

Living on Barrier Islands A Workshop for Real Estate Professionals NFIP Overview and Updates February 18, 2025 Steve Garrett, CFM, State NFIP Coordinator











FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

- Identifies & maps flood hazard areas
- Provides a framework for floodplain management regulations
- Makes flood insurance available in Communities that participate in the NFIP







NFIP Goals

- Reduce loss of life & property
- •Reduce rising disaster relief costs
- •Increase importance of hazard mitigation (flood resistant construction, guide future development, & prohibit development in floodplains that would increase flood levels)
- Decrease taxpayer-funded disaster costs
- •Make Federally backed insurance coverage available to property owners
- •Restore & protect natural resources & functions of floodplains











Community Participation in the NFIP

A **VOLUNTARY** program based on a mutual agreement between the Federal government and the local community:

In exchange for adopting, implementing and enforcing a Floodplain Management Ordinance

- Federally-backed flood insurance is made available to property owners throughout the community.
- Federal disaster assistance and mitigation grant programs made available.







Role of NFIP Participating Community

- Review floodplain development permit applications and issue/deny floodplain development permits
- Inspect ALL <u>development</u> to ensure compliance with local ordinances
- Maintain floodplain development records
- Assist in preparation & revision of floodplain maps
- Help citizens obtain information on flood hazards, floodplain map data, flood insurance, & proper construction measures







For Floodplain Management purposes

What is Floodplain 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."









National Flood Insurance Program

Elevation Certificate

and Instructions

2022 EDITION





Elevation Certificate Form

- Verify Regulatory Compliance
- Supporting documentation for map revision & amendment applications
- Provide better/recent data to insurance companies to see if a better rate is available
- NOTE: Data collected on this form is for the construction & utility service to a single <u>STRUCTURE</u> only – not the lot or other improvements.





The Community's EC Review

- Community Officials <u>MUST review</u> Elevation Certificate's (ECs) before accepting them to ensure:
 - Completeness
 - Reasonableness/Accuracy
 - Compliance
- NFIP requires the Finished Construction EC for all:
 - New Construction
 - Additions
 - Substantial Improvements
- To structures located in the Special Flood Hazard Area.







Question???????

A property owner needs a copy of the elevation certificate for their structure.









Answer...

- ✓ The local permitting jurisdiction
- ✓ Surveyor
- ✓ Previous/Current Owner
- ✓ Insurance Agent

State NFIP staff do NOT have a database of ECs.







Important Updates...

JUST RELEASED:

- ASCE 24 Flood Resistant Design and Construction Update
 - American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) 24-24 provides minimum requirements for flood resistant design and construction of structures that are subject to building code requirements and that are located, in whole or in part, in Flood Hazard Areas.
 - This standard applies to new construction and subsequent work to such structure and work classified as substantial improvement or an existing structure that is not a historic structure.
- NFIP Technical Bulletin 2, Flood Damage Resistant Materials Requirements (2025)
 - Provides guidance on the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP's) requirements on the use of construction materials that are resistant to flood damage in Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs).
- New Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) see next slides







Housing and Urban Development's FFRMS

- Ensures federal agencies take actions to enhance the nation's resilience to current and future flooding and to ensure that projects funded with taxpayer dollars last as long as intended.
 - Established through EO 13690 which amends and builds upon EO 11988; Floodplain Management. HUD adopted the final rule to implement FFRMS on April 23, 2024.
- The FFRMS is a resilience standard that expands the floodplain for federally funded projects to a higher vertical elevation and corresponding horizontal floodplain area to address future flood conditions in a changing climate.







Floodplain Expansion – Vertical and Horizontal

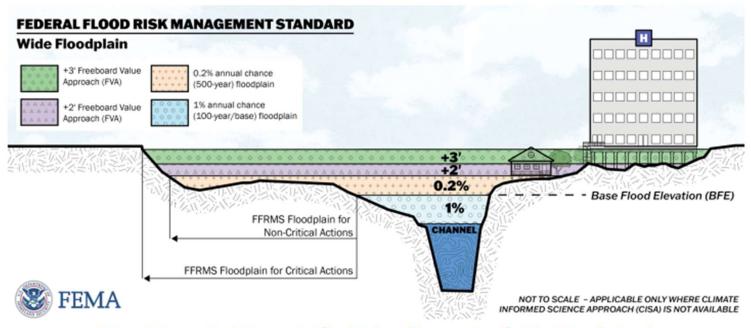


Figure 2. Image depicting nested floodplains with examples of critical (hospital) and non-critical (house) actions elevated to the applicable FFRMS flood elevation







Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS)

This Floodplain Management Standard Will Apply To:

- Federal Housing Administration (FHA)-Insured Projects
 - New Construction of 1- to 4-Unit Residential Properties.
 - Includes FHA Single Family Mortgage Insurance Programs.
 - DOES NOT apply to the purchase of manufactured homes insured under FHA Single Family Programs
- Federally-Funded Projects, involving:
 - New Construction:
 - Substantial Improvement; Or
 - Repairs to Address Substantial Damage.
- Hazard Mitigation Assistance Projects, involving:
 - Structure elevation;
 - · Dry Floodproofing; and
 - Mitigation Reconstruction







FHA-Insured Projects

FHA loans are mortgages intended for certain borrowers who might find it difficult to obtain loans otherwise. The federal government insures FHA loans, which are issued by private lenders, such as banks and credit unions. FHA loans or mortgages are those insured by FHA mortgage insurance programs.

- Applies to structures located in the Special Flood Hazard Areas (A, A99, AE, AH, AO, Coastal A, and VE zones);
- Applies to New Construction (1- to 4-unit Residential) Insured Under FHA Single Family Mortgage Insurance Programs and Low-Rent Public Housing Programs; and
- Implements a 2-Foot Freeboard requires the lowest floor be at least 2-feet above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE).

Why is this important to you?







WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT TO YOU??

- If a community does not have a similar 2-foot freeboard requirement in its floodplain regulations, it risks severely limiting homeownership opportunities, as homebuyers may no longer be able to access HUDfinanced homes in these areas.
- Contractor's/Builder's/Developer's could have an issue selling new construction if loans are not available.







Who Should Be Aware of this New Rule & 2-Foot Freeboard Requirement

- Community Leaders;
- Local Floodplain Administrators;
- Local Builders;
- Realtors;
- Housing Agencies;
- Home Buyers
- Anyone involved in new construction in the floodplain.







Who Enforces?

- The local floodplain administrator/manager must enforce the locally adopted floodplain management regulations (which may include a freeboard or MAY NOT);
- HUD enforces the FHA minimum property standards for the purposes of evaluating whether to approve an FHA insured mortgage through FHAapproved appraisers.
- For new construction in SFHAs, the lenders (mortgagees) rely on the builder's self-certified assessment of site analysis information (HUD-92541) and FEMA NFIP Elevation Certificates (FF-206-FY-22-152) to reach their determination.







