

# Quick Start Guide: Coastal Adaptation and Resiliency

N.C. Division of Coastal Management (DCM)

**Purpose:** This Quick Start Guide helps coastal communities understand what common planning and management questions and issues that [DCM's website on Coastal Adaptation and Resiliency](#) can help address.

**Intended Audience:** This site is primarily geared to local government staff including, but not limited to: land use/community planners, hazard mitigation planners, floodplain managers, emergency managers, stormwater managers, natural resource managers, engineers, public works officials, zoning and permitting officials, and county and municipal leaders. It may also be useful to other private, public, and non-profit stakeholders interested in building resilience in North Carolina's 20 Coastal Area Management Act counties.

## Five ways the website can help

### 1) Learn how other coastal communities have approached resilience and adaptation efforts so you don't have to start from scratch

- Under "[Adaptation Examples](#)", explore ideas and strategies others have used for planning initiatives, oceanfront and estuarine shoreline management.
- View how five communities involved with [DCM's Coastal Resilience Pilot Program](#) began taking steps toward assessing needs and evaluating their own resilience. Explore the [Story Map](#) for more information.

### 2) Inject resilience into community plan updates and stakeholder engagement processes

- Go to the "[Planning and Policy](#)" section for guidance on comprehensive/land use, hazard mitigation, and floodplain management planning as well as shoreline management and the Community Rating System.
- Under the "[Tools](#)" section, explore how other communities used self-assessments, planning processes and stakeholder engagement to enhance resilience efforts.

### 3) Monitor and explore both short- and long-term hazard risks to inform infrastructure design standards, emergency planning and other actions

- Jump through the "[Hazard Forecasts](#)" section for predictions of tide, storm surge, sea level rise and more.
- Explore the "[Tools](#)" section to learn about different ways to assess hazards risk and vulnerability (e.g., total flood exposure mapping and adapting stormwater management).

#### 4) Find funding opportunities and tap into other forms of assistance

- Go to the “[Funding & Assistance](#)” section to see how different sources (state and federal grants, local government financing, and other programs) can support various efforts.
- Identify and connect with various [regional, private, non-profit, academic, and quasi-governmental organizations](#) who can provide technical assistance, funding and guidance.
- Find and enroll in diverse [professional development and training opportunities](#) for staff and elected officials.

#### 5) Get accurate data to conduct analyses and support recommendations made to decision-makers

- Explore the “[Data](#)” section for quick downloads of geospatial data (e.g., building footprint and first floor elevation, social vulnerability, sea level rise projections) and pre-made reports on key economic/environmental characteristics for your community.



#### Other ways the N.C. Division of Coastal Management (DCM) can help coastal communities build resilience:

- Plug into resilience support networks: DCM can point you and your team to other groups who provide additional technical and financial assistance as well as other communities that have faced similar challenges.
- Get help with planning, data access and analysis, public engagement and more: DCM can assist with choosing an approach for resilience planning, facilitating public discussion, workshops, staff training, finding and using geospatial or other data, and more.
- Take advantage of funding opportunities: DCM can provide information about its planning and management grant program and discuss other options to support resilience efforts.

**For more information, please contact DCM's Coastal Resilience Specialist Christian Kamrath at (252) 808-2808 ext. 230 or [christian.kamrath@ncdenr.gov](mailto:christian.kamrath@ncdenr.gov)**

<https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/coastal-management/coastal-adaptation-and-resiliency>

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