



New Flood Plain Map Causes Confusion In Cabarrus County

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CABARRUS COUNTY, N.C. -- The Rocky River flooding over its banks and destroyed a number of homes earlier this year, showing many Cabarrus County residents how important flood insurance is.

That's why David Ledbetter, who lives along the river, became very concerned when he got a letter from his insurance company Monday saying his flood insurance is set to be terminated. "I've lived here for a lot of years but nothing has upset me quite like this because it's everything I live for and work for," Ledbetter said.

The letter says Cabarrus County is out of compliance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Flood Insurance Program. No county certification equates to no flood insurance for residents.

But Cabarrus County spokeswoman Aimee Hawkins said it has taken time to work out a new flood plain and get that approved. She said recertification should be completed in the next week. "We don't anticipate anyone is going to lose their flood insurance. We're working through this with the state," she said.

But while they work, it just so happens Ledbetter's flood insurance renewal is coming up. Now he said he wishes someone had let him know about the slowdown.

"One of our concerns is if Cabarrus County was aware of this, why didn't they let the residents know they had a problem? If they had notified us, that would have been very helpful to us," he said.

The county said it's the state's responsibility to notify residents. Hawkins said the bottom line is county commissioners should approve the new map next Monday and then the state should recertify Cabarrus County.