If you need flood zone/risk information for a property, where do you personally go to find that information?







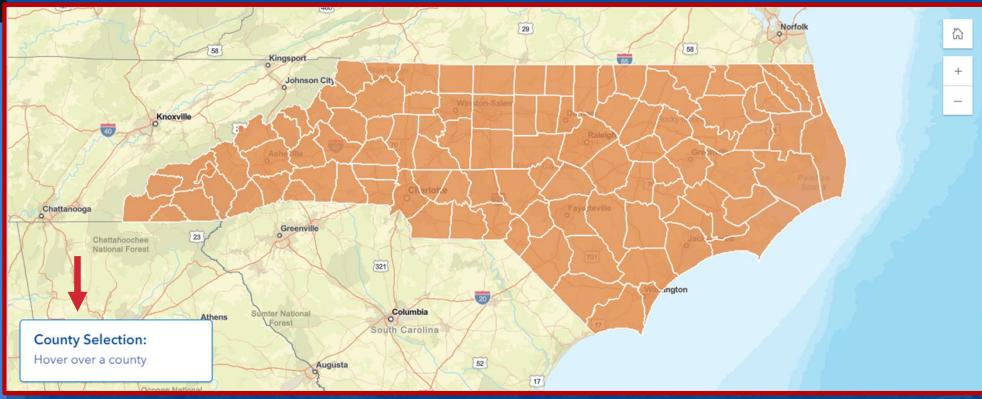


Flood Risk Information System





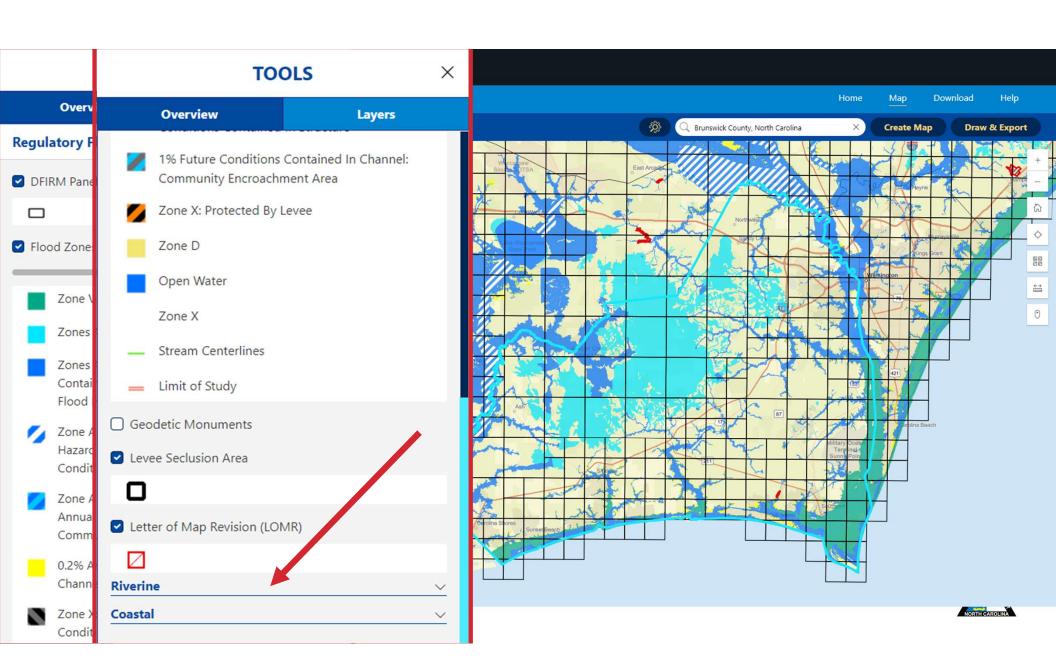


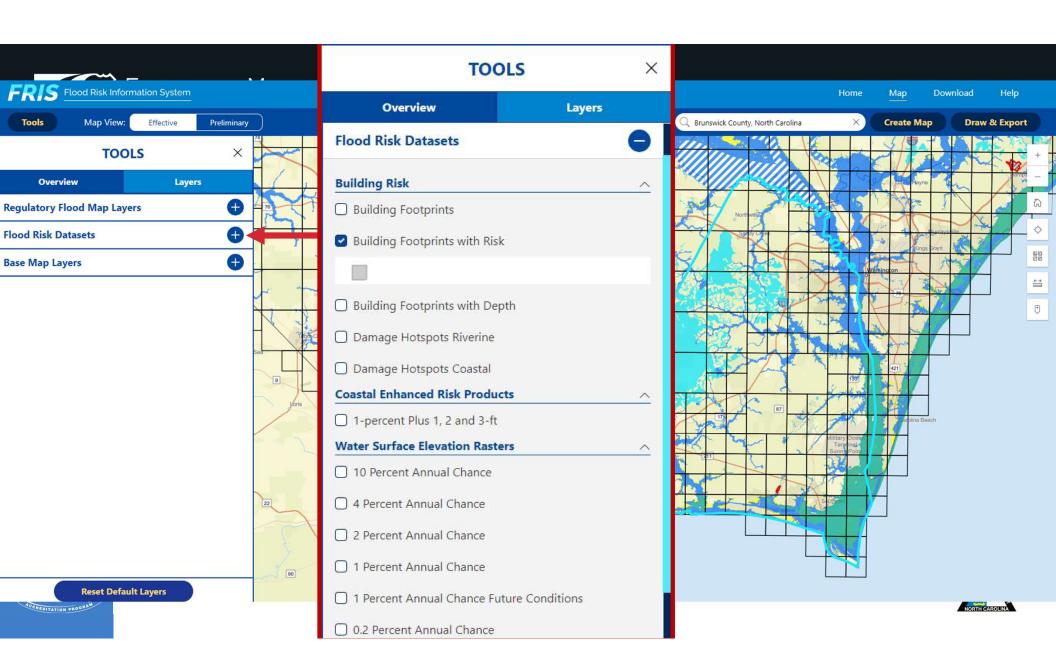


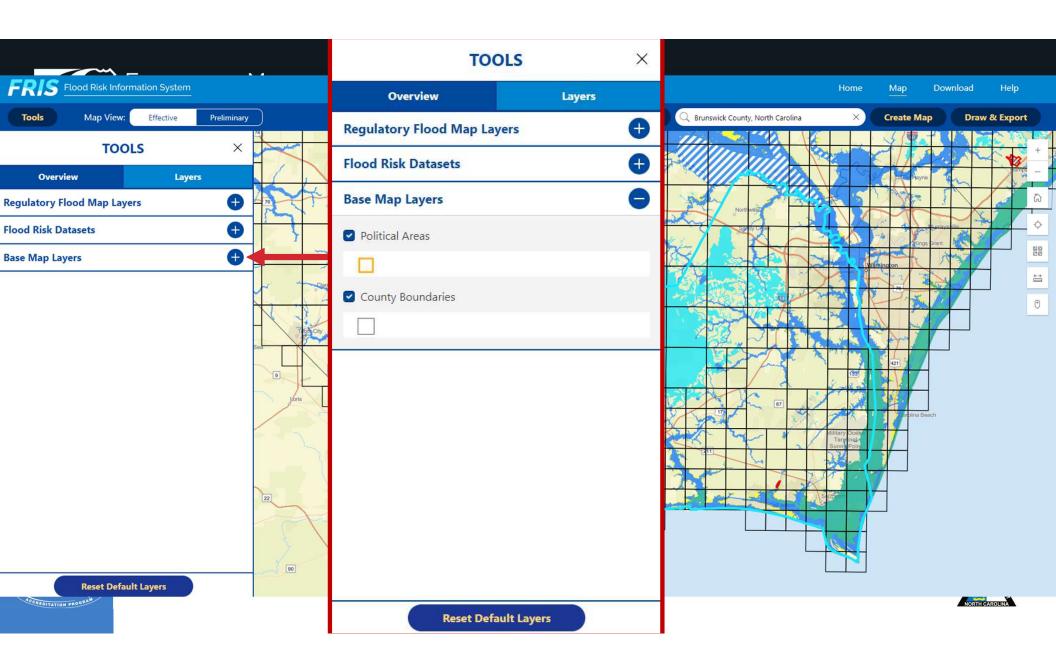
The State of North Carolina provides this website as a public service to the citizens of North Carolina. The Flood Risk Information System (FRIS) contains digitally accessible flood hazard data, models, maps, risk assessments, and reports that are database driven. This site also provides geospatial data, along with hydraulic and hydrologic models that are available for download and use. The North Carolina Floodplain Mapping Program has made every effort to ensure