RESILIENT NJ RARITAN RIVER AND BAY COMMUNITIES

RESILIENCE STRATEGIES TOOLKIT

MARCH 2022

PURPOSE AND VALUE OF THE TOOLKIT

There are many possible solutions that can be implemented to address flooding. The toolkit includes physical and nature-based solutions, policy and governance solutions, and individual and communitybased actions. Physical and nature-based solutions include projects that change the built environment to address flood risk. Policy and governance related solutions are solutions that affect what decisions related to flooding are made, how, and by whom. Individual and community-based solutions are solutions that increase the social resilience of a community. The goal of the toolkit is to identify potential tools that we will draw on for the development of the scenarios. The toolkit summarizes key information about each solution including:

- Types of hazards the solution addresses
- The types of areas in which the solution could be applied
- Scale of the intervention (individual site, multiple sites, etc.)
- · Possible co-benefits (benefits other than reduced flooding)
- Level of potential disruption from construction or implementation
- Other constraints and considerations •

The toolkit also groups solutions into three approaches to resilience: Protecting from the water, Adapting to the water, and Moving away from the water. These approaches are described further in the following pages.





FROM WATER

OF WATER

(RESILIENCE GOALS INFORM ADAPTATION STRATEGIES)

While tools are sorted by applicable areas to guide the development of scenarios, implementing individual solutions is highly dependent on unique site conditions. Additional siting constraints could restrict the use of solutions at specific sites but siting constraints are not universal across all solutions. For example, a high groundwater table could restrict the use of green infrastructure solutions for stormwater management but would be considered a favorable condition for restoration or expansion of wetland areas.

The toolkit is not intended to be inclusive of all possible solutions but was a helpful starting point to identify solutions and outline the decision-making process for selecting a specific solution for an area. The goals of the toolkit are to:

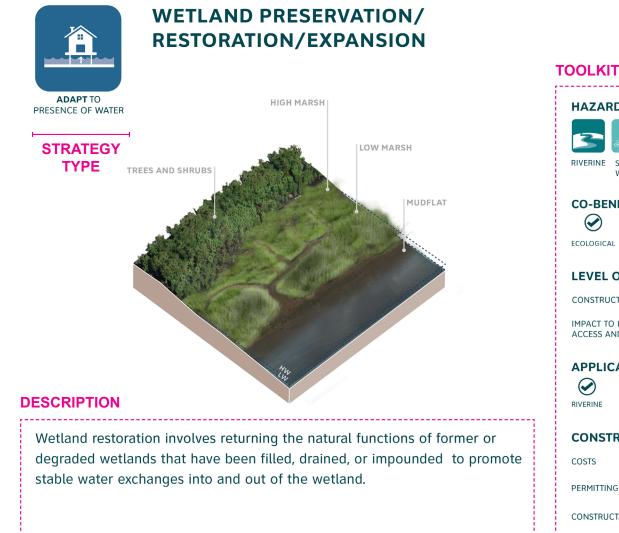


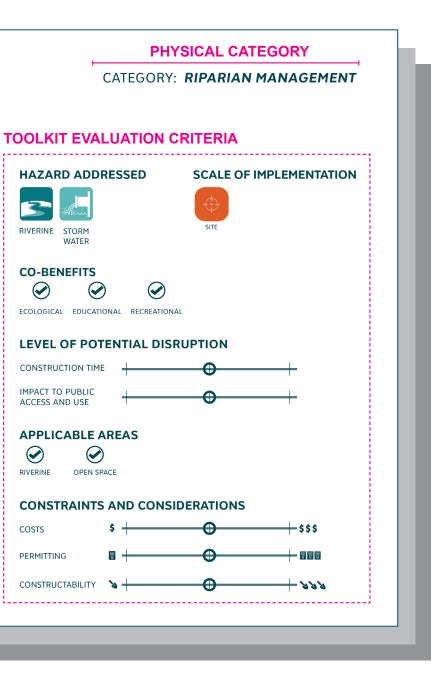
• Communicate the types and range of solutions possible, as well as when they might be appropriate and their limitations

• Provide a framing tool for both the technical team and stakeholders, to help us begin from similar places of understanding, about the technical considerations that often guide these types of decisions

HOW TO READ THE TOOLKIT







TOOLKIT LIST: STRUCTURAL STRATEGIES

COASTAL / RIVERINE BARRIERS

- Floodwalls
- Bulkheads
- Berms And Levees
- Setback Levees
- Deployable Floodgates
- Deployable Tide Gates

ELEVATION / RAISING

- Raise Land
- Create Redundant Emergency Routes
- Elevate Structures Above DFE
- Raise Critical Systems

- Fill Levels Below DFE Wetproof Levels Below DFE Dryproof Levels Below DFE



FLOODPROOFING / HARDENING

TOOLKIT LIST: NATURE-BASED STRATEGIES

URBAN STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

- Rain Garden
- Planted Swale
- Right-of-way Bioswale
- Green Roof/ Blue Roof
- Retention / Wet Ponds (Stormwater Basins)

RIVERINE NATURAL SYSTEMS (INLAND FLOW)

- Stream Daylighting & Restoration
- Culvert Modification / Enlargement
- Natural Erosion Control **Stream Bank Restoration**
- Tidal Wetland Preservation/ **Restoration/Expansion**

- Coastal Wetland Preservation/ **Restoration/Expansion**
- Dune / Beach System
- Constructed Reefs
- Revetments*



COASTAL SYSTEMS (WAVE ACTION)

Coastal Living Shorelines

* Opportunities for Ecological Enhancement of Hard Flood Protection Infrastructure

TOOLKIT: NON-PHYSICAL STRATEGIES

GOVERNANCE AND POLICY TOOLS

- Increasing Floodplain **Construction Standards**
- · Increasing Standards For On-Site Stormwater Management
- Land Use Planning And Zoning
- Incorporating Resiliency In Capital Infrastructure Planning
- Adapting Governance Structures To Advance Resiliency
- Acquisition of Highly **Vulnerable Properties**

INDIVIDUAL OR COMMUNITY-BASED ACTIONS

- Resilience Hubs
- Emergency Preparedness
- Business & Industry Emergency Preparedness
- Community Planning
- Community Stewardship Of Green Spaces
- Workforce Development
- Public-Private Partnerships For **Resiliency Infrastructure**



COASTAL/RIVERINE BARRIERS





and floodwaters. Various types of floodwalls may be applicable to different areas and regions.

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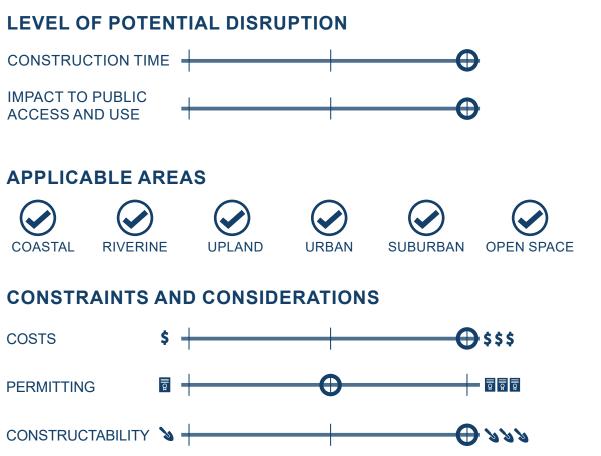


