Appendix A - GLOSSARY

A. Appurtenant or accessory structure - A non-residential building or structure which is on the same parcel of property as the principal building and the use of which is incidental to the use of the principal building. Accessory structures are not to exceed *600 square feet*.

B. Base flood - The flood having a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

C. Base flood elevation - The water surface elevations of the base flood, that is, the flood level that has a one percent or greater chance of occurrence in any given year. The water surface elevation of the base flood in relation to the datum specified on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map. For the purposes of this standard, the base flood is the 1% annual chance flood.

D. Basement - Any area of the building having its floor sub-grade (below ground level) on all sides.

E. Building - A structure with 2 or more outside rigid walls and a fully secured roof, that is affixed to a permanent site for the use or occupancy by persons or property.

F. Coastal A Zone **-** Flood hazard areas that have been delineated as subject to wave heights between 1.5 feet and 3 feet.

G. CFR – Means Code of Federal Regulations.

H. Department or DCR – Means the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

I. Design Flood Elevation or DFE - The elevation to be used for determining the elevation of building elements in new construction

J. Development - Any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials.

K. Elevated building - A non-basement building built to have the lowest floor elevated above the ground level by means of solid foundation perimeter walls, pilings, or columns (posts and piers).

L. Enclosure - That portion of an elevated building below the lowest elevated floor that is either partially or fully shut in by rigid walls.

M. Encroachment - The advance or infringement of uses, plant growth, fill, excavation, buildings, permanent structures or development into a floodplain, which may impede or alter the flow capacity of a floodplain.

N. Existing construction - For the purposes of the insurance program, structures for which the “start of construction” commenced before the effective date of these Standards. “Existing construction” may also be referred to as “existing structures” and “pre-FIRM.”

O. FATHOM Data – For the purpose of these Standards, FATHOM® is a flood hazard dataset developed for the Commonwealth of Virginia used to identify floodplain boundaries in areas where FEMA Special Flood Hazard Areas have not been identified. Utilized to support floodplain management on state-owned properties.

P. Fill – ASCE 24-05 (Flood Resistant Design and Construction) defines *fill* and *structural fill* as:

1. **Fill:** material such as soil, gravel, or crushed stone that is placed in an area to increase ground elevation.
2. **Structural Fill:** Fill compacted to a specified density to provide structural support or protection to a structure.

Q. Flood or flooding -

1. A general or temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from:
   a. The overflow of inland or tidal waters; or,
   b. The unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source.
   c. Mudflows which are proximately caused by flooding as defined in paragraph (1)(b) of this definition and are akin to a river of liquid and flowing mud on the surfaces of normally dry land areas, as when earth is carried by a current of water and deposited along the path of the current.
2. The collapse or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or other body of water as a result of erosion or undermining caused by waves or currents of water exceeding anticipated cyclical levels or suddenly caused by an unusually high water level in a natural body of water, accompanied by a severe storm, or by an unanticipated force of nature such as flash flood or an abnormal tidal surge, or by some similarly unusual and unforeseeable event which results in flooding as defined in paragraph 1 (a) of this definition.

R. Flood Fringe is the portion of the floodplain outside of the floodway.

1. Usually contains slow-moving or standing water
2. Occasionally referred to as "floodway fringe“
3. Development in the flood fringe typically does not interfere with the flow of water.
4. Floodplain regulations for these areas often allow development to occur; however, elevation and flood proofing are required.

S. Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) - an official map of a community, on which the Federal Emergency Management Agency has delineated both the special hazard areas and the risk premium zones applicable to the community. A FIRM that has been made available digitally is called a Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM).

T. Flood Insurance Study (FIS) - a report by FEMA that examines, evaluates and determines flood hazards and, if appropriate, corresponding water surface elevations, or an examination, evaluation and determination of mudflow and/or flood-related erosion hazards.

U. Floodplain District – Any designated area where natural or man-made changes have occurred, and the Floodplain Administrator caused more detailed studies to be conducted or undertaken by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers or other qualified agencies; or changes that are the result of other qualified studies.

V. Floodplain or flood-prone area - Any land area susceptible inundation by water from any source. For the purpose of these Standards shall include all FEMA identified A,V, and Shaded-X zones, and Sea Level Rise Inundation Areas found on VFRIS.

W. Floodproofing - Any combination of structural and non-structural additions, changes, or adjustments to structures which reduce or eliminate flood damage to real estate or improved real property, water and sanitary facilities, structures and their contents.