accuracy of this information. Contact information for the North Carolina Floodplain Mapping Program is available at <u>flood.nc.gov</u> under the Contacts Menu, <u>frishelp@ncdps.gov</u> or (919) 715-5711.

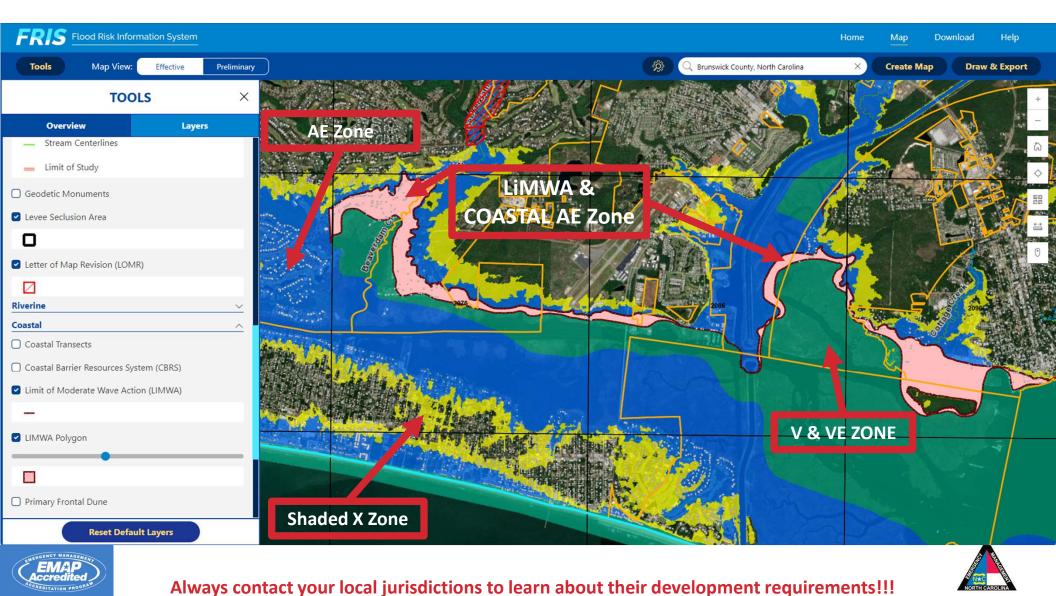














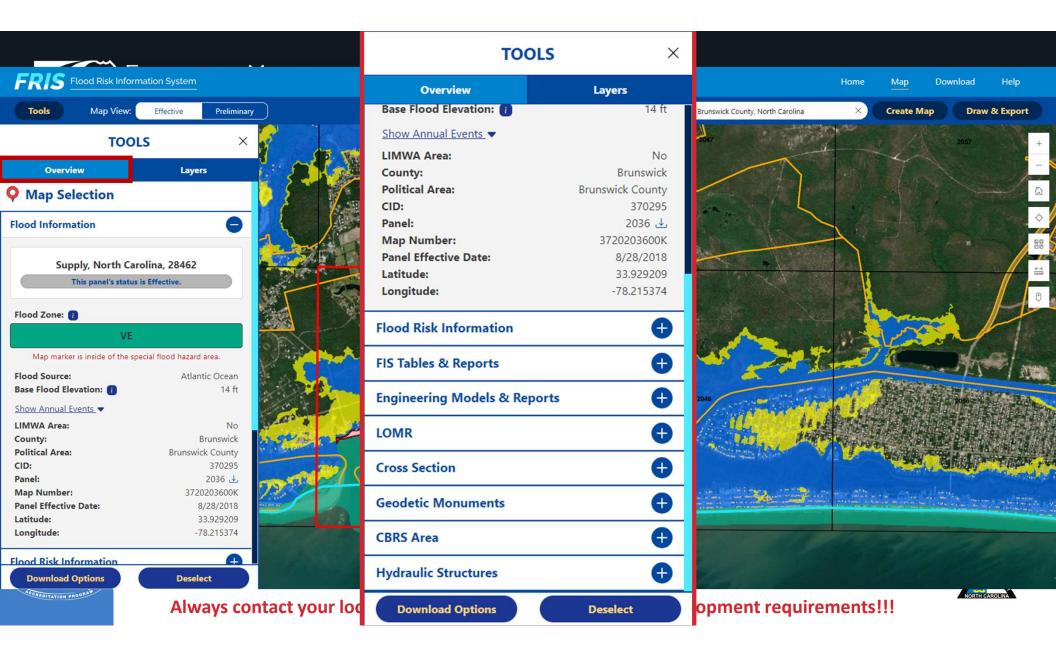
FRIS symbology and what it means for development

- A = No Base Flood Elevations (BFE); usually 2-feet above highest adjacent grade
- AE = BFE; usually with a local adopted freeboard to top of finished floor
 - AE Non-encroachment Area (NEA) = No-Rise Analysis by Engineer *
 - AE Floodway = No-Rise Analysis by Engineer *
- Coastal AE = adhere to VE zone development standards **
- VE = BFE; usually with local adopted freeboard to bottom of lowest horizontal structural member **