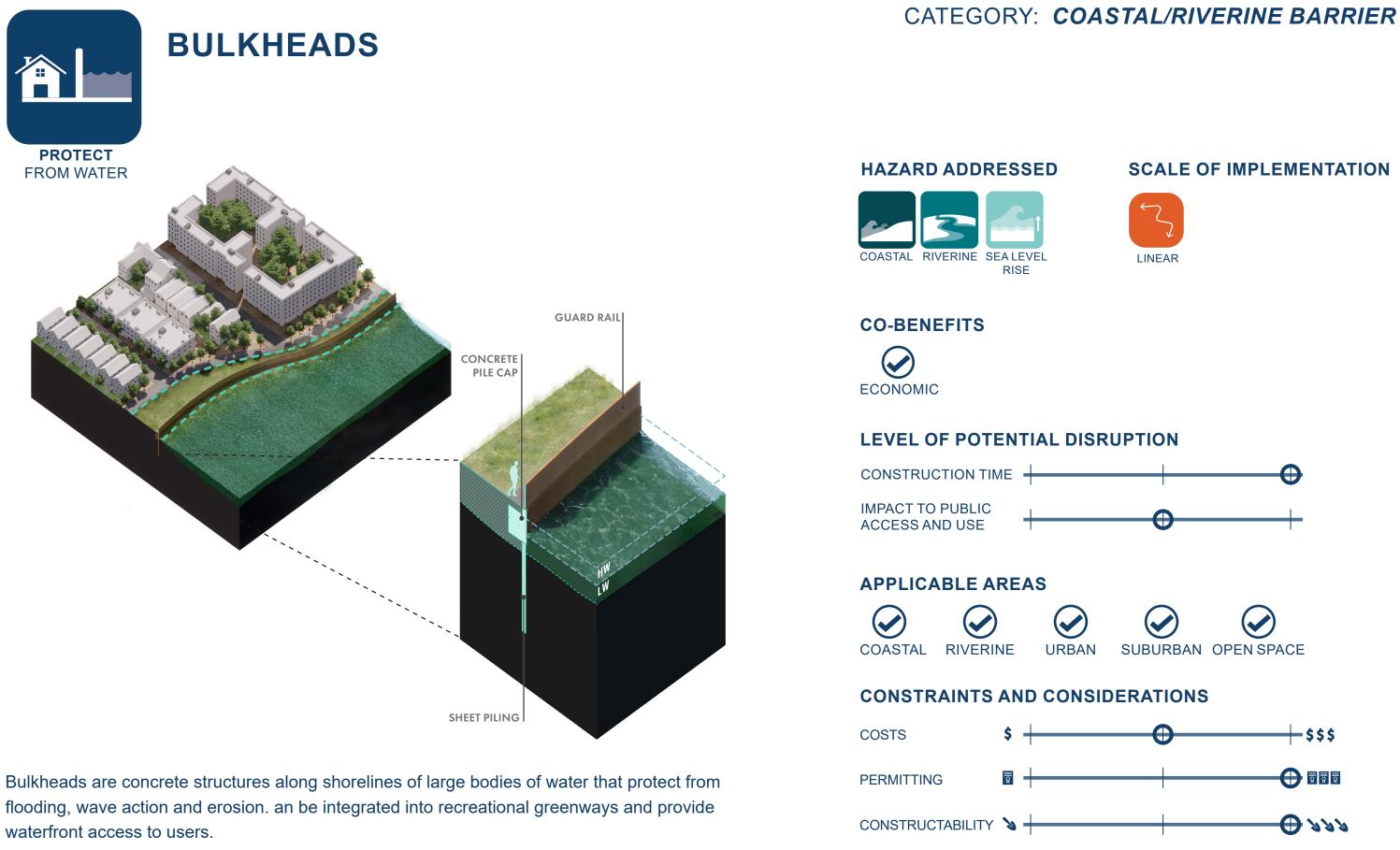


STORM

WATER

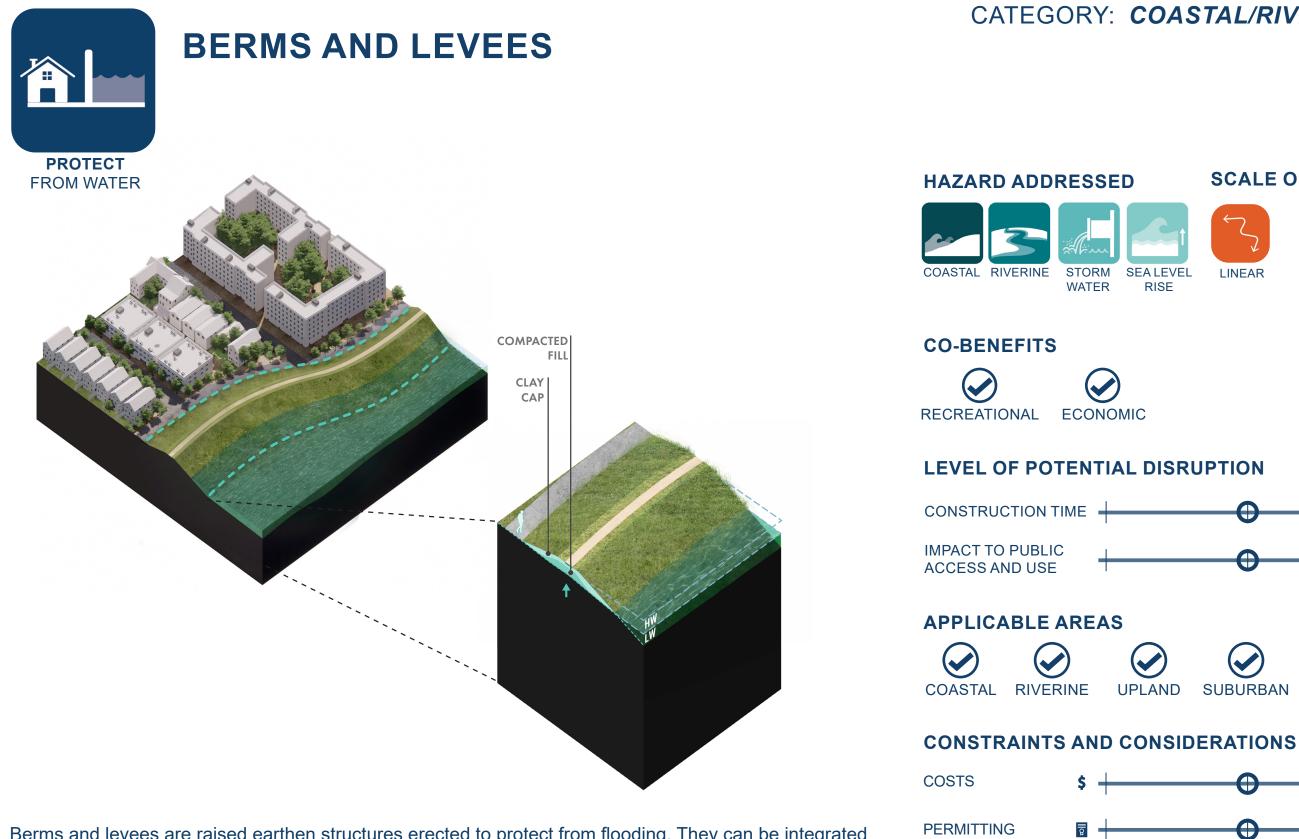












Berms and levees are raised earthen structures erected to protect from flooding. They can be integrated with recreational boardwalks, walkways and bike paths. Their natural sloped sides can be populated with recreational features.

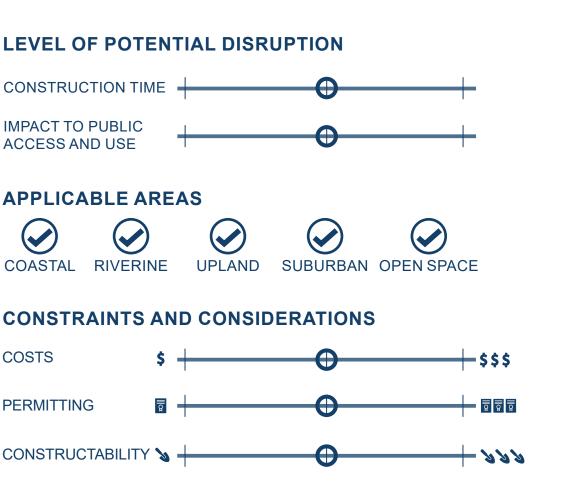
CONSTRUCTABILITY 💊

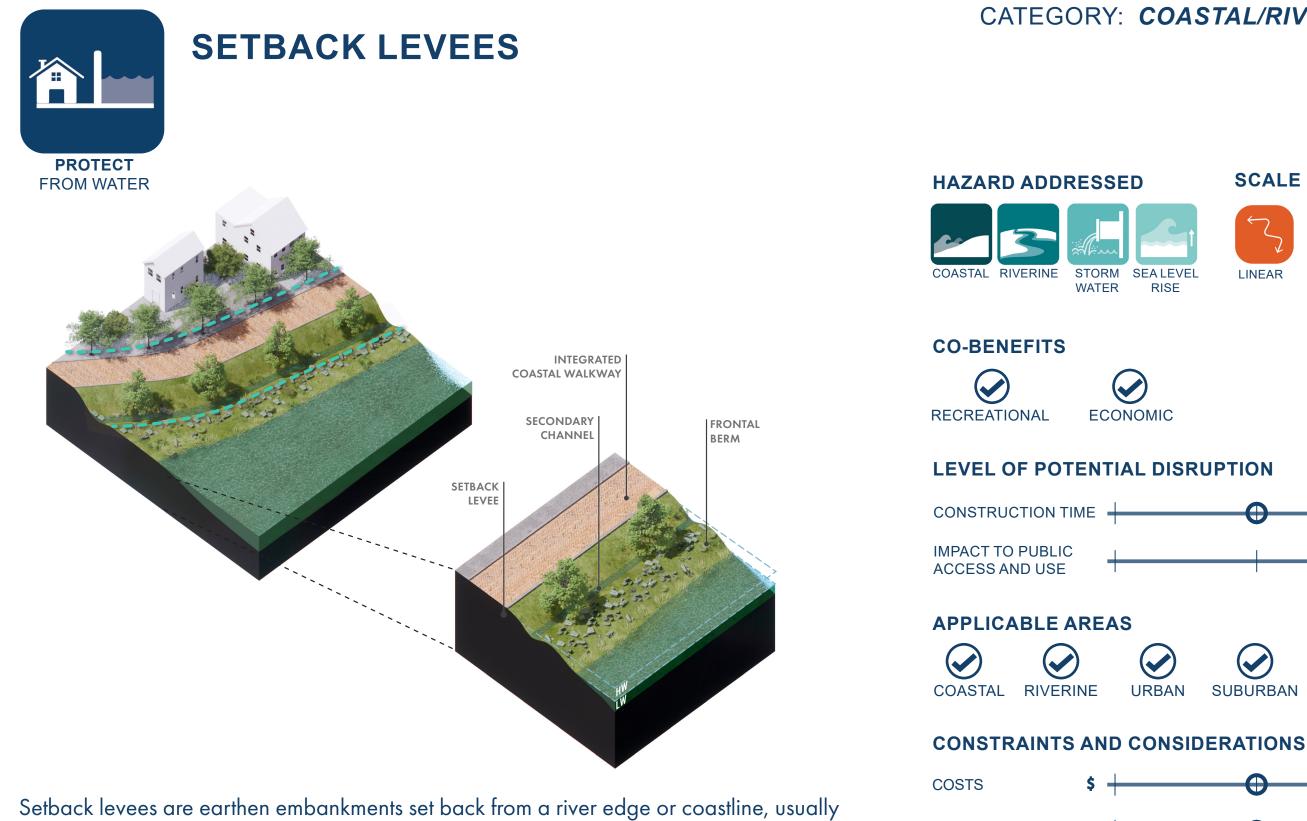












paired with another berm, levee or other flood protection measure. They provide an added layer of protection from high waters and storm surges by creating a redundant system of physical protection.

