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### Dam Safety Staff Perform Low Hazard-Potential Dam Inspections

Dam Safety staff began conducting low hazard-potential dam inspections in December. This free on-site inspection performed by state engineers provides dam owners with a complete inspection report and breach inundation map. In addition to demonstrating the inspection process, this program provides an opportunity for dam owners to obtain guidance and learn easy maintenance techniques that may improve dam operation and ease liabilities associated with dam ownership.

For more information about this program or to register for your free dam inspection, please contact our dam safety staff at (405) 530-8800 or visit [www.owrb.ok.gov/damsafety](http://www.owrb.ok.gov/damsafety).



### Slope Stability Workshop

This summer, the OWRB Dam Safety program will host a slope stability technical workshop in Oklahoma City. ASDSO instructor John France and representatives from Freese and Nichols, Inc., will lecture and lead hands-on exercises on several topics, including the following:

- Soil Mechanics Basics
- Soil Stresses, Soil Compression/Consolidation, and Strengths of Soil
- Field Explorations and Data Collection, Laboratory Strength Tests, and Strength Selection
- Limit Equilibrium Stability Analysis Formulations
- Instrumentation and Measurements
- Stability Analysis Loading Cases
- Seepage Through Dams and Existing Pore Pressures
- Slope Stability Remediation Approaches

The workshop will be held from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on July 16-17 at Associated General Contractors of America, 636 NE 41st St., Oklahoma City, OK 73105. Space is limited to 50 participants and each is required to bring a laptop. Participants are eligible for up to 12 hours of Continuing Education Units. For details and registration, please contact Emma Moradi at [emma.moradi@owrb.ok.gov](mailto:emma.moradi@owrb.ok.gov) or (405) 530-8800.

WORKSHOP FEE	THROUGH JUNE 17	AFTER JUNE 17
Dam owners and public officials	\$200	\$300
Engineers and private industry	\$400	\$500

### FEMA High Hazard-Potential Dam Rehabilitation Program Funded

The “Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act,” signed into law in 2016, adds a new grant program under FEMA’s National Dam Safety Program (33 U.S.C. 467f). The new program provides technical, planning, design, and

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*The Oklahoma Dam Safety Act recognizes that properly constructed, operated, and maintained dams used to impound water and create reservoirs for public and private beneficial uses constitute vital parts of the State of Oklahoma’s water resources, and authorizes the Oklahoma Water Resources Board to regulate the construction, operation, and maintenance of dams to protect lives and property. Please e-mail comments and article ideas to [pubinfo@owrb.ok.gov](mailto:pubinfo@owrb.ok.gov).*

construction assistance, in the form of grants, for the rehabilitation of eligible high hazard potential dams.

State dam safety programs determine eligibility based on a dam's condition and ability to meet minimum safety standards. The OWRB Dam Safety Program is currently reviewing Oklahoma's high-hazard dam inventory for grant eligibility; however, dam owners may also call the OWRB's Dam Safety staff to discuss program details.

Eligible dams must have filed and received approval for Emergency Action Plans. Hydroelectric dams and dams that were built under the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture are not eligible.

Eligibility criteria also mandate that high-hazard potential dams be in compliance with all applicable Federal flood insurance programs and have a hazard mitigation plan on file. Dam owners must also commit to performing proper operation and maintenance of the project for 50 years.

Applicants must prove that FEMA's minimum eligibility requirements have been met, satisfy the terms of section 611(j)(9) of the Stafford Act (which is related to labor wages for contractors), and follow a floodplain management plan to reduce the impact of future flooding in the area protected by the dam rehabilitation project.

The High Hazard-Potential Dam Rehabilitation Program will help protect and improve Oklahoma's dam infrastructure. The OWRB Dam Safety Program and agency leadership welcome the additional resources and commend Oklahoma's Congressional delegation for their leadership on these important issues.

## Introducing ASDSO Collaborate

ASDSO members now can share ideas, discuss challenges, post questions, connect with colleagues worldwide, work with ASDSO committee members, and more through ASDSO Collaborate. Daily Digest subscribed members receive emails comprising all of the previous day's posts in an easy-to-digest format every morning. Real Time subscribers will receive an email every time there's a new post or members could opt out of receiving email however they can still view discussions online.

Members can use their [DamSafety.org](https://damsafety.org) login and password in order to access ASDSO Collaborate at <https://collaborate.damsafety.org/home> or by clicking the blue 'Collaborate' button in the top right corner of DamSafety.org. For more information please contact ASDSO at [info@damsafety.org](mailto:info@damsafety.org) or refer to the FAQ page.



## Emergency Management Institute Training

In February, OWRB dam safety engineers attended FEMA's National Dam Safety Program Technical Seminar in Maryland,

where they met with dam safety officials from other states and heard lectures on information sharing and risk communication on the hazards associated with dams and levees.

Emma Moradi spoke at the event and shared the OWRB's achievements in connecting the dam safety program to Oklahoma's licensed real estate agents. The presentation was well-received and the OWRB continues to provide guidance to other states that are interested in implementing a similar model.

## Upcoming Events

- May 14 ASDSO Webinar: [Relearning How to Look at Piezometric Data for Seepage Evaluation](#)
- May 21-23 ASDSO Seminar: [Seepage Through Earthen Dams](#), Austin, TX
- Jun 4-6 ASDSO Seminar: [Basic Soil Mechanics Related to Earth Dams](#), Lexington, KY
- Jun 11 ASDSO Webinar: [Best Management Practices for Waterstop Selection, Installation, and Inspection](#)
- Jun 11 ASDSO Seminar: [Indiana Dam Information, Resources, and Training \(DIRT\)](#), Greenwood, IN
- Jun 18-20 ASDSO Seminar: [HEC-HMS with Application to Dam Safety](#), Indianapolis, IN
- Jul 16-17 Slope Stability Workshop, Oklahoma Water Resources Board, Oklahoma City, OK

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