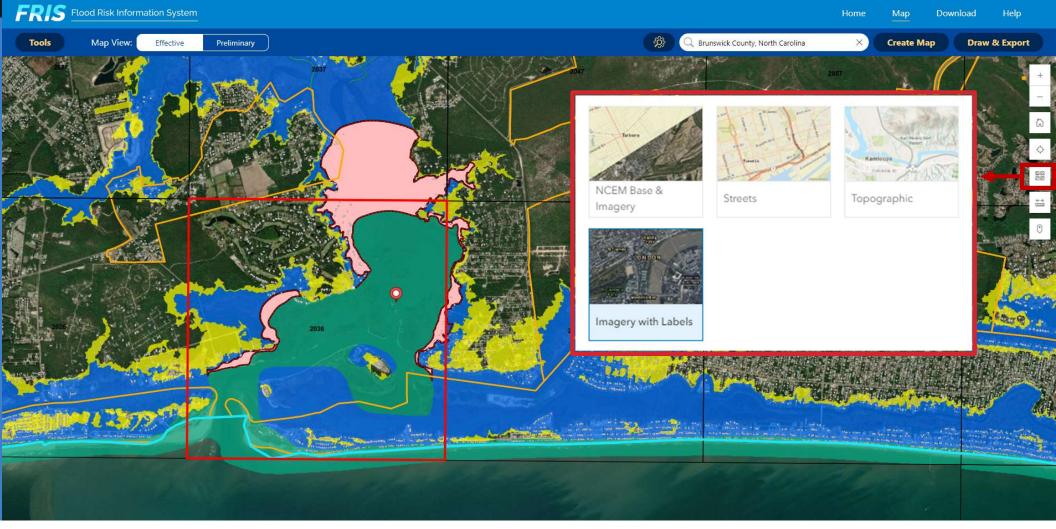


- No-Rise Analyses Required for ALL development including fill, grading, storage of materials, etc.
- Coastal effects from wave action (Coastal AE 1.5'-3' wave heights; VE 3' plus wave heights)

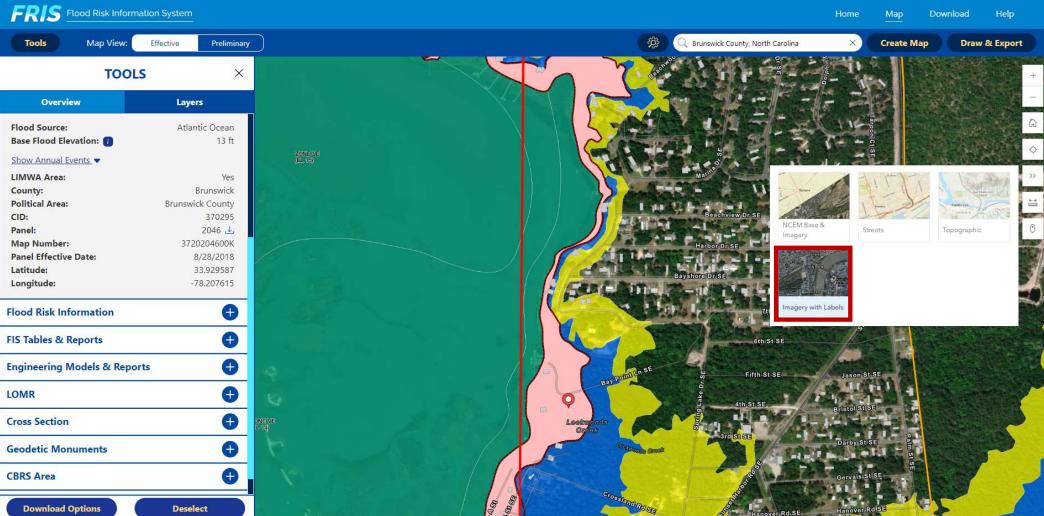














Online Resources

Flood.NC.gov – http://flood.nc.gov

FRIS – http://fris.nc.gov

FIMAN - http://fiman.nc.gov

ReadyNC - http://readync.gov

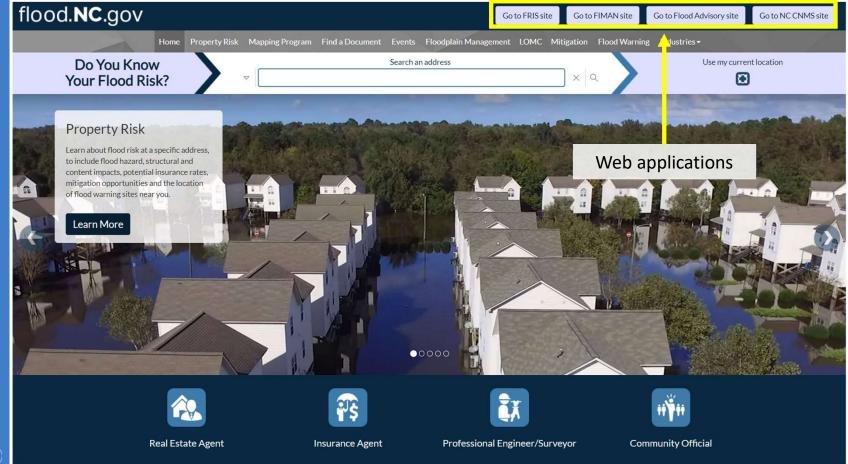
FloodSmart - http://floodsmart.gov

FEMA - http://fema.gov















Flood.NC.gov



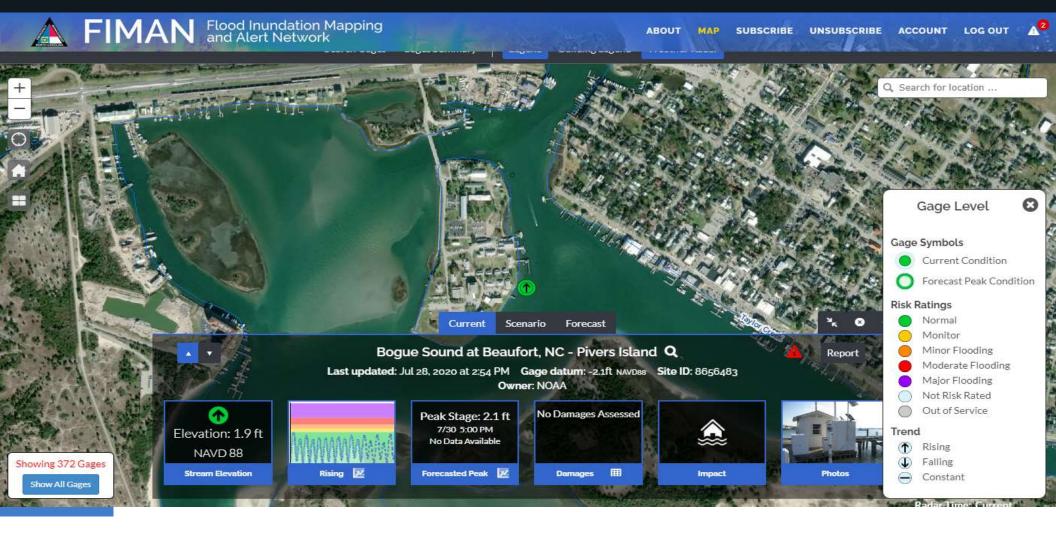
convert to an actuarially-rated policy instead of a subsidized policy. Some owners may save money by converting to an actuarial policy now.