B

PERMITTING

CONSTRUCTABILITY 💊





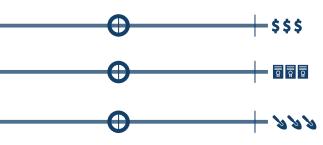










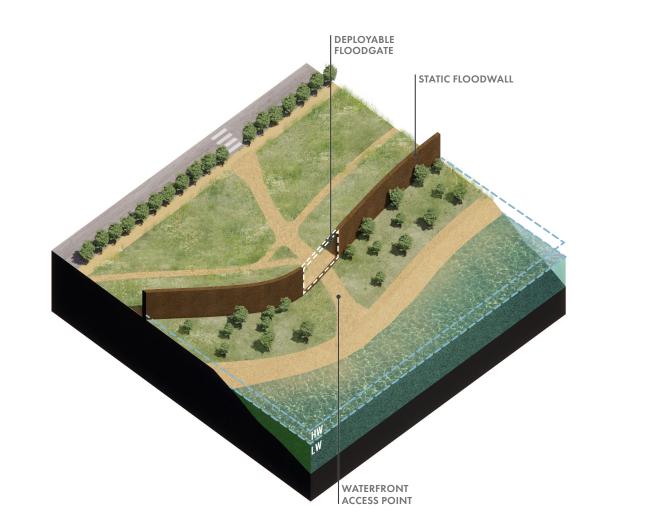




DEPLOYABLE FLOODGATES



RIVERINE





COASTAL

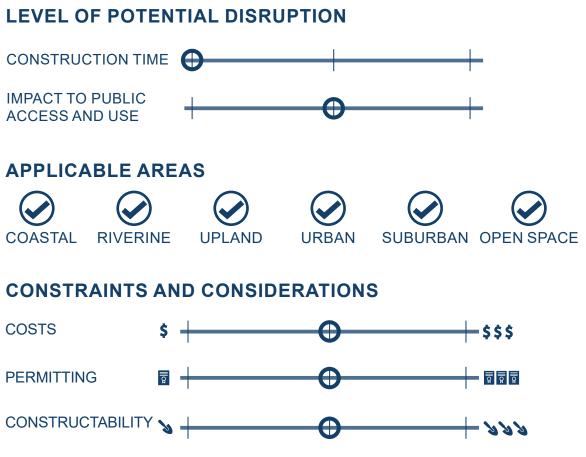


STORM

WATER

APPLICABLE AREAS





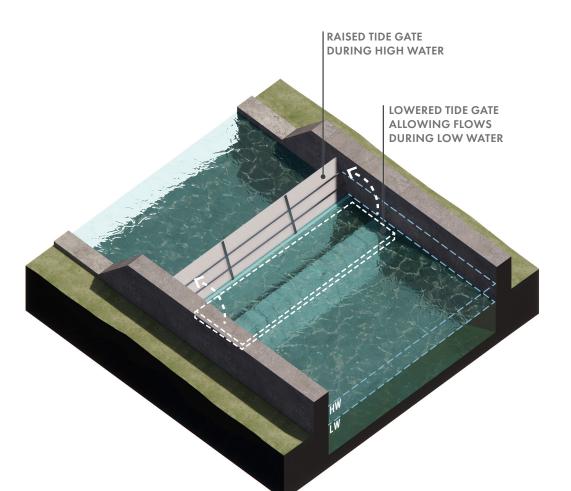
Deployable floodgates are mobile elements, integrated into static flood barriers, that are closed during flood events to fill gaps in protective barriers and prevent floodwater intrusion.

SCALE OF IMPLEMENTATION





DEPLOYABLE TIDE GATES



HAZARD ADDRESSED



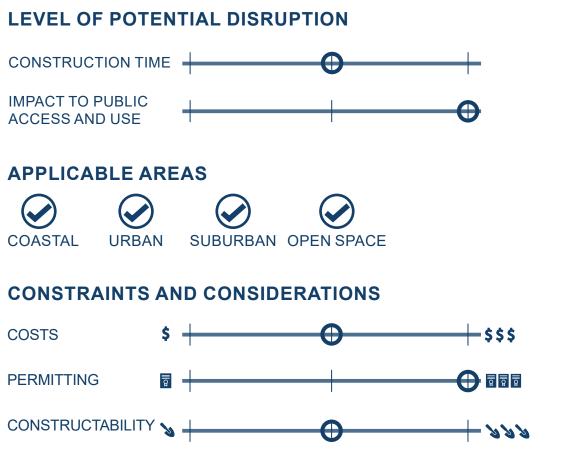
CO-BENEFITS



CONSTRUCTION TIME IMPACT TO PUBLIC

APPLICABLE AREAS





Tide gates are deployed along drainage and waterways to keep out floodwaters during high tides. They control water levels within urban systems and areas, come in several forms and are usually self-regulating.

SCALE OF IMPLEMENTATION



ELEVATION RAISING





STORM

WATER



RAISE LAND

HAZARD ADDRESSED

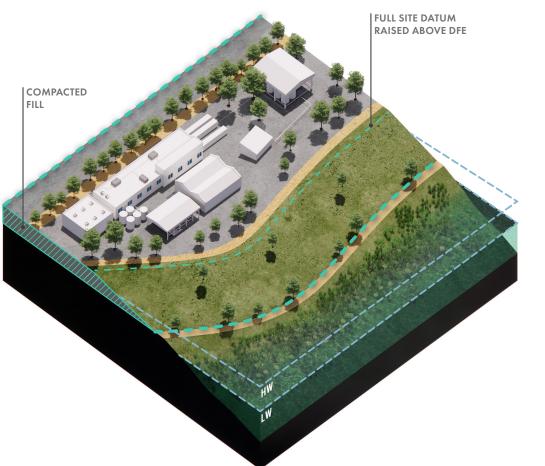
COASTAL RIVERINE

CO-BENEFITS

RECREATIONAL

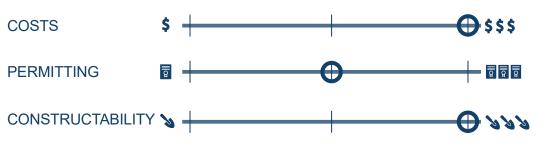
CONSTRUCTION TIME

IMPACT TO PUBLIC ACCESS AND USE



APPLICABLE AREAS COASTAL RIVERINE

CONSTRAINTS AND CONSIDERATIONS



By physically raising land above flood levels a whole site can be protected from regular flooding. Raising land protects the full footprint of important sites like utilities and other public assets. This tool does displace risk to surrounding areas and is susceptible to subsidence. This should be applied only when there is enough space and risks to surrounding areas are considered.

CATEGORY: ELEVATION RAISING





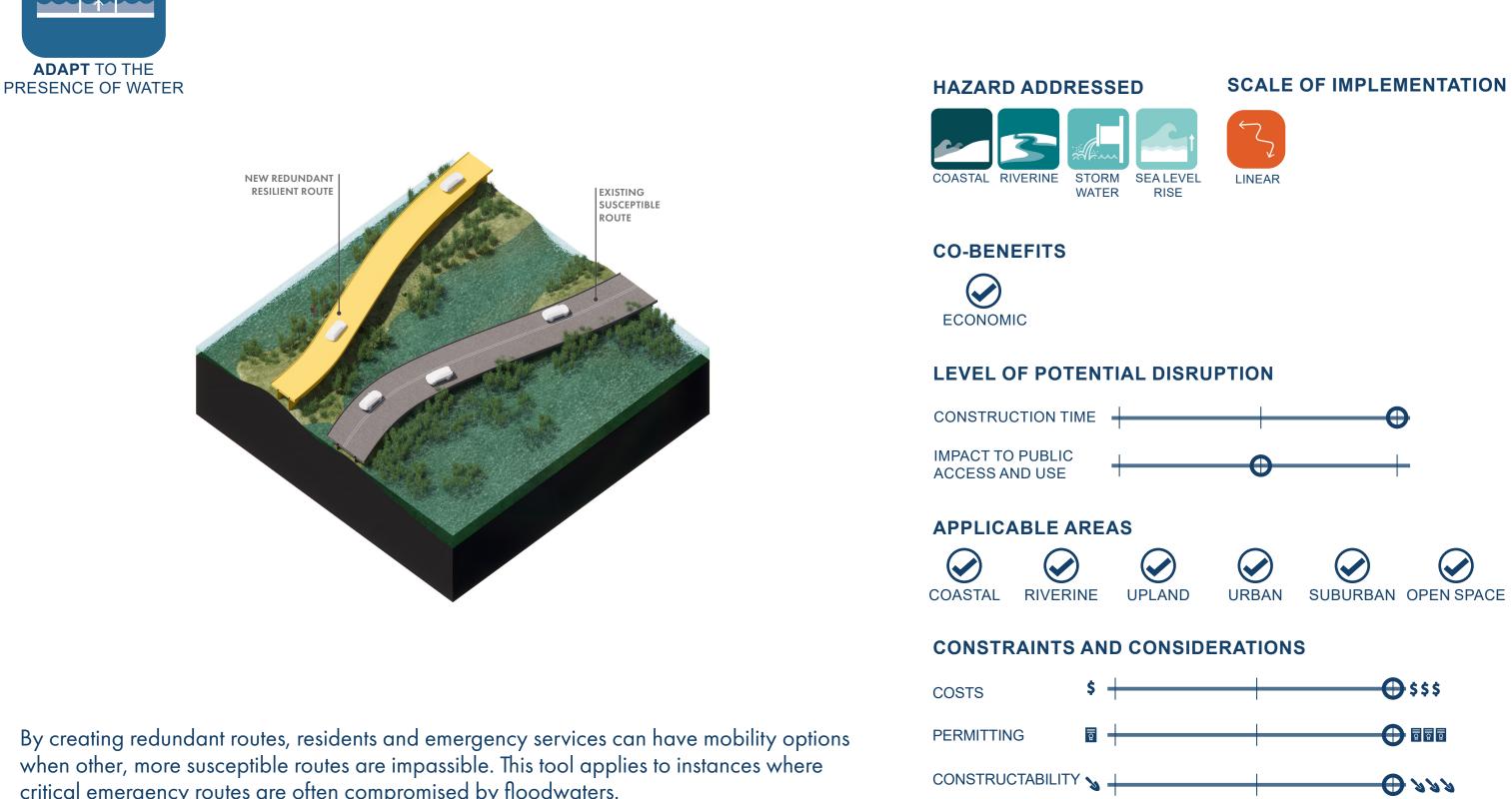


ECONOMIC









By creating redundant routes, residents and emergency services can have mobility options when other, more susceptible routes are impassible. This tool applies to instances where critical emergency routes are often compromised by floodwaters.

