



Flood Maps Online

FEMA opens Map Service Center on Web Tuesday, February 13, 2001 Inman News Features

Flood insurance rate maps can now be ordered online through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's electronic Map Service Center at www.fema.gov/msc.

"FEMA's new online Map Service Center makes it easy for customers to identify and place orders immediately for flood map panels they want, a process that used to take days," said Margaret Lawless, FEMA's acting executive director for mitigation.

Business customers will be able to check the status of flood map orders online, and the service soon will be available for homeowners, government agencies and other groups as well.

Flood maps are checked every time a home is sold to determine whether it is in an area at high risk of flooding and whether flood insurance will be required by the mortgage lender. Flood map panels cost about \$1 apiece, plus shipping.

The new electronic Map Service Center is part of FEMA's map modernization effort and overall effort to build a state-of-the-art digital distribution center for flood maps and related products, Lawless added.

The next step will be to scan and digitize maps so they can be viewed and downloaded directly from the Internet or ordered on CD. Those services are expected to be available next year.

 **City and County of Honolulu Web Site! www.co.honolulu.hi.us**

Provides access to a number of city forms including paperwork for property tax exemption and all kinds of other stuff! Finally...our tax dollars hard at work!



Hawaii Office of Consumer Protection Web Site!

www.hawaii.gov/dcca/ocp

Copies of the Handbook for the Hawaii Residential Landlord-Tenant Code pamphlet costs \$2.00 and explains key provisions of the code and FAQs. Pick one up at 1010 Richards St., 3rd floor or at 235 S. Beretania St. Room 801. Mail requests may be filed, too.

[Helpful Hints!](#)

Tidbits of information submitted by RNO members!

[1997 Taxpayer Relief Act](#)

Summary of the new tax laws which apply to real estate.

[Act 299 - Affordable Housing Bill](#)

The 1997 Hawaii State Legislature Act 299 gives the homeowners of affordable homes in certain developments the option to amend their deed restriction period from 10 years to 3 years from the date of purchase. Follow the link for more information.

Contact Information:

[Patti Hokama, RNO Information](#)

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