No, but it is strongly encouraged. Pre-FIRM subsidized rates are increasing up to 18% per year (25% in some cases), and an elevation certificate will help an owner decide when to



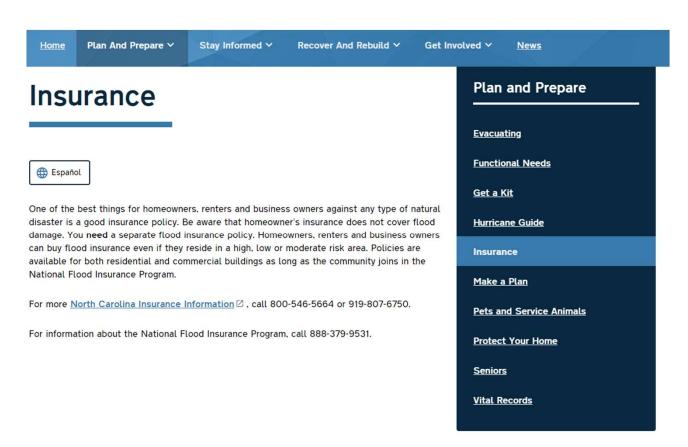








ReadyNC.gov









FloodSmart.gov





Search





Buying a Policy Y

Renewing a Policy Y

Flood Risks and Costs >

Before and After a Flood Y

Flood Zones and Maps ~

Visit FloodSmart for Agents

This is an official site of the National Flood Insurance Program.

The NFIP offers flood insurance to help you protect the life you've built and recover more quickly after a flood.

Get Coverage









SECTION F. ENVIRONMENTAL/FLOODING

	and the second	No		
1. Is there hazardous or toxic substance, material, or product (such as asbestos, formaldehyde, adon gas, methane gas, lead-based paint) that exceed government safety standards located on or which otherwise affect the property?	\bigcirc	\circ	\circ	
yer Initials Owner Initials Owner Initials Owner Initials			REC 4.22 REV 5/2	

Disclosure

F2. Is there an environmental monitoring or mitigation device or system located on the proper	Yes	No	NR
F3. Is there debris (whether buried or covered), an underground storage tank, or an environme hazardous condition (such as contaminated soil or water or other environmental contamination located on or which otherwise affect the property?	- ()	0	\bigcirc
F4. Is there any noise, odor, smoke, etc., from commercial, industrial, or military sources that affects the property?	0	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
F5. Is the property located in a federal or other designated flood hazard zone?	0	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
F6. Has the property experienced damage due to flooding, water seepage, or pooled water attributable to a natural event such as heavy rainfall, coastal storm surge, tidal inundation, or overflow?	river O	\circ	\bigcirc
F7. Have you ever filed a claim for flood damage to the property with any insurance provider, including the National Flood Insurance Program?	0	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
F8. Is there a current flood insurance policy covering the property?	\circ	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
F9. Have you received assistance from FEMA, U.S. Small Business Administration, or any federal disaster flood assistance for flood damage to the property?	other	0	\bigcirc
F10. Is there a flood or FEMA elevation certificate for the property?	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
NOTE: An existing flood insurance policy may be assignable to a buyer at a lesser premium than a new	policy. For pro	perties	that

NOTE: An existing flood insurance policy may be assignable to a buyer at a lesser premium than a new policy. For properties that have received disaster assistance, the requirement to obtain flood insurance passes down to all future owners. Failure to obtain flood insurance can result in an owner being ineligible for future assistance.

Explanations for questions in Section F (identify the specific question for each explanation):







Development Standards



Coastal Construction Manual

Principles and Practices of Planning, Siting, Designing, Constructing, and Maintaining Residential Buildings in Coastal Areas (Fourth Edition)

FEMA P-55 / Volume I / August 2011

Mitigation Measures







Regulatory Flood Protection Elevation (RFPE)

- Base Flood Elevation PLUS Freeboard (BFE + Freeboard)
- Freeboard the elevation required by a local jurisdiction above the base flood elevation
- Higher standard adopted by the local jurisdiction
 - Higher level of protection for structures
 - Community Rating System (CRS) Points = increased flood insurance discounts (in the SFHA and out)

Example: BFE of 9' + 2' local freeboard = RFPE of 11'

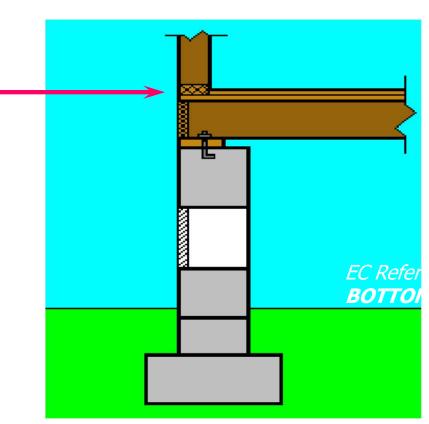






Lowest Floor in ZONE A, AE, AH, & AO

The lowest floor is measured at the top of the sub-floor, slab or grade for regulatory & flood insurance purposes









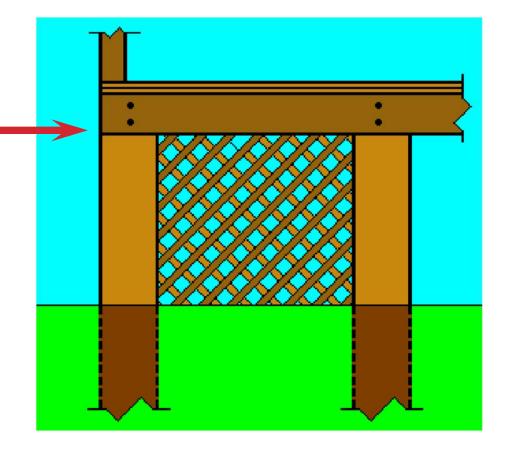






Lowest Floor in ZONE V, VE & Coastal A

Bottom of the lowest horizontal structural member supporting the lowest floor













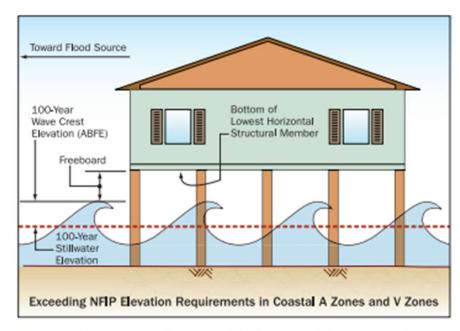
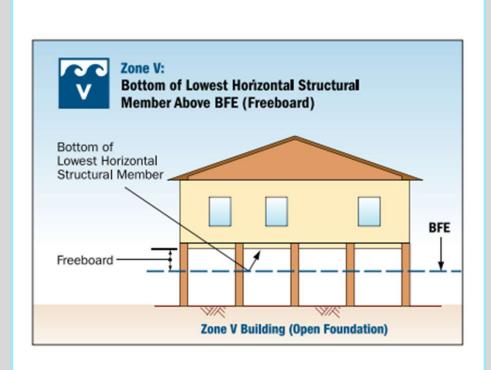