CREATE REDUNDANT EMERGENCY

ROUTES

CATEGORY: ELEVATION RAISING

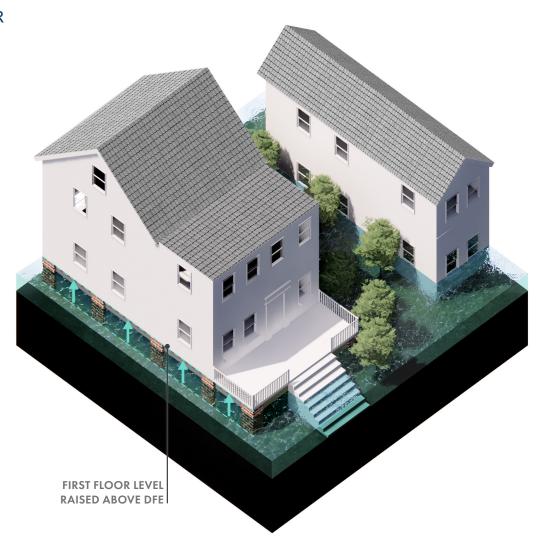








ELEVATE STRUCTURES ABOVE DFE



HAZARD ADDRESSED



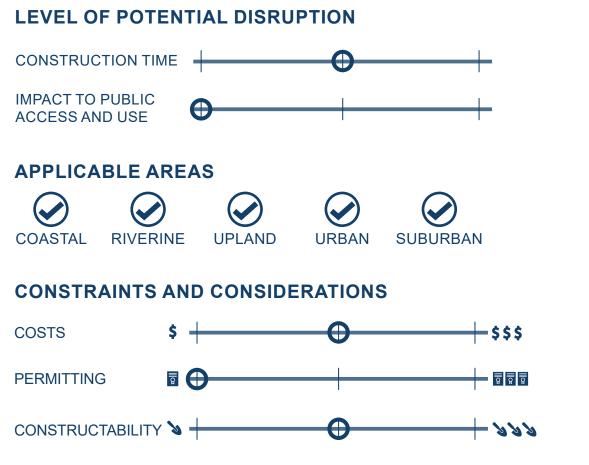
CO-BENEFITS





APPLICABLE AREAS

RIVERINE

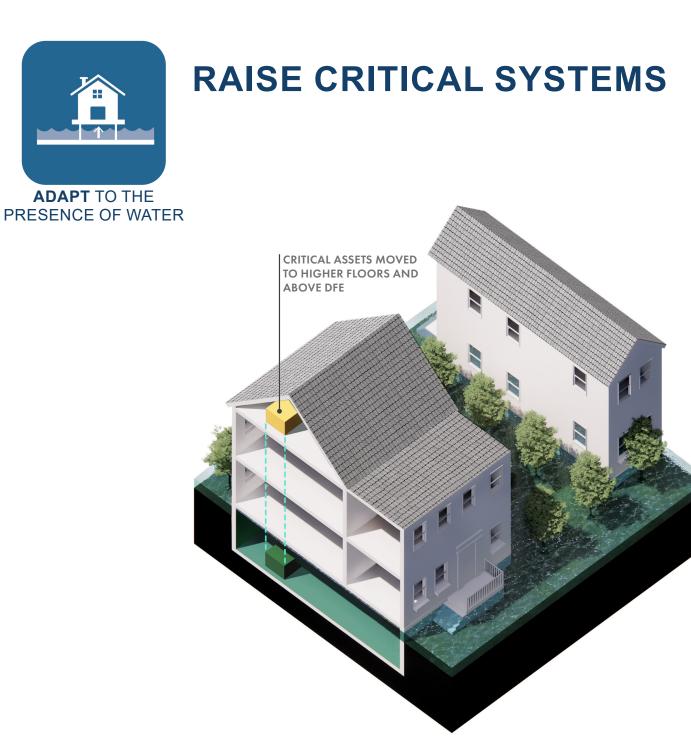


Physically raising structures above flood levels protects these structures during flood events. Structures can be kept relatively intact during the raising process. Ground level can be used for storage, parking and other temporary uses.

CATEGORY: ELEVATION RAISING

SCALE OF IMPLEMENTATION





HAZARD ADDRESSED

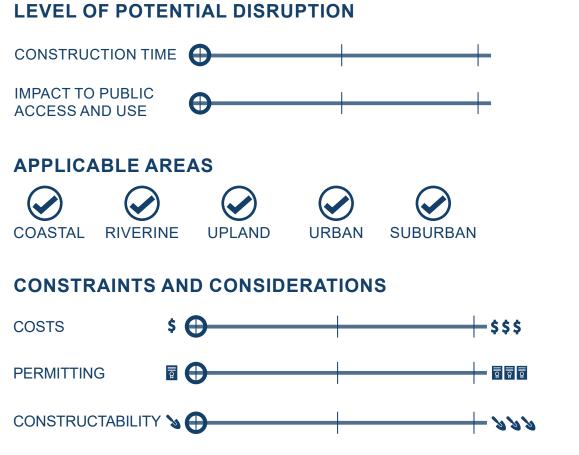


CO-BENEFITS





APPLICABLE AREAS



Relocating critical systems to higher floors within structures reduces the impacts of flooding on critical services and reduces recovery times. This tool increases the resilience of essential services to homes and businesses.

CATEGORY: ELEVATION RAISING

SCALE OF IMPLEMENTATION

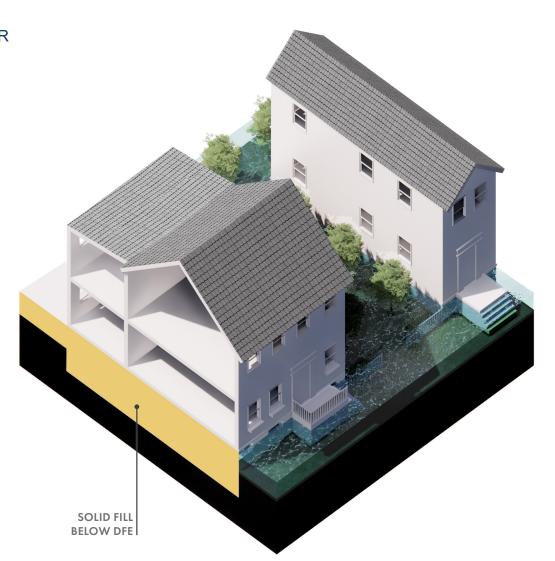


FLOODPROOFING/ HARDENING

CATEGORY: FLOODPROOFING/HARDENING



FILL LEVELS BELOW DFE



Filling floors that are below flood elevations physically keeps floodwaters from entering structures. This tool increases structural stability and resilience.

HAZARD ADDRESSED



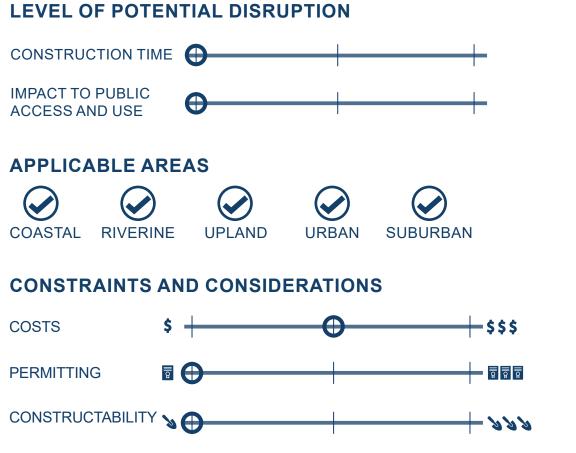
CO-BENEFITS





APPLICABLE AREAS

COASTAL RIVERINE





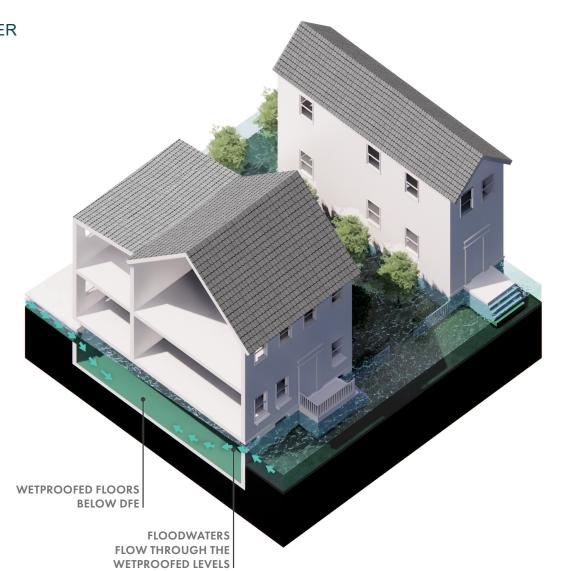








WETPROOF LEVELS BELOW DFE





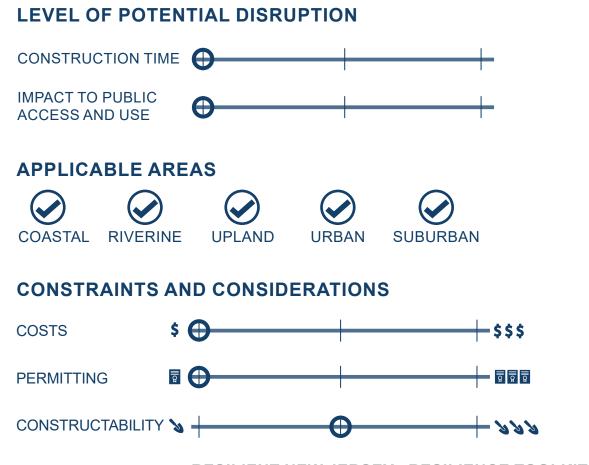


CO-BENEFITS ECONOMIC



APPLICABLE AREAS

COASTAL RIVERINE



Wetproofing of floors below grade involves sealing susceptible levels to water infiltration. This allows for flood water to move into and through these levels while limiting infiltration to the rest of the structure.

CATEGORY: FLOODPROOFING/HARDENING

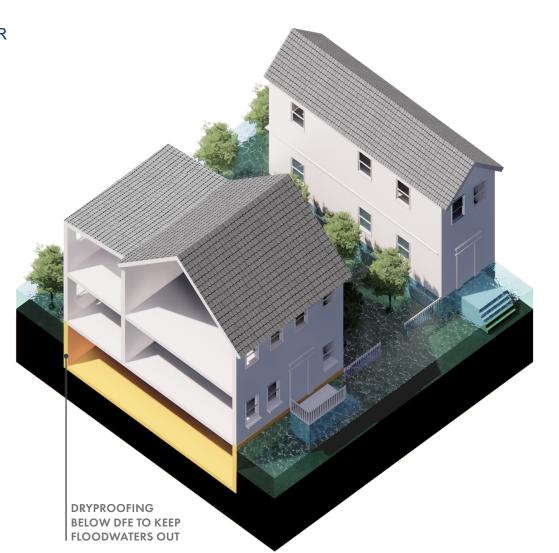








DRYPROOF LEVELS BELOW DFE



HAZARD ADDRESSED

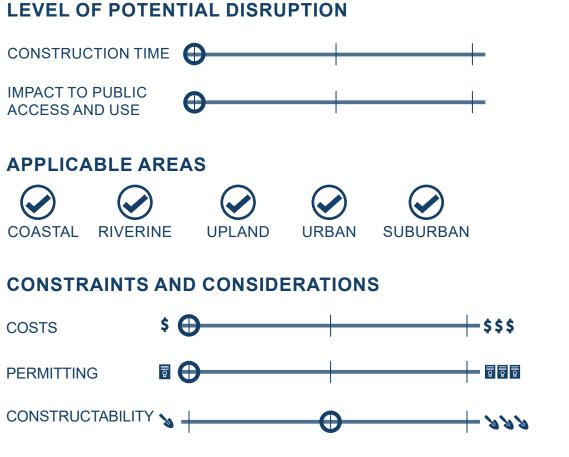


CO-BENEFITS









Dryproofing below flood levels involves fully blocking out floodwaters with both permanent and deployable structures. This tool retains usability of floors below grade for permanent and temporary uses. Allows for assets and utilities to remain below DFE with a lessened chance of flooding.

