

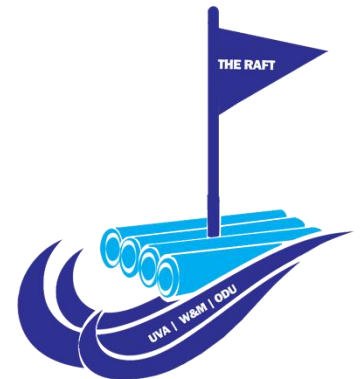
# THE RAFT

Resilience Adaptation Feasibility Tool

## Scorecard Opportunity List Essex County

### The RAFT Goal

To help Virginia's coastal localities improve resilience to flooding and other coastal storm hazards while striving to thrive both economically and socially.



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For more information, visit The RAFT website: [raft.ien.virginia.edu](http://raft.ien.virginia.edu)

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## 1) LOCALITY LEADERSHIP, POLICY, AND COLLABORATION

### 1.1 LOCALITY LEADERSHIP AND PLANNING FOR RESILIENCE:

**3 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Hold resiliency trainings events for elected officials and community leaders with resiliency experts as guest speakers.	Mid-Term: 1-3 years			

### 1.2 LOCALITY LEADERSHIP AND RESPONDING TO EMERGENCY:

**3 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Include stakeholders who will need emergency response and lower income, vulnerable populations in resiliency community meetings.	Mid-Term: 1-3 years			

### 1.3 LOCAL COLLABORATION WITH STATE AGENCIES AND REGIONAL PDCs:

**2 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Work with resiliency-focused community groups serving vulnerable populations.	Mid-Term: 1-3 years			
Create a task force to identify resiliency funding opportunities regionally and state-wide.	Mid-Term: 1-3 years			

### 1.4 ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT:

**0 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Incorporate new data, scientific analyses, and approaches to resilience in updates to the Floodplain Management Ordinance, Zoning Ordinance, Site and Subdivision Ordinance, and Comprehensive plan.	Mid to Long-Term: 1-3 to >3 years			

### 1.5 The NFIP's COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM:

**0 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Research and participate in CRS Program.	Mid-Term: 1-3 years			

## 2) RISK ASSESSMENT AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

### 2.1 FLOOD EXPOSURE AND VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT:

**4 / 4 Points**

### 2.2 RISK ASSESSMENT FOR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS:

**1 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Hold community meetings about coastal hazards that are accessible to and aimed towards vulnerable populations.	Short to Mid-Term: <1 to 1-3 years			

Hold emergency preparedness information sessions for vulnerable populations.	Short to Mid-Term: <1 to 1-3 years			
Identify and assist community groups and agencies that work with vulnerable populations before, during, and after storms.	Short to Mid-Term: <1 to 1-3 years			

**2.3 BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC RISK ASSESSMENT: 2 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Invite chamber of commerce to send representatives to mitigation and planning meetings.	Mid-Term: 1-3 years			
Provide programs for small business emergency preparation and business continuity post event.	Mid to Long-Term: 1-3 to >3 years			

**2.4 HAZARD MITIGATION: 4 / 4 Points**

**2.5 RESIDENT EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: 3 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Task staff with contacting community leaders and community organizations about emergency preparedness, ensuring residents know emergency numbers and shelters (i.e. emergency magnets or flyer).	Mid to Long-Term: 1-3 to >3 years			

**3) INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCE\***

\*The Fight the Flood program is a program established by the MPPDC to provide support for and leverage funding for action items in this section. Localities are required to submit assistance and funding needs to MPPDC by completing a brief survey for each action item at [www.FightTheFloodVA.com](http://www.FightTheFloodVA.com).

**3.1 STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE: 1 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Provide incentives for private property activities that manage stormwater such as tax deductions or flag program (i.e. River Star Homes).	Short to Mid-Term: <1 year to 1-3 years			
Provide demonstrational BMPs on public property for stormwater education.	Mid-Term: 1-3 years			
Identify minimum state requirements and compare to local requirements.	Mid to Long-Term: 1-3 to >3 years			

**3.2 CRITICAL TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE: 3 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Work with VDOT to identify and evaluate vulnerable transportation infrastructure and conduct an analysis of road erosion, flooding, and inundation – working in coordination with counties throughout the region where applicable – and implement mitigation measures (e.g., elevation, redesign).	Mid-Term: 1-3 years			

**3.3 WATER SUPPLY AND WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT SERVICES: 3 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)