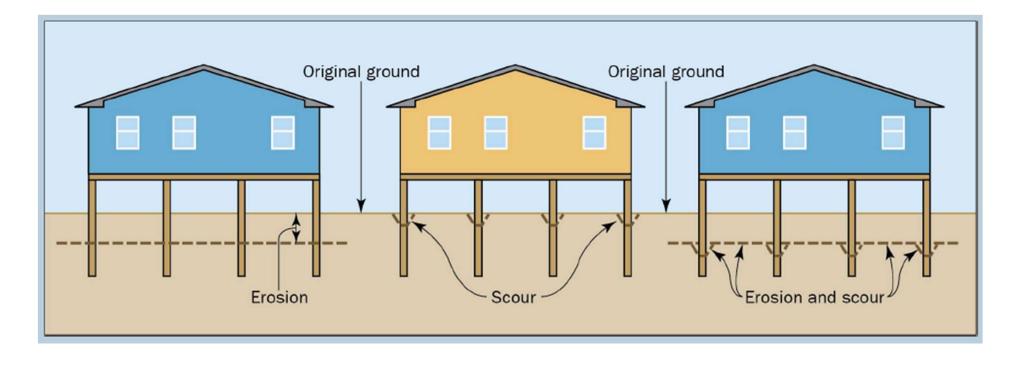
Figure 7. Recommended construction in Coastal A zones and V zones.

CCREDITATION PROGRA











Scour and Erosion





Figure 1: Three neighboring buildings with varying degrees of elevation and damage on Fort Myers Beach, Florida, after Hurricane Ian. The right-most building has the lowest elevation of the three and the most damage to the lower levels, whereas the middle building has the highest elevation and minimal damage to the lower levels.



Bonita Springs, FL Hurricane Ian



Bolivar Peninsula, TX 2008



Figure 2. Bolivar Peninsula, TX, V-zone house constructed with the lowest floor (bottom of floor beam) at the BFE (dashed line). The estimated wave crest level during lke (solid line) was 3 to 4' above the BFE at this location.







Designing for Flood Levels Above the Minimum Required Elevation After Hurricane Ian

Recovery Advisory 1

uly 2023



DR-4673-FL RA 1

BUT WAIT.....

Where do the regulations and guidance come from?

- Research following past events
- Field investigations post event
- Collaboration among engineers, researchers, home builders, Institute for Business and Home Safety, International Code Council, National Association of Home Builders, US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, local community officials, etc.



Protecting Existing Structures



Purchase Flood Insurance Lower Your Flood Risk

✓Elevate utilities (include duct work)

✓Install flood openings

✓Elevate building

✓Flood proof (non-residential only)

✓Relocate









Flood Openings

Permanent Opening in a Wall that Allows the Free Passage of Water in Both Directions, AUTOMATICALLY, without Human Intervention.

A Window, a Door, or a Garage Door is NOT Considered an Opening.

Vents MAY be installed into a door or garage door.



Requirements for Flood Openings in Foundation Walls and Walls of Enclosures

Below Elevated Buildings in Special Flood Hazard Areas In Accordance with the National Flood Insurance Program

NFIP Technical Bulletin 1 / March 2020





Minimum Requirements for Foundation Openings

- Minimum of <u>two openings</u> on different sides of EACH enclosed area.
- The total net area of all openings must be at least <u>one (1)</u>
 <u>square inch for each square foot</u> of enclosed area.
- The bottom of all required openings shall be no higher than one foot above the adjacent grade at each opening.
- Openings may be equipped with screens, louvers, or other <u>"automatic"</u> coverings or devices, provided they permit the automatic flow of floodwaters in <u>both directions</u>.







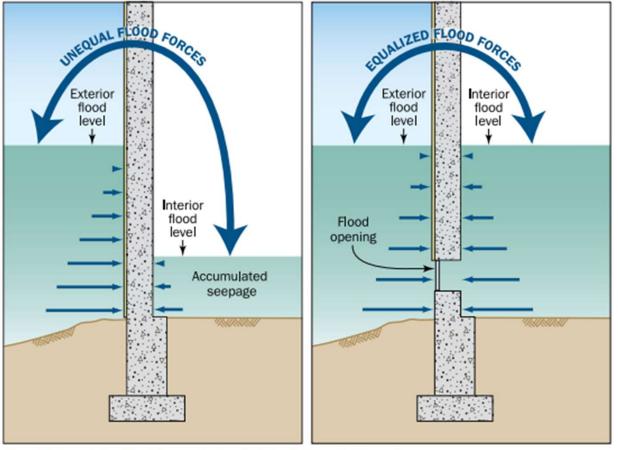
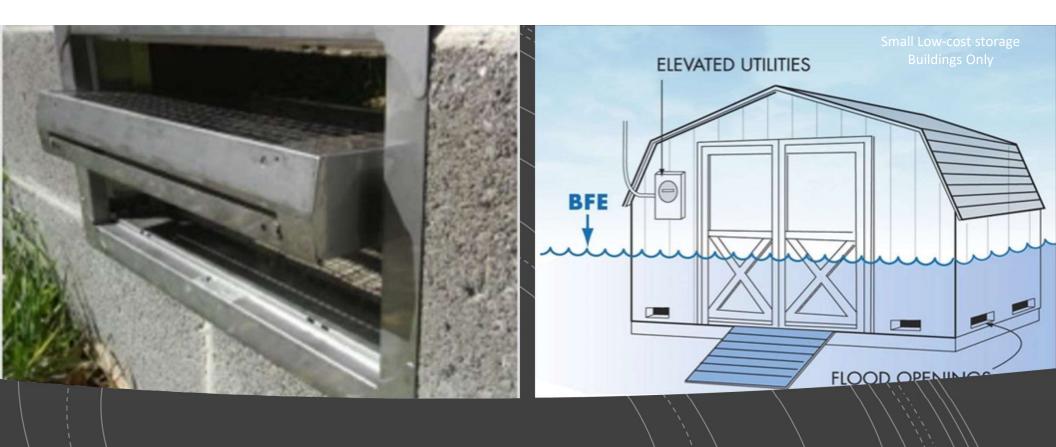






Figure 1: Equalizing flood forces (hydrostatic loads) on exterior walls



Flood Openings



Is the Standard Air Vent acceptable to be used as a flood opening or flood vent?