CATEGORY: FLOODPROOFING/HARDENING



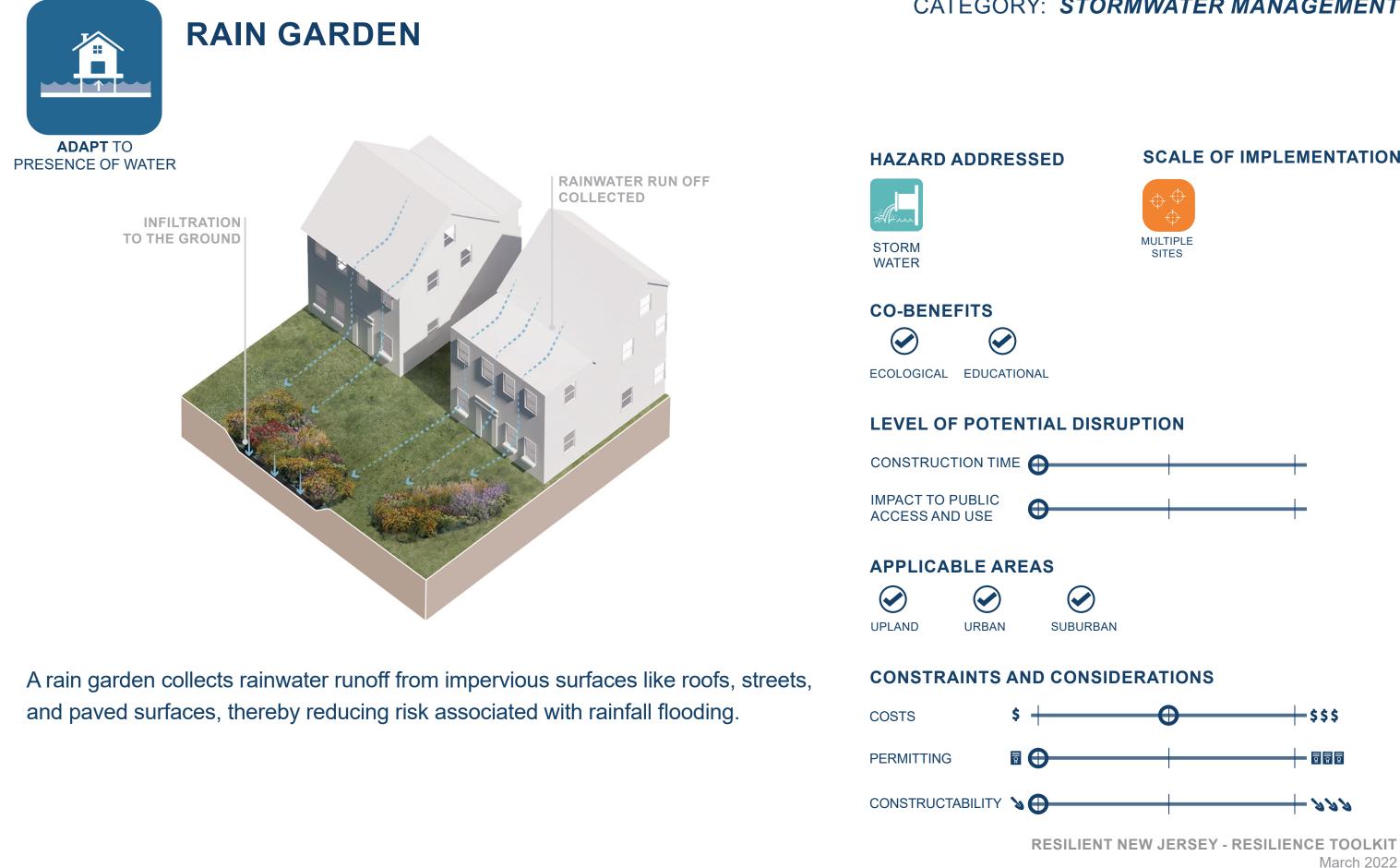




URBAN STORMWATER MANAGEMENT



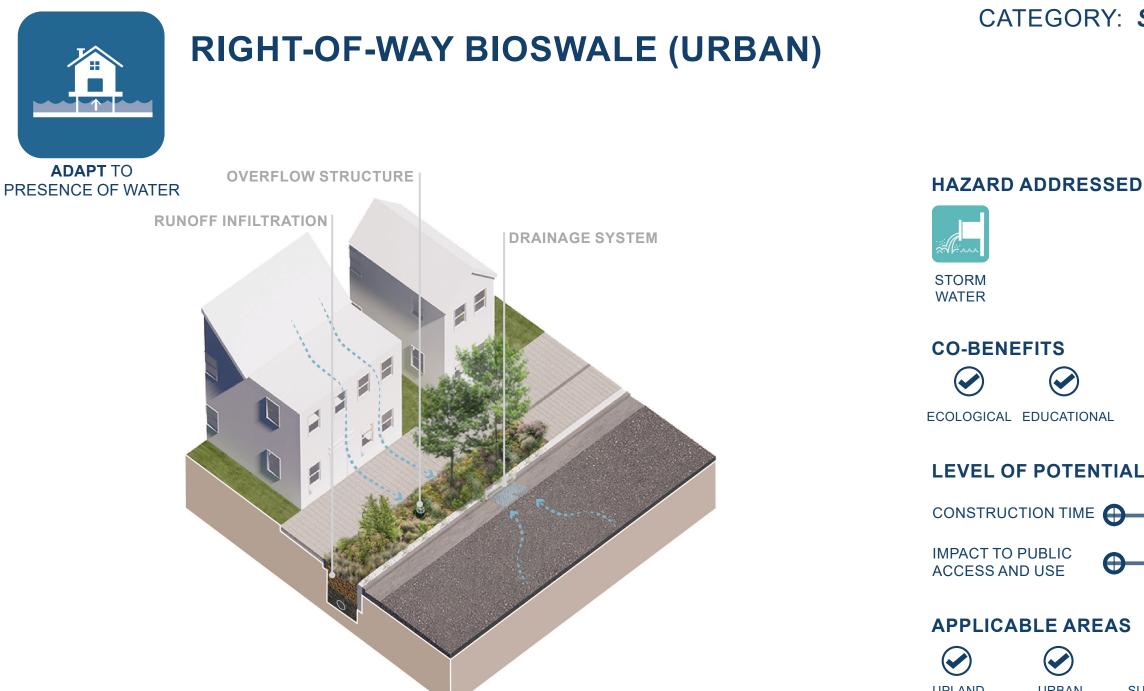
CATEGORY: STORMWATER MANAGEMENT



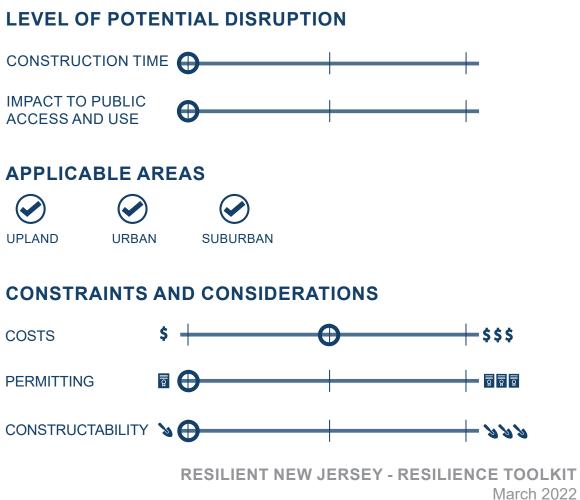








Right-of-way bioswales are vegetated drainage courses located in sidewalks to capture, detain, and infiltrate runoff from streets, allowing any excess rain water to enter the piped stormwater system.



CATEGORY: STORMWATER MANAGEMENT





A green roof is a layer of growing medium for vegetation installed over a waterproofing system, slowing down runoff by retaining rainwater and gradually COSTS releasing it back into the atmosphere through condensation and transpiration. Blue PERMITTING roofs provide temporary water storage systems that allow for the gradual release or evaporation of stored water.

