Longitude | Panel ID    | Flood Zone           | BFE | Ground Elevation | BWS     |
|-------|----------|-----------|-------------|----------------------|-----|------------------|---------|
| 1     | 29.96963 | -90.21111 | 22051C0180F | AE, EL 2             | 2   | 2.323 ft         | 110-119 |
| 2     | 29.96988 | -90.21110 | 22051C0180F | X-PROTECTED BY LEVEE | N/A | 3.273 ft         | 110-119 |

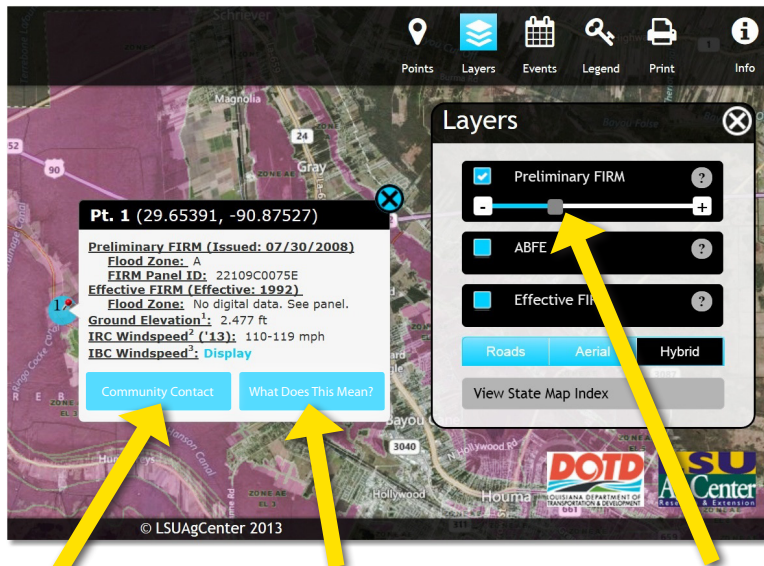




Louisiana flood maps issued since 2007 are in digital form, and can be displayed over road maps and aerial photographs.

East Baton Rouge is one of about 30 parishes that have adopted these new maps. These new Effective digital FIRMs are shown with blue shading of the Special Flood Hazard Areas.

Many Louisiana parishes have digital FIRMs that are still Preliminary — NOT Effective. They present important flood risk information and may be used for regulating construction. They CANNOT be used for rating insurance or enforcing lender compliance. These Preliminary digital FIRMs are shown with pink shading of the Special Flood Hazard Areas.



**Community contact** information is read real-time from a data-service maintained by the Office of Floodplain Regulations on DOTD servers. The community is selected from DOTD's database based on the geographic location of the pin.

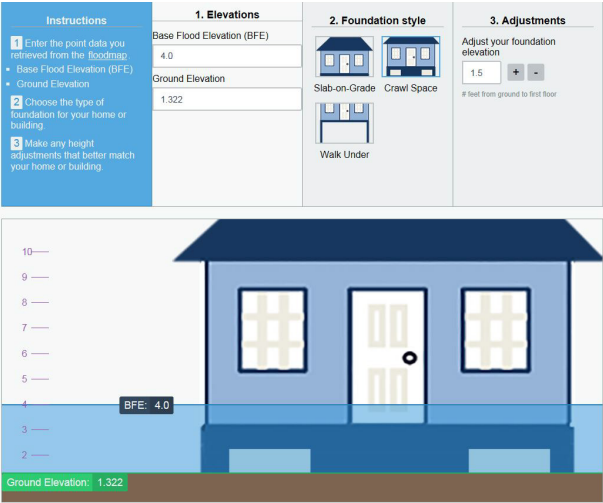
Base Flood Elevation Scenarios is the first **"What does this mean?"** feature added to the portal. Users enter the BFE and ground elevation and select a foundation that most resembles theirs. A graphic is produced that shows the depth of water on the property and in the home. See below. This independent application (currently not capturing map data) can be used by anyone who knows the BFE, Ground Elevation and approximate foundation height.

**Sliders on Digital layers**  
Users can control the transparency of individual digital map layers.

# Base Flood Elevation Scenarios

The “What does this mean” button in the Points data takes you to BFE Scenarios.

This tool illustrates the relationship between the Base Flood Elevation and ground elevation at your point of interest, and the exposure of your home during the base (100-year) flood. Some information needed to fill in the boxes on the BFE Scenarios tool is included in the point data associated with your pins. You can find it in the Points tool and in the data table on the Print-Preview page.



<http://maps.lsuagcenter.com/floodmaps/scenarios.html>

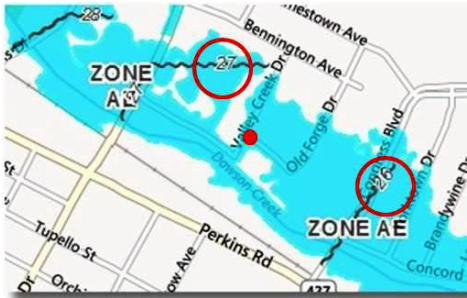
| Point | Latitude | Longitude | Panel ID    | Flood Zone           | BFE | Ground Elevation | BWS     |
|-------|----------|-----------|-------------|----------------------|-----|------------------|---------|
| 1     | 29.90927 | -90.39461 | 22089C0145D | AE, EL 4             | 4   | 1.322 ft         | 110-119 |
| 2     | 29.94557 | -90.3232  | 22089C0155D | X-PROTECTED BY LEVEE | N/A | 11.866 ft        | 110-119 |

For Flood Zones “X”, “X-PROTECTED BY LEVEE”, or “0.2% Annual Chance”, there is no BFE.

For Flood Zones “AE, EL #” and “VE, EL #” the BFE is the # shown in the zone designation.

For Flood Zones “A” or “V” the BFE has not been determined. The local permit office may provide a BFE.

For Flood Zones “AO (Depth = #)”, the practical equivalent of BFE is the ground elevation plus the “#”.



USGS LIDAR ground elevation is plus-or-minus 0.5 feet.

BFEs for Flood Zones “AE” and “VE” are often shown at discrete points within the zones, denoted in whole numbers by wavy lines running across the floodplain.

The BFE can be estimated as the higher or lower number on wavy lines near your point, or calculated in tenths of a foot. For example (shown left): If a point is slightly nearer the BFE line labeled 27 than to the one labeled 26, the BFE at that point would be about 26.6 feet)

Flood Zones: [www.fema.gov/floodplain-management/flood-zones](http://www.fema.gov/floodplain-management/flood-zones)

The LSU AgCenter FloodMaps portal and floodplain education programs receive support from FEMA Region VI through the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, Office of Floodplain Regulations

Contact Pat Skinner at [pskinner@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:pskinner@agcenter.lsu.edu) for information about the site.





# FLOOD Insurance Old vs New Map for Louisiana



**Above:** Side by side views of the Effective FIRM (left, scanned image) and Preliminary FIRM (right, digital product) in the Harvey/Marrero area of Jefferson Parish, West Bank. A-Zones on the Effective FIRM are shaded gray; A-Zones on the Preliminary FIRM are shaded pink. Two sites have been marked with pins.

**Below:** The two views from above are overlaid by checking both boxes (Preliminary FIRM and Effective FIRM), using the Layers tool.