Standard Air Vent



Figure 17: Standard air vent that is unacceptable as a flood opening because it is not disabled in the open position

- Can be closed manually
- Does not allow the automatic entry and exist of water
- Not acceptable as a flood opening UNLESS <u>disabled</u> in the OPEN position

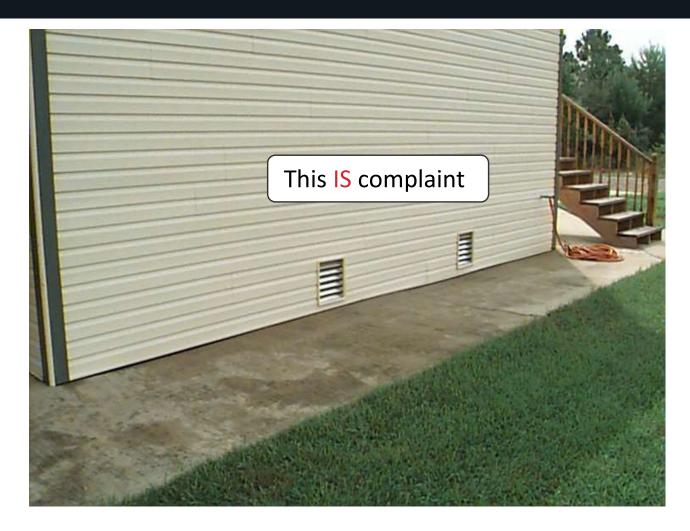






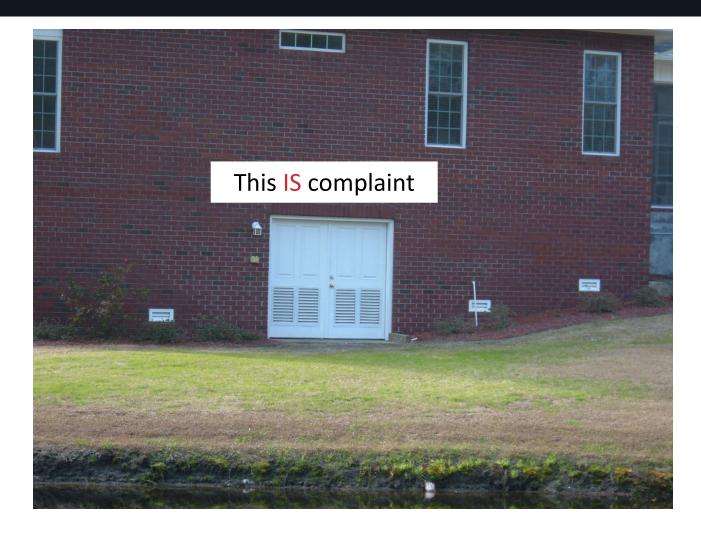






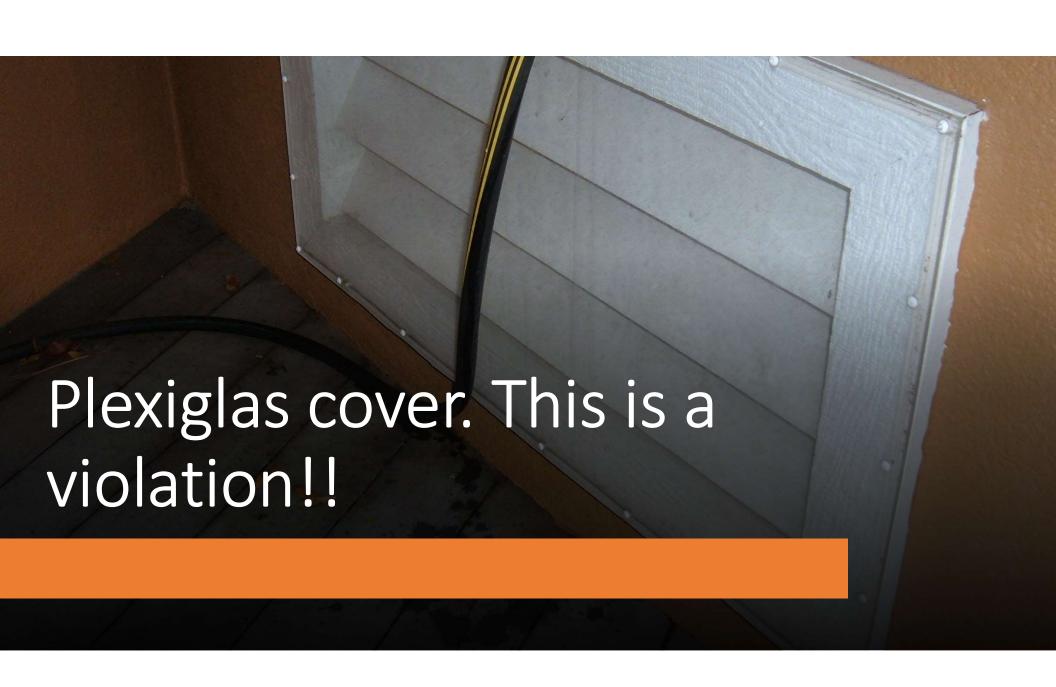
















Engineered Openings/Vents



Easy Access • Modular Use • Can Be Painted

Model Number	Opening Sizes (HxW)	Non Eng. (Sq. In.)	Eng. (Sq. In.)	Net-Free Air (Sq. In.)
D0816	8" X 16"	120	230	95
D1220	12" X 20"	240	425	175
D1232	12" X 32"	380	705	290
D1616	16" X 16"	255	485	200
D1624	16" X 24"	380	695	285
D1632	16" X 32"	510	935	385
D2032	20" X 32"	640	1,225	505
D2424	24" X 24"	575	1,065	435
D2436	24" X 36"	860	1,620	665



Flood Vent (No Cover)

One-piece ventplate with easy to insert vermin screen and fixed louver. Made of durable PVC/ ABS plastic (no rust or rot) with a UV retardant treatment.

FEMA compliant. No cover to allow the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters. Quick and easy to install.