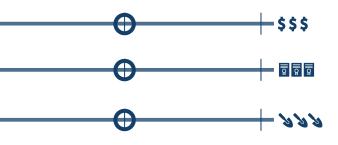
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CONSTRUCTABILITY 🍾

SCALE OF IMPLEMENTATION



CONSTRAINTS AND CONSIDERATIONS





RETENTION / WET PONDS (STORMWATER BASINS)

CATEGORY: STORMWATER MANAGEMENT



HAZARD ADDRESSED



LEVEL OF POTENTIAL DISRUPTION

CONSTRUCTION TIME

IMPACT TO PUBLIC ACCESS AND USE



APPLICABLE AREAS

UPLAND

SUBURBAN

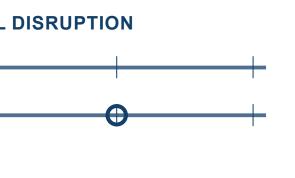
CONSTRAINTS AND CONSIDERATIONS

\$ 🕀 COSTS PERMITTING CONSTRUCTABILITY 💊 🕀

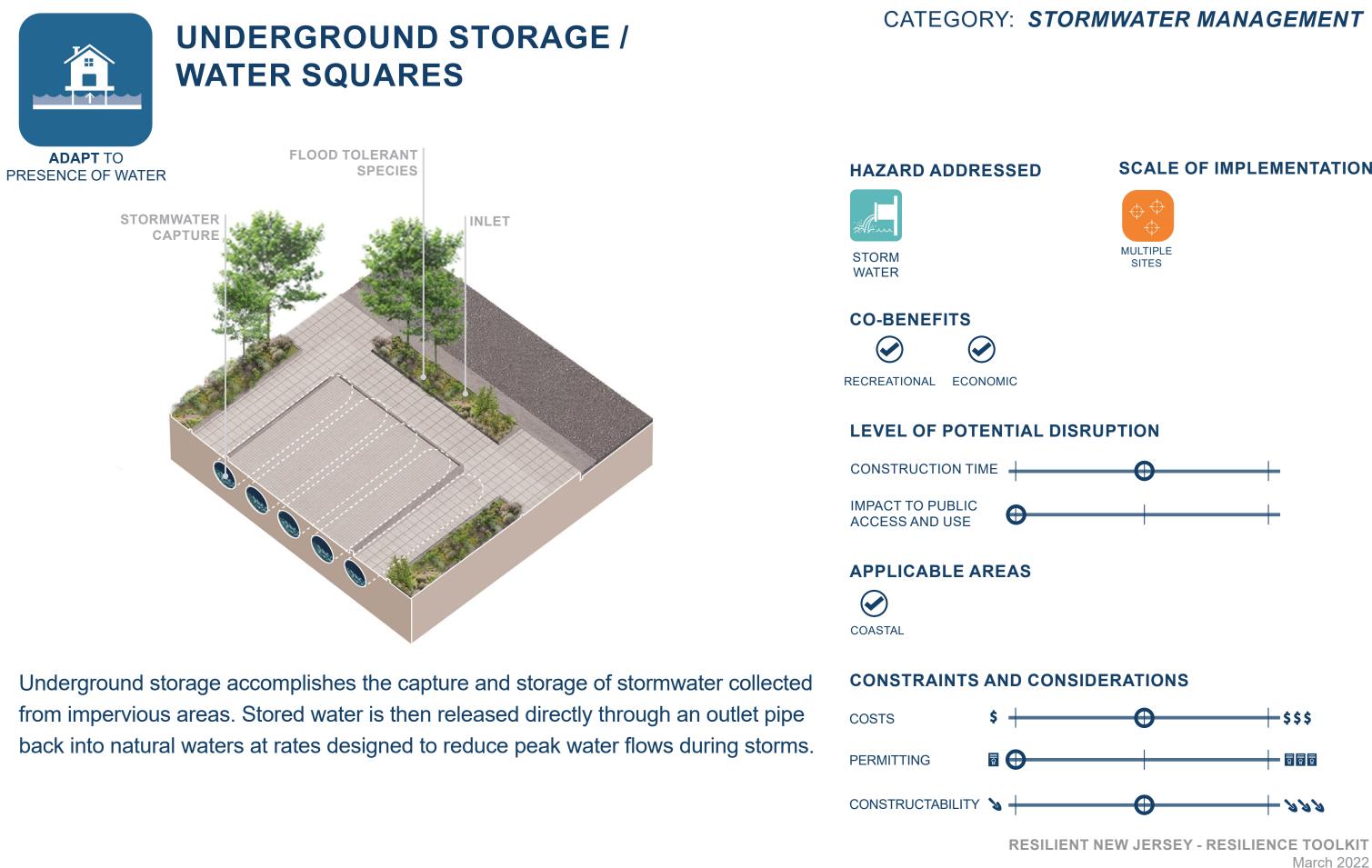
Retention ponds are artificial basins used to manage stormwater runoff and promote infiltration. Capturing runoff, they can reduce downstream or localized flooding and enable groundwater recharge.

SCALE OF IMPLEMENTATION











RIVERINE SYSTEMS





INCREASED

TREE COVERAGE

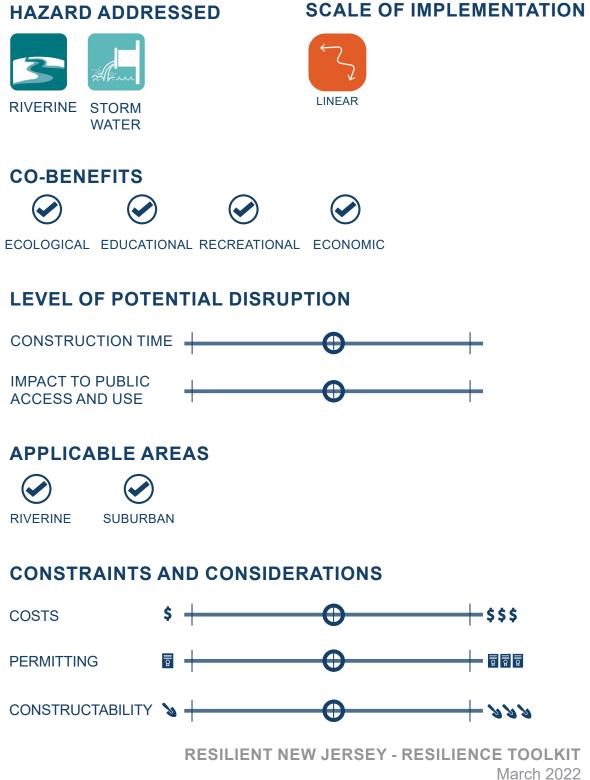
RESTORED STREAM CHANNEL

> RECONNECTED **GREENWAYS & BLUEWAYS**



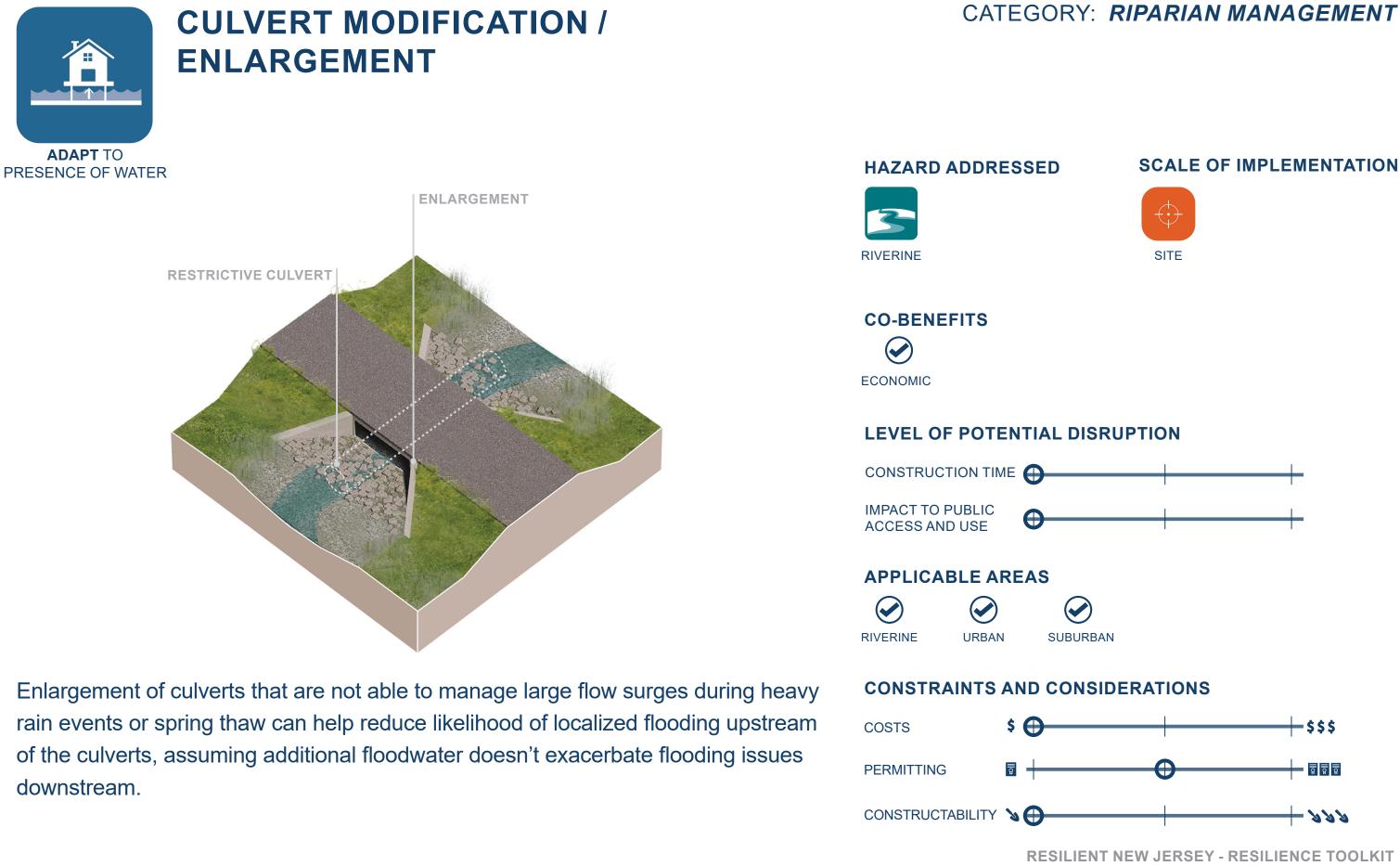
CONSTRUCTION TIME

APPLICABLE AREAS



Stream daylighting is the exposure of some or all of the flow of waterways covered in piped or culverts. Stream daylighting and restoration of natural drainage systems can help eliminate flooding issues by re-connecting piped stream channels with the floodplain and re-creating a functioning floodplain and riparian area.





