



NFIP Community Rating System

The National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive based program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. Among other benefits, participation in the CRS provides for a sliding scale percentage reduction in premiums for eligible flood insurance policies. Unless otherwise indicated, this document reflects conditions as of May 1, 2019 and is an update of portions of the October 2017 Wetlands Watch report entitled "The Costs and Benefits of the CRS Program in Virginia". Credit is hereby given to Wetlands Watch for their work on the CRS program. Table 1. displays policy discounts by CRS class for Special Flood Hazard Areas that are currently in effect for communities participating in the CRS in Virginia (sources: Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation and House Document No. 2, 2019 Report of the Secretary of Natural Resources "Participation by Localities in the CRS"):

Table 1. Policy Discounts by Class

Community	CRS Class	Policy Discount (1)
Accomack County	6	20%
City of Alexandria	6	20%
Arlington County	8	10%
Town of Ashland	9	5%
Town of Bridgewater	8	10%
Town of Cape Charles	8 (2)	10%
City of Chesapeake	8	10%
Town of Chincoteague	8	10%
Fairfax County	6	20%
City of Falls Church	6	20%
Gloucester County	6	20%
City of Hampton	7 (2)	15%
James City County	7	15%
City of Norfolk	7	15%
City of Poquoson	8	10%

Community	CRS Class	Policy Discount (1)
City of Portsmouth	7	15%
Prince William County	8	10%
City of Richmond	8	10%
City of Roanoke	7	15%
Roanoke County	8	10%
Stafford County	7	15%
Town of Vienna	8	10%
Town of Vinton	8	10%
City of Virginia Beach	7 (2)	15%
Town of Wachapreague	8	10%
York County	7	15%

(1) Special Flood Hazard Areas (Zones A99, A, AE, AO, AH, AR, V, and VE)

(2) As of May 1, 2019 these communities qualified for increased policy discounts by taking actions to reduce their flood risk and protect their communities (rates shown reflect the new discounts)

As of September 30, 2018 there were 105,933 flood insurance policies in force in the Commonwealth of Virginia representing approximately \$30 billion of insured value and approximately \$78 million in premiums were collected (source: FEMA/NFIP). Of those amounts, 85,329 policies representing approximately \$22 billion of insured value, and approximately \$58 million in premiums collected were for communities participating in the CRS. Table 2. displays summary information on policies that are in effect for Virginia communities participating in the CRS.

Table 2. Number of Policies in Force and Associated Annual Premiums

Community	Number of Policies (1)	Written Premium in Place (1)(2)
Accomack County	1,329	\$917,700
City of Alexandria	1,579	\$1,313,534
Arlington County	999	\$368,352
Town of Ashland	49	\$41,629
Town of Bridgewater	56	\$81,628
Town of Cape Charles	189	\$84,636
City of Chesapeake	8,685	\$5,300,462
Town of Chincoteague	1,766	\$1,362,388
Fairfax County	7,052	\$3,497,612
City of Falls Church	175	\$184,367
Gloucester County	1,535	\$1,252,818
City of Hampton	10,431	\$8,953,693
James City County	976	\$608,370
City of Norfolk	12,148	\$9,065,931
City of Poquoson	3,191	\$2,829,838
City of Portsmouth	4,057	\$2,945,470

Prince William County	1,469	\$993,183
City of Richmond	606	\$667,841
City of Roanoke	549	\$1,265,815
Roanoke County	385	\$421,263
Stafford County	684	\$424,923
Town of Vienna	123	\$75,684
Town of Vinton	32	\$61,064
City of Virginia Beach	24,061	\$13,387,771
Town of Wachapreague	80	\$50,134
York County	3,123	\$2,127,918

(1) As of September 30, 2018

(2) Represents the amount of ANNUAL policy premiums

Based on the savings afforded to communities that participate in the CRS, approximately \$7.4 million is saved in annual premiums by way of that participation. This equates to a savings of approximately \$86 per policy annually. Table 3. displays information by annual savings and per policy by community.

Table 3. Annual Savings by Community and By Policy

Community	Annual Savings (1)	Annual Savings Per Policy (1)(2)
Accomack County	\$152,950	\$115
City of Alexandria	\$218,922	\$139
Arlington County	\$33,487	\$34
Town of Ashland	\$1,982	\$40
Town of Bridgewater	\$7,421	\$133
Town of Cape Charles	\$7,694	\$41
City of Chesapeake	\$481,860	\$55
Town of Chincoteague	\$123,853	\$70
Fairfax County	\$582,935	\$83
City of Falls Church	\$30,728	\$176
Gloucester County	\$208,803	\$136
City of Hampton	\$1,167,873	\$112
James City County	\$79,353	\$81
City of Norfolk	\$1,182,513	\$97
City of Poquoson	\$257,258	\$81
City of Portsmouth	\$384,192	\$95

Prince William County	\$90,289	\$61
City of Richmond	\$60,713	\$100
City of Roanoke	\$165,106	\$301
Roanoke County	\$38,297	\$99
Stafford County	\$55,425	\$81
Town of Vienna	\$6,880	\$56
Town of Vinton	\$5,551	\$173
City of Virginia Beach	\$1,746,231	\$73
Town of Wachapreague	\$4,558	\$57
York County	\$277,555	\$89

(1) As of September 30, 2018

(2) Represents the amount of ANNUAL savings per policy

Disclaimers:

As was the case with the October 2017 Wetlands Watch report, this report does not capture the complete extent of the costs or benefits of the CRS program. For that reason, this update does not calculate benefit to cost ratios but focuses rather on the savings in flood insurance policy costs to policy holders. It can also be argued that an effective CRS program reduces payments from the National Flood Insurance Program in that the CRS fosters effective floodplain management actions which include wiser decisions about development in floodplains. These decisions help to reduce the potential for flood losses and hence reduced payouts from the NFIP.