X. Floodway - The channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than one foot at any point within the community.

Y. Freeboard - A factor of safety usually expressed in feet above a flood level for purposes of floodplain management. “Freeboard” tends to compensate for the many unknown factors that could contribute to flood heights greater than the height calculated for a selected size flood and floodway conditions, such as wave action, bridge openings, and the hydrological effect of urbanization in the watershed.

Z. Functionally dependent use - A use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water.

AA. Highest adjacent grade - the highest natural elevation of the ground surface prior to construction next to the proposed walls of a structure.

BB. Historic structure - Any structure that is:

1. Listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;

2. Certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district or a district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district;

3. Individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or,

4. Individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:

   a. By an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior; or,

   b. Directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

CC. Hydrologic and Hydraulic Engineering Analysis - Analyses performed by a licensed professional engineer, in accordance with standard engineering practices that are accepted by the Floodplain Administrator and FEMA, used to determine the base flood, other frequency floods, flood elevations, floodway information and boundaries, and flood profiles.

DD. Letters of Map Change (LOMC) - A Letter of Map Change is an official FEMA determination, by letter, that amends or revises an effective Flood Insurance Rate Map or Flood Insurance Study. *Letters of Map Change include:*

Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA) - An amendment based on technical data showing that a property was incorrectly included in a designated special flood hazard area. A LOMA amends the current effective Flood Insurance Rate Map and establishes that a land as defined by meets and bounds or structure is not located in a special flood hazard area.

Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) - A revision based on technical data that may show changes to flood zones, flood elevations, floodplain and floodway delineations, and planimetric features. A Letter of Map Revision Based on Fill (LOMR-F), is a determination that a structure or parcel of land has been elevated by fill above the base flood elevation and is, therefore, no longer exposed to flooding associated with the base flood. In order to qualify for this determination, the fill must have been permitted and placed in accordance with the community's floodplain management regulations.

Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) - A formal review and comment as to whether a proposed flood protection project or other project complies with the minimum NFIP requirements for such projects with respect to delineation of special flood hazard areas. A CLOMR does not revise the effective Flood Insurance Rate Map or Flood Insurance Study.

EE. Lowest adjacent grade - the lowest natural elevation of the ground surface next to the walls of a structure.

FF. Lowest floor - The lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement). An unfinished or flood-resistant enclosure, usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement area is not considered a building's lowest floor; provided, that such enclosure is not built so as to render the structure in violation of the applicable non-elevation design requirements of Federal Code 44CFR §60.3.

GG. <u>Lowest Horizontal Structural Member</u> – for elevated structures located in coastal areas, freeboard shall be measured to the lowest horizontal structural member that supports the weight of the building or structure above

HH. <u>Manufactured home</u> - A structure, transportable in one or more sections, which is built on a permanent chassis and is designed for use with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities. For floodplain management purposes the term "manufactured home" also includes park trailers, travel trailers, and other similar vehicles placed on a site for greater than 180 consecutive days.

II. <u>Manufactured home park or subdivision</u> - a parcel (or contiguous parcels) of land divided into two or more manufactured home lots for rent or sale.

JJ. <u>Mean Sea Level</u> – for purposes of the National Flood Insurance Program, the National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD) of 1929 or the North American Vertical Datum (NAVD) of 1988 to which base flood elevations shown on a community's FIRM are referenced.

JJ. <u>New construction</u> - For the purposes of determining insurance rates, structures for which the "start of construction" commenced on or after__ {insert the effective date of the community's initial Flood Insurance Rate Map} [*or "*after December 31, 1974"*, choose whichever is later*], and includes any subsequent improvements to such structures. For floodplain management purposes, new construction means structures for which the start of construction commenced on or after the effective date of a floodplain management regulation adopted by a community and includes any subsequent improvements to such structures.

KK. <u>Permit (Application) –</u> Application submitted to the Floodplain Administrator seeking a variance to develop in flood hazard areas in accordance with the provisions of these standards.

LL. <u>Post-FIRM structures</u> - A structure for which construction or substantial improvement occurred on or after the effective date of these Standards.

MM. <u>Pre-FIRM structures</u> - A structure for which construction or substantial improvement occurred before the effective date of these Standards.

NN. <u>Primary frontal dune</u> - a continuous or nearly continuous mound or ridge of sand with relatively steep seaward and landward slopes immediately landward and adjacent to the beach and subject to erosion and overtopping from high tides and waves during major coastal storms.

OO. <u>Reconstruction</u> – the process of rebuilding, repairing, or restoring a structure.