SCALE OF IMPLEMENTATION

March 2022

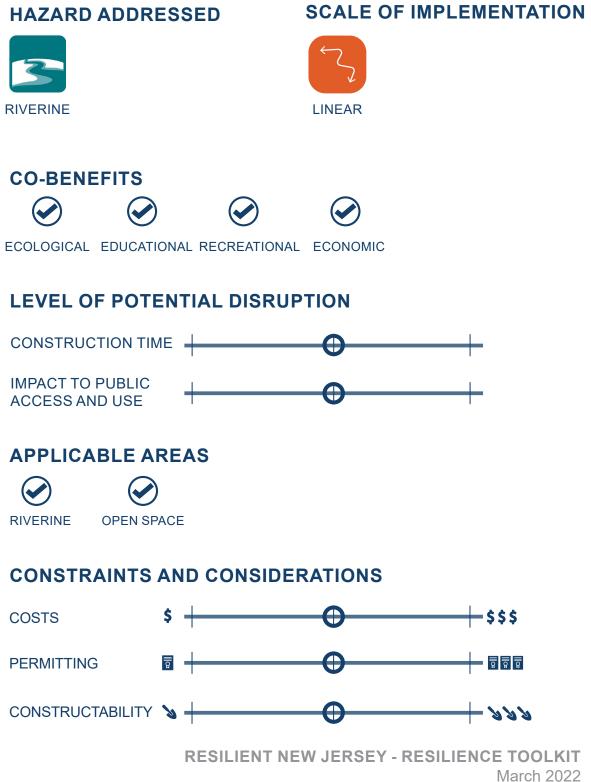




UPLAND REFORESTATION ENGINEERED LOG JAMS PLANTED STREAM BANKS

CO-BENEFITS

APPLICABLE AREAS



Streams that are artificially modified through straightened channels or altered stream banks result in instability where bed and bank erosion is a common consequence. Natural streams and floodplains provide stability to manage floodwaters safely, minimizing impacts to infrastructure.

CATEGORY: RIPARIAN MANAGEMENT



exchanges into and out of the wetland.

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PERMITTING

CONSTRUCTABILITY 💊

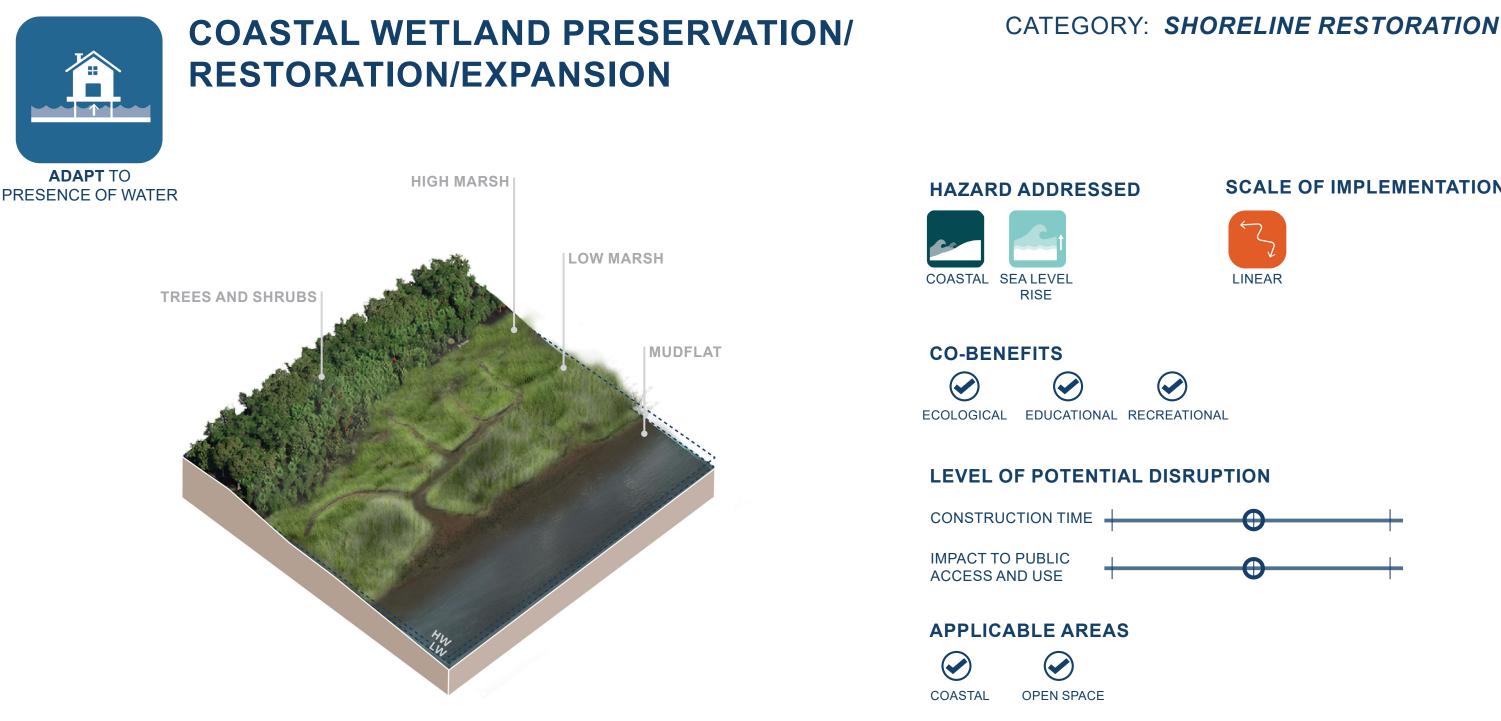
SCALE OF IMPLEMENTATION





COASTAL SYSTEMS





Low-lying tidal wetlnd ecosystems are among the most vulnerable environments to sea level rise. The resilience of tidal wetlands to sea level rise depends on the potential for horizontal migration to upland areas and the vertical accretion rate of the wetland, which can be supported through restoration and expansion.

CONSTRAINTS AND CONSIDERATIONS



SCALE OF IMPLEMENTATION



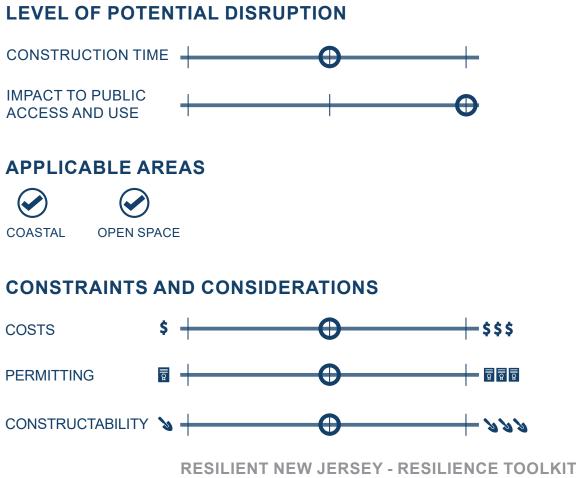
CATEGORY: SHORELINE RESTORATION



BERM / DUNE SYSTEM



Dunes are landforms that occur with the sufficient transportation of sand or sediment and rely on the presence of a healthy and extensive root system from dune grasses and other vegetation to maintain their shape and help reduce flood risk associated with coastal storms. Dunes can act as a buffer, attenuating storm waves and reducing damage to communities.



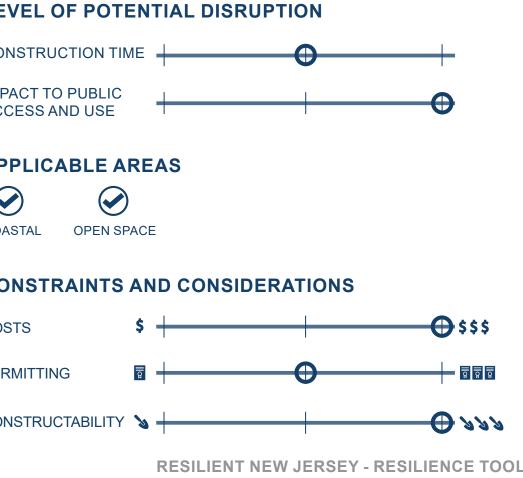
SCALE OF IMPLEMENTATION



March 2022

CATEGORY: SHORELINE RESTORATION





SCALE OF IMPLEMENTATION

March 2022



CATEGORY: SHORELINE RESTORATION



CONSTRUCTED REEFS / BREAKWATERS

HAZARD ADDRESSED



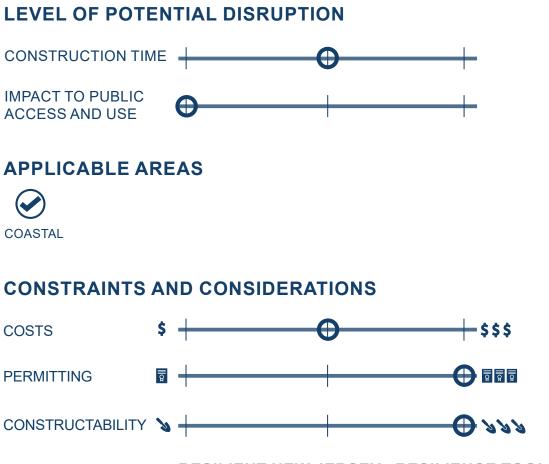


COASTAL





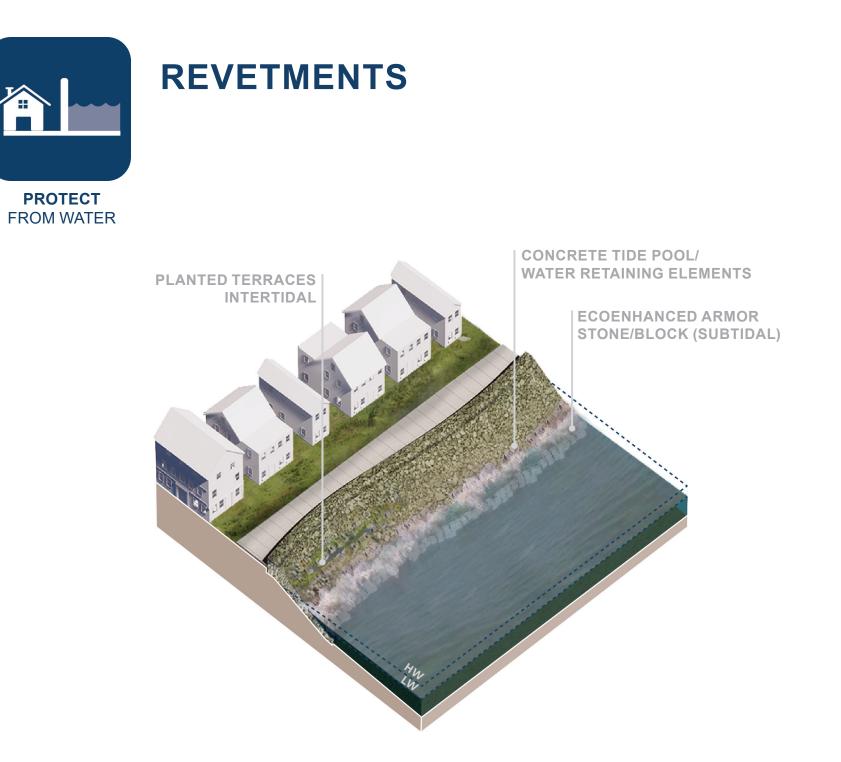
APPLICABLE AREAS



Constructed reefs are subtidal and sometimes intertidal submerged structures that promote marine life and break waves, limiting the wave energy reaching the shoreline. Breakwaters are partially or fully emergent structures that extend above mean high water. They are built with armor units to help attenuate storm waves to improve safety and prevent damage to buildings and infrastructure.

