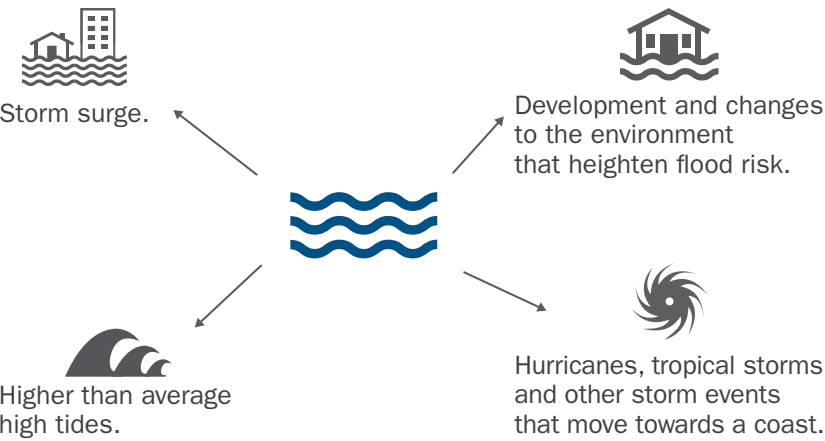


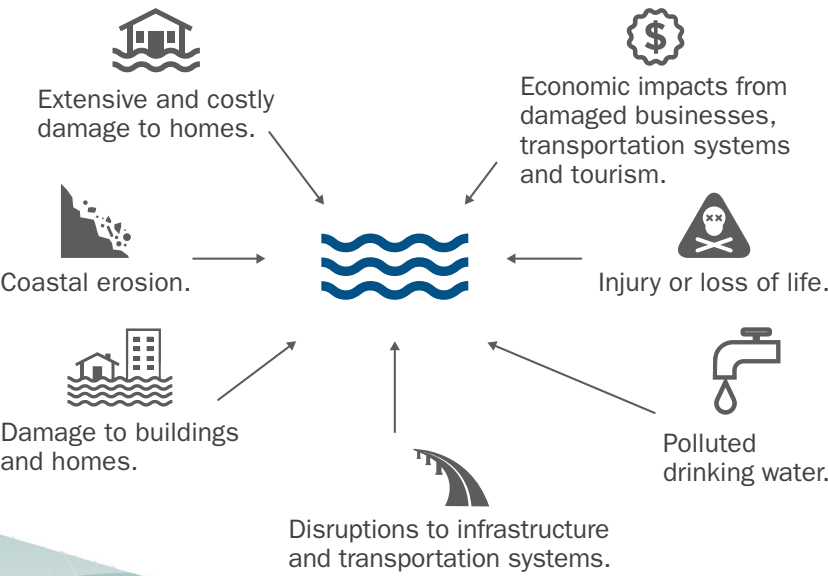
COASTAL FLOODING

Coastal flooding is when water covers normally dry coastal land as a result of high or rising tides or storm surges. Coastal floods can reach many miles from the shoreline, flowing up rivers and across flat land. Flooding can be very dangerous when high waters are combined with the destructive force of waves.

CAUSES



IMPACTS



How I Can Reduce My Risk

Purchase or renew a flood insurance policy through the National Flood Insurance Program.

Elevate, relocate or protect structures at risk.

Do not walk, swim or drive through flood waters. Just 6 inches of water can knock you down, and 1 foot of water can carry your vehicle away. Turn around, don't drown!

Avoid bridges over fast-moving water.

Leave areas that flood and avoid floodwaters. Move to a higher floor or higher ground.

Know your evacuation zone/route. Follow evacuation orders and never drive around barricades.

Listen to the Emergency Alert System, NOAA Weather Radio or local alert system for current emergency information and instructions.

Protect your property. Move valuables to a higher level. Keep drains and gutters clear. Install "check valves" in sewer lines to prevent floodwater from backing up in the drains of your home. Install a sump pump with a battery. Waterproof the basement.

If your vehicle is trapped in rapidly moving water, stay inside. If water is rising inside the vehicle, seek refuge on the roof.

If trapped in a building, move to the highest floor. Do not climb into a closed attic.

Keep important documents in a waterproof container and on an upper floor. Create password-protected digital copies.

How Local Officials Can Reduce My Risk

Use Risk MAP products to help communicate risk.

Adopt and enforce local floodplain ordinances and building codes. Increase freeboard requirements.

Pursue mitigation projects, including buyouts and elevation projects, preserving green space, and limiting development in flood prone areas.

Provide a warning system; familiarize residents with regularly scheduled tests.

Conduct outreach on flood safety.

Participate in the National Flood Insurance Program and the Community Rating System.

Train more staff to become Certified Floodplain Managers.

Additional Resources

Ready.gov
www.ready.gov/floods

FloodSmart.gov
www.floodsmart.gov/

Contact your local or state emergency management department for more information on coastal flooding risk reduction.