3700 Shore Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23455 757.363.0005 • 1.800.230.9598 • www.crawlspacedoors.com



Plastic Crawlsbace Doors & Vents Plastic Crawlsbace Louvers/Screens Plastic FEMA Flood Vents

24" x 36"

the DEF cache result in a company of the DEF cac

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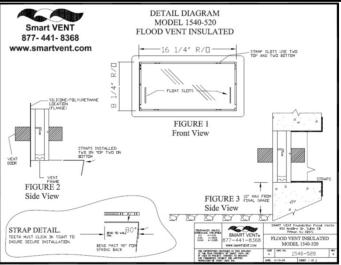
THE PRESIDENT. HOUSE ENGINEERING P.C. Type of License: PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER ense Number: 24740

1,225

ired (in2); 0.033 = coefficient corresponding to a factor of safety of 5.0 (in2 -

rectangular, long axis horizontal, short axis vertical unobstructed during designent the louvers); R = 5 ft/hr worst case rate of rise and fall; and $A\hat{e} = 1$ ft2











Flood Proofing

(Non-residential Only)



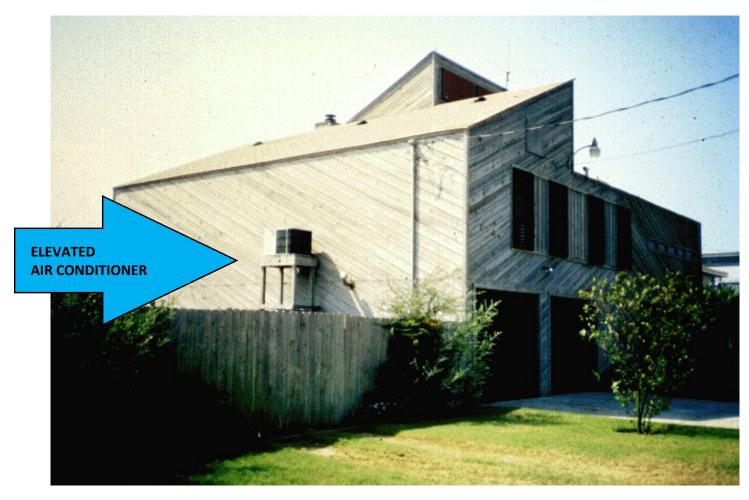








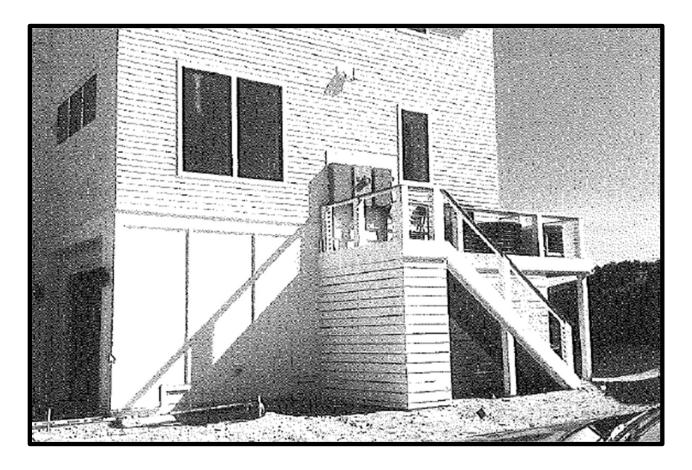








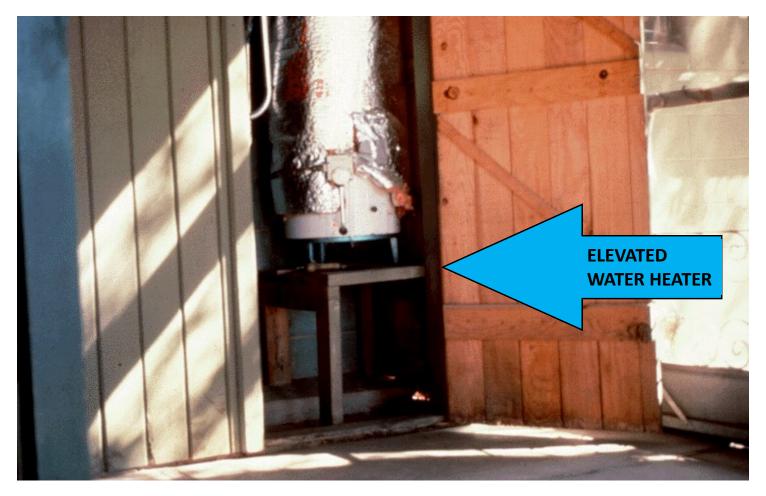








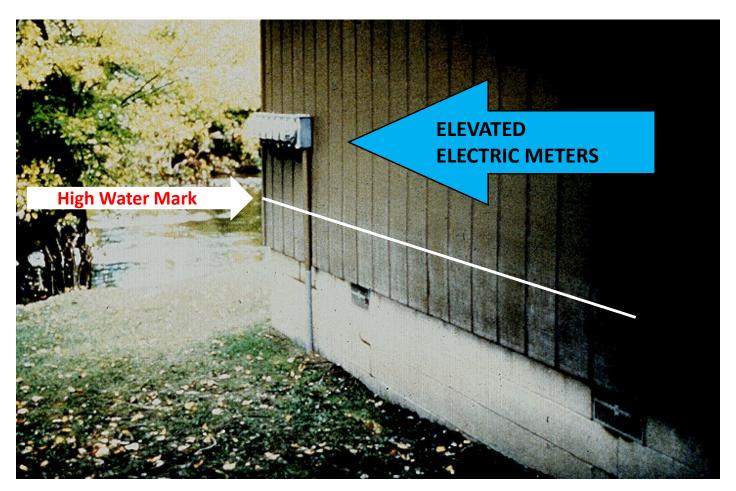
















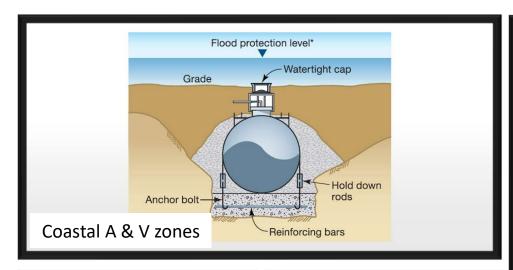


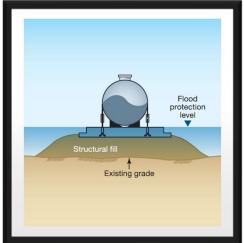
Other Development

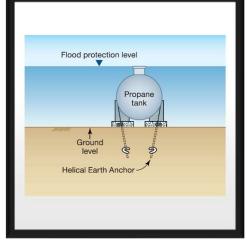
Fuel Tanks

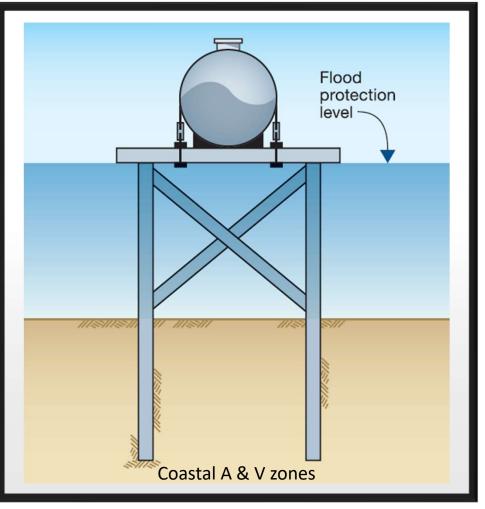
















Hurricane Dorian - 2019



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Questions?
Thank You for having me