SCALE OF IMPLEMENTATION





HAZARD ADDRESSED



CO-BENEFITS ECONOMIC

LEVEL OF POTENTIAL DISRUPTION

CONSTRUCTION TIME

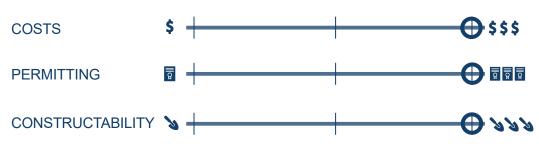
IMPACT TO PUBLIC ACCESS AND USE



APPLICABLE AREAS

COASTAL

CONSTRAINTS AND CONSIDERATIONS

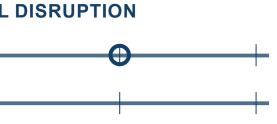


Revetments are hard sloping structures, typically constructed using natural stone, or concrete blocks designed to reduce shoreline erosion by absorbing wave energy and minimizing wave run-up.

CATEGORY: COASTAL BARRIER

SCALE OF IMPLEMENTATION





NON-PHYSICAL STRATEGIES



GOVERNANCE AND POLICY ROLES

GOVERNANCE & POLICY

FEDERAL AGENCIES & PROGRAMS

FEMA	 Creates maps of current flood risk and sets national floodplain construction standards Administers the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), through which people in pa flood insurance. Reduced rates are available for municipalities that adopt higher constru Rating System (CRS). Provides hazard mitigation and disaster recovery funding to governments, businesses, a mitigation funds, states and local entities must have developed a Hazard Mitigation Plan
US Army Corps of Engineers	 Conducts flood risk reduction studies Implements flood risk reduction projects Coordinates with NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) on hazard mitigati
ΝΟΑΑ	Manages the federal Coastal Zone Management Program

STATE AGENCIES & PROGRAMS

NJDEP	 Coordinates federal, state and local floodplain management programs. These include stat and model local ordinances Leading developing of statement climate resilience planning initiatives, including NJPAC Relatedly, oversees the Site Remediation Program and sets requirements for combined
NJDCA	 Enforces construction codes Administers CBDG funds received by the State for Superstorm Sandy assistance
NJBPU	 Regulates utilities, including water supply and wastewater management
NJOEM	• Coordinates with FEMA on hazard mitigation, preparedness, response, and disaster reco

participating municipalities can purchase ruction standards through the Community

and individuals. To be eligible for hazard lan (HMP).

ation and disaster recovery funding efforts

atewide floodplain management standards

ACT and Resilient NJ. d sewer systems / LTCPs.

covery funding



GOVERNANCE & POLICY

COUNTY, REGIONAL, AND LOCAL AGENCIES & PROGRAMS

MIDDLESEX COUNTY	 Responsible for managing county roads, infrastructure, parks Can adopt site plan and subdivision standards as development impacts their assets Maintain County Hazard Mitigation Plans
LTCP STAKEHOLDER (MCUA)	 Responsible for wastewater conveyance and treatment and development of Long-Term water quality Advanced internal planning for climate risks and implementation of flood mitigation proj
CARTERET, OLD BRIDGE, PERTH AMBOY, SAYREVILLE, SOUTH AMBOY, SOUTH RIVER, WOODBRIDGE	 As a home rule state, land use, zoning, development regulation rest in local decision mal Required to have Flood Damage Prevention Ordinances and Municipal Separate Storm Sy plans Must adopt a Master Plan that meets statewide requirements Develop hazard mitigation plans and capital improvement programs to address infrastruct Submit grant applications to support funding Raise funding through property taxes, municipal bonds, and improvements associated with the state of the state o

rm Control Plans to mitigate impacts on

ojects

nakers System (MS4) "Stormwater Management"

ucture and flood protection needs

with redevelopment projects



GOVERNANCE & POLICY

GOVERNANCE AND POLICY: POTENTIAL ACTIONS

STRATEGY	EXAMPLES	HAZARDS ADDRESSED
Increasing floodplain construction standards	 Higher freeboard Disclosure laws for sale of land in the floodplain Require dry access Non-conversion agreements Prohibit new critical facilities in high hazard areas 	All
Increasing standards for on-site stormwater management	 Maximum lot coverage standards Prohibit encroachments on drainage ways 	Stormwater
Land use planning and zoning	 Plan for growth in areas of lower risk and reduce growth in high hazard areas Improve access to resources and necessities Remove zoning barriers to resilient design Set elevation requirements of buildings, yards, and esplanades Erosion prevention requirements Setbacks 	All
Incorporating resiliency in Capital Infrastructure Planning	 Align Capital Infrastructure Plan with land use plans and hazard mitigation plans Create resiliency design standards Prioritize investments based on risk reduction 	All
Adapting governance structures to advance resiliency	 Resilience District to fund, implement, and maintain community-scale resiliency infrastructure Task forces and working groups across agencies and jurisdictions to advance 	All
Acquisition of Highly Vulnerable Properties	 Targeted acquisition programs can be used to buy properties from willing sellers in high-risk areas Acquired properties are required to remain open space but can be used as passive recreational spaces and for habitat restoration 	All

S SED	CO-BENEFITS
	 Flood insurance savings
iter	 Water quality improvements Creation of community green space
	 Economic development Quality of life Environmental benefits
	 Improved efficiency of capital spending
	 Improved governance and accountability
	 Creation of open space Environmental benefits



GOVERNANCE AND POLICY TOOLS

GOVERNANCE & POLICY

CASE STUDY: WATSON-CRAMPTON NEIGHBORHOOD (WOODBRIDGE, NJ)



Approx. 150 homes have been bought out so far through this program.

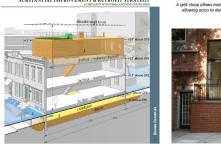
- After Hurricane Sandy, Woodbridge worked with the New Jersey Blue Acres Program (managed by NJDEP) for funding for voluntary buy-outs of homes severely damaged by Sandy.
- Woodbridge rezoned the area to an Open Space Conservation / Resiliency zone, which:
 - Prohibits new development
 - Renovation, reconstruction, sale, or change in tenancy require properties to be elevated one foot above federal requirements
- Woodbridge is working with Rutgers University to plan for the restoration of bought-out properties to serve as a flood buffer.
- Due to these efforts, Woodbridge has been designated a class 6 community through the Community Rating System, which allows residents to earn discount on flood insurance premiums.
- Woodbridge worked closely with residents and the Land Conservancy of New Jersey to educate residents about the program.

CASE STUDY: FLOOD OVERLAY ZONE (JERSEY CITY)



- The Jersey City Flood Overlay Zone Ordinance applies to all properties located in the current 1% annual chance floodplain.
- Includes requirements for green infrastructure and resilient site design depending on location in the AE or VE zone (VE zone is portion of floodplain where there are wave hazards).
- Strategies such as vegetated walls, green roof, permeable pavement, bioretention, WaterSense fixtures, etc., can be used to meet these requirements.

CASE STUDY: RESILIENT BUILDING DESIGN GUIDELINES (HOBOKEN)



- Provides an overview of the laws and regulations that apply to construction in the floodplain.
- Provides guidance on strategies to reduce flood insurance premiums.
- Recommendation for how to design buildings to be resilient as well enhance the character of a dense, urban city with pedestrian-friendly streets.



INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY-BASED ACTIONS

GOVERNANCE & POLICY

RESILIENCE HUBS



Resilience Hubs are community serving facilities that support residents through coordination resource distribution and services before, during, and/or after a natural hazard event.

Hubs can be used year-round as neighborhood centers and are intended to be supported by local government by led and managed by community members, community-based organization and/or faithbased groups

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS





Prepare and Maintain an Emergency Kit Prepare v mantenga al día Equipo para **Emergencias**

Emergency preparedness efforts include the dissemination of emergency alerts and guidance to residents and community leaders and supporting community-based emergency preparedness programs through partnerships with community organizations and faith-based institutions. Outreach in multiple languages and through trusted local leaders is key. More info from the New Jersey Department of Health's Office of Disaster Resilience https://www.state.nj.us/health/er/

BUSINESS & INDUSTRY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS



Outreach and technical assistance to businesses and industries is another key element of emergency preparedness. This includes providing resources and guidance on developing emergency plans and how to navigate recovery programs.

More info from the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management http://ready.nj.gov/plan-prepare/business-industry.shtml



COMMUNITY PLANNING



One way to build adaptive capacity is to work in close collaboration with neighborhood residents and community-based organizations to identify community needs and develop strategies for improving access to necessary resources. This could include improving access to open space, improving community mobility and connectivity, or addressing food deserts—all things that help a community adapt to changing climate hazards and thrive every day.

COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP OF GREEN SPACES



Community co-creation and stewardship of green spaces is a way to partner with community-based organizations to maintain green spaces that support community resilience while supporting education, job training, and providing volunteer opportunities.

Ex. Perth Amboy Green Team

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



Job training programs focused on green infrastructure or other resiliency projects help direct investment in infrastructure projects to community and develop the necessary workforce to implement planned projects.

Example: Newark Green Works. More info from New Jersey Water Works: https://www. jerseywaterworks.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Newark-Local-Hire-Report-November-2020.pdf

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS FOR RESILIENCY INFRASTRUCTURE



Partnerships with developers can be used to incorporate resiliency improvements, such as barriers like berms, resilient coastline strategies like living shorelines, or on-site stormwater improvements, into redevelopment plans.

Ex. Riverton Waterfront Development, Sayreville