

The Hartford's Flood Insurance policy provides essential information regarding potential changes to flood risk and insurance premiums due to FEMA's nationwide flood zone remapping project. This initiative aims to update flood zone maps across over 20,000 communities, reflecting changes in flood risk due to various factors such as development and natural events. The remapping process is ongoing and may result in properties being classified into higher or lower-risk zones, which can affect insurance requirements and premiums. If a property is remapped to a higher-risk zone, homeowners are advised to insure their property accordingly, as lenders will require flood insurance for federally regulated loans. Failure to obtain insurance may lead to lenders purchasing force-placed coverage on behalf of the borrower. Conversely, if remapped to a lower-risk zone, while flood insurance is no longer mandatory, maintaining coverage is recommended to protect against potential flooding. The policy also highlights the importance of keeping flood insurance to benefit from "grandfathering," which allows for reduced rates if coverage is maintained. Homeowners are encouraged to consult their flood insurance agents for guidance on their specific situations, including options for cost-saving measures and eligibility for Preferred Risk Policies (PRP) for properties newly mapped into Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA). The policy emphasizes that all properties are in a flood zone, albeit with varying risks, and maintaining flood insurance is crucial given the increasing frequency of flooding events across the U.S. The Hartford participates in the federal Write Your Own (WYO) Program, and all policies are subject to the National Flood Insurance Program's rules and regulations. It is important for policyholders to review their coverage with their agents to understand exclusions and limitations. Additionally, there is typically a 30-day waiting period for new flood policies to take effect, underscoring the need for timely action in securing coverage.