

Florence, City of

Community Profile:

Population 7,600

Location Florence

Position Description:

Sponsor City of Florence

Supervisor Sandi Young

Assignment

The RARE participant for the City of Florence Community Development Department is involved in several different projects. A large component of the position concerns developing a natural hazards mitigation plan to meet the requirements of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The RARE participant will first build the City's coastal hazards GIS database and design a public interface system, which will enable local residents to easily access information about individual properties. Another priority for the RARE participant will be to assist City staff with the completion of the periodic review of the coastal goals, and to petition FEMA to correct a long-standing error in the Florence floodplain delineation.

The RARE participant will contribute to the development of the Florence Green Partnership Program targeting commercial solid waste reduction and reuse. The participant will work with a local business that is developing a yard waste composting facility to increase green waste reuse opportunities, which will assist the participant in creating an education program for businesses.

The RARE participant will also be involved with water quality/aquifer protection initiatives through participation in Wellhead Protection Plan Task Force meetings and preparing water conservation educational materials for distribution. The participant will also attend Siuslaw Watershed Council meetings in order to increase the City's participation in Council activities.

Required Skills

The RARE participant will need a working knowledge of basic floodplain maps, regulations, and ordinances; good communication skills; and the ability to work with citizens and hearing bodies in conflict resolution and persistence.

RARE Member: *Kate Bodane - 2003-2004, Year 10 Participant* Kate Bodane attended Bard College in New York, where she earned her B.S. in Community, Regional, and Environmental Studies. While a student, she worked as a campus recycling coordinator and interned at a local land trust. As an undergraduate she also spent a year abroad with the International Honors Global Ecology program studying in five diverse countries. After college, she volunteered with an innovative Mexican non-governmental organization in the Cuernavaca, and then worked as the Community Education Coordinator for the Oregon Festival of American Music at the American Music Institute.