Update water supply plan to address coastal hazards and dangers they pose to portable water.	Mid-Term: 1-3 years			
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**3.4 CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES: 3 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Identify emergency services weaknesses and address how to fix them.	Short-Term: <1 year			

**3.5 NATURAL AND NATURE-BASED FEATURES: 3 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Begin implementing green strategies such as living shorelines, wetland restoration, and watershed management.	Mid to Long-Term: 1-3 to >3 years			

**4) PLANNING FOR RESILIENCE**

**4.1 BUDGET, FUNDING AND STATE & FEDERAL ASSISTANCE: 2 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Allocate specific funds for coastal resilience into Capital Improvement Plan.	Short to Mid-Term: <1 year to 1-3 years			
Identify key economic impacts and monetary losses that significant storm events could cause.	Mid-Term: 1-3 years			

**4.2 COASTAL RESILIENCY IN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: 2 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Ensure updates to comprehensive plan include community input on coastal resilience.	Short to Mid-Term: <1 year to 1-3 years			
Ensure comprehensive plan includes potential impacts on critical infrastructure and services, especially regarding vulnerable populations.	Short-Term: <1 year			

**4.3 LAND USE ORDINANCES: 2 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Modify Chesapeake Bay Act buffer to go beyond minimum requirements.	Mid to Long-Term: 1-3 to >3 years			
Establish setback laws in flood-prone areas.	Mid to Long-Term: 1-3 to >3 years			

**4.4 INCENTIVES FOR COASTAL RESILIENCE: 2 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Develop three or more incentives for coastal resilience goals (such as discouraging development in areas prone to flooding, protecting critical ecosystems, encouraging	Mid to Long-Term: 1-3 to >3 years			

sustainable development, and identifying and protecting natural resources and ecoservices) in consultation with local environmental group and organizations working with socially vulnerable populations.				
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**4.5 NATURAL RESOURCE PRESERVATION: 2 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Hold community meeting open to residents, civic organizations, and NGOs to educate community about natural resource preservation plan.	Mid to Long-Term: 1-3 to >3 years			
Offer fund-matching or grant funds for natural resource preservation projects.	Short to Mid-Term: <1 year to 1-3 years			

**5) COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, HEALTH, AND WELL-BEING**

**5.1 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN RESILIENCE PLANNING: 0 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Adopt a written policy statement regarding the roles of residents, commercial enterprises, and other stakeholders in coastal resilience.	Mid to Long-Term: 1-3 to >3 years			
Create a coastal resilience committee and assign staff roles.	Short to Mid-Term: <1 year to 1-3 years			
Hold at least one public meeting per year, including one in vulnerable resident areas, to address coastal resilience issues and posts the results of said meetings.	Short-Term: <1 year			
Create informational coastal resilience materials to disseminate via social media, government websites, and traditional media and ask for public input.	Short-Term: <1 year			

**5.2 PROVIDING COASTAL RESILIENCE INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC: 1 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Create audience-appropriate information guides, signs, brochures, social media posts informing the public about coastal resilience and economic risks associated with storm events.	Short-Term: <1 year			

**5.3 CITIZEN LEADERSHIP & VOLUNTEER NETWORKS FOR COASTAL RESILIENCE: 0 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Encourage and provide funding for community resilience projects and advertise these incentives to public.	Short to Mid-Term: <1 year to 1-3 years			
Hold community training sessions to educate public on resiliency strategies.	Short to Mid-Term: <1 year to 1-3 years			
Provide local leaders and volunteers with educational materials and speakers for local events.	Mid-Term: 1-3 years			
Acknowledge the work of resident leaders or volunteers in supporting and advancing coast resilience by highlighting	Short-Term: <1 year			

their work on government websites, social media, awards, etc.				
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**5.4 RESILIENT SYSTEMS TO PROVIDE FOOD, HEALTH, AND MEDICINE: 4 / 4 Points**

**5.5 PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH FOR SOCIAL EQUITY IN COMMUNITY RESILIENCE: 0 / 4 Points**

Action Items	Time Period	Support (Check)	Ease (Rank 0-10)	Impact (Rank 0-10)
Gather data on physical and mental well-being of population.	Long-Term: >3 years			
Identify trusted communication messengers for vulnerable populations.	Short-Term: <1 year			
Partner with NGOs and community groups to identify needs of vulnerable populations.	Short-Term: <1 year			
Make plans to best help vulnerable populations during emergencies in conjunction with community groups.	Short to Mid-Term: <1 year to 1-3 years			