PP. <u>Recreational vehicle</u> - A vehicle which is:

1. Built on a single chassis;
2. 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection;
3. Designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and,

4. Designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational camping, travel, or seasonal use.

QQ. Repetitive Loss Structure - A building covered by a contract for flood insurance that has incurred flood-related damages on two occasions in a 10-year period, in which the cost of the repair, on the average, equaled or exceeded 25 percent of the market value of the structure at the time of each such flood event; and at the time of the second incidence of flood-related damage, the contract for flood insurance contains increased cost of compliance coverage.

RR. Severe repetitive loss structure - a structure that: (a) Is covered under a contract for flood insurance made available under the NFIP; and (b) Has incurred flood related damage - (i) For which 4 or more separate claims payments have been made under flood insurance coverage with the amount of each such claim exceeding $5,000, and with the cumulative amount of such claims payments exceeding $20,000; or (ii) For which at least 2 separate claims payments have been made under such coverage, with the cumulative amount of such claims exceeding the market value of the insured structure.

SS. Shallow flooding area - A special flood hazard area with base flood depths from one to three feet where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable and indeterminate, and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is characterized by ponding or sheet flow.

TT. Special flood hazard area - The land in the floodplain subject to a one (1%) percent or greater chance of being flooded in any given year as determined in Article 3, Section 3.1 of this standard.

UU. Start of construction - For other than new construction and substantial improvement, under the Coastal Barriers Resource Act (P.L. – 97-348), means the date the building permit was issued, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, placement, substantial improvement or other improvement was within 180 days of the permit date. The actual start means either the first placement of permanent construction of a structure on a site, such as the pouring of slab or footings, the installation of piles, the construction of columns, or any work beyond the stage of excavation; or the placement of a manufactured home on a foundation. Permanent construction does not include land preparation, such as clearing, grading and filling; nor does it include the installation of streets and/or walkways; nor does it include excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms; nor does it include the installation on the property of accessory buildings, such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main structure. For a substantial improvement, the actual start of the construction means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor, or other structural part of a building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building.

VV. State agency - Means all agencies and departments of the Commonwealth. Entities include the executive branch, agencies, offices, authorities, commissions, departments, and all institutions of higher education

WW. State-owned property – Means any real property leased, owned, operated or maintained, or that will be leased, owned, operated or maintained after the completion of development, by any entity in the executive branch, including agencies, offices, authorities, commissions, departments, and all institutions of higher education. State-owned property includes those lands underlying the secondary state highway system.

XX. Structure - for floodplain management purposes, an assembly of materials forming a construction for non-occupancy use.

YY. Subgrade Crawlspace - A crawlspace foundation where the subgrade under-floor area is no more than 5 feet below the top of the next-higher floor and no more than 2 feet below the lowest adjacent grade on all sides

ZZ. Substantial damage - Damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to it's before damaged condition would equal or exceed 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred.

AAA. Substantial improvement - Any reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, or other improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the start of construction of the improvement. The term does not, however, include either:

1. Any project for improvement of a structure to correct existing violations of state or local health, sanitary, or safety code specifications which have been identified by a local official and which are the minimum necessary to assure safe living conditions, or

2. Any alteration of a historic structure, provided that the alteration will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a historic structure.

3. Historic structures undergoing repair or rehabilitation that would constitute a substantial improvement as defined above, must comply with all requirements that do not preclude the structure's continued designation as a historic structure. Documentation that compliance with this standard will cause removal of the structure from the National Register of Historic Places or the State Inventory of Historic places must be obtained from the Secretary of the Interior or the State Historic Preservation Officer. Any exemption from requirements will be the minimum necessary to preserve the historic character and design of the structure.

AAA. Variance Permit – A permit issued by the Floodplain Administrator to comply with the terms of the State Floodplain Management Standards as specifically outlined in Section 2.8 – Variance Permits and Exemptions [44 CFR § 60.6] of this standard.

BBB. Violation - the failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with the community's floodplain management regulations. A structure or other development without the elevation certificate, other certifications, or other evidence of compliance required in this standard is presumed to be in violation until such time as that documentation is provided.

CCC. Watercourse - a lake, river, creek, stream, wash, channel or other topographic feature on or over which waters flow at least periodically. Watercourse includes specifically designated areas in which substantial flood damage may occur.

DDD. Water Surface Elevation – The height in relation to mean sea level of floods in various magnitudes and frequencies within the floodplains.