

# Flood Resilience Network's Guide to Programs and Tools For Community Flood Resilience

## PROGRAMS

### Climate Smart Communities

New York State program that helps local governments take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate. Certification involves communities' actions in 12 categories, one of which is "Enhance community resilience to climate change."

**Website/Link:** <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/>

### Community Resilience Building (CRB) Workshops

The Nature Conservancy designed the CRB process to engage community members in identifying and assessing challenges and opportunities related to climate change, and provide support to those interested in developing climate action plans. In the Hudson Valley, CRB workshops are typically half day-long meetings with a variety of community representatives.

**Website/Link:** <https://www.communityresiliencebuilding.com/>

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### Hudson River Flood Resilience Network

A group of Hudson River Estuary waterfront municipalities formed to support each other in learning and taking action on climate adaptation efforts.

### NY Rising Community Reconstruction (NYRCR) Program

An initiative established to assist 124 New York State communities severely damaged by Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene, and Tropical Storm Lee. For example, the Town of Stony Point received funding for shoreline protection against erosion and wave action, and the Saugerties Waste Water Treatment Plant received funding to allow operation during storms and flooding.

**Website/Link:** <https://stormrecovery.ny.gov/community-reconstruction-program>

## TOOLS

**Climate Smart Resiliency Planning Tool** – A tool developed by the NYSDEC Office of Climate Change to help municipalities analyze existing plans and policies for climate resilience, and to highlight ways to make them more effective. Completing the Climate Smart Resiliency Planning Tool qualifies for points toward Climate Smart Communities certification.

**Website/Link:**

<http://www2.apwa.net/Documents/NY%20State%20Climate%20Smart%20Resiliency%20Planning%20Tool.pdf>

### Resilience Planning Guidance

Standardized guidelines for assessing risk and creating resilience plans for Hudson waterfront communities. Currently under development by the Hudson River Estuary Program, the guidance will be available online and in written format when completed.

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## **Inventory and Coastal Risk Assessment Tool**

Developed by the NYS Office of Storm Recovery to help communities inventory infrastructure and assets and evaluate risk to those assets from flooding. Versions are available for coastal and riverine flooding.

### **Website/Link:**

[http://stormrecovery.ny.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Copy\\_of\\_Asset\\_Inventory\\_and\\_Coastal\\_Risk\\_Assessment\\_Tool\\_9-24-13.xls](http://stormrecovery.ny.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Copy_of_Asset_Inventory_and_Coastal_Risk_Assessment_Tool_9-24-13.xls)

## **INFORMATION SOURCES**

### **Climigration**

An innovation hub sponsored by the Consensus Building Institute for communities, funding agencies and others wanting to discuss and share ideas, experiences and experiments related to managed retreat (or moving away from vulnerable places).

**Website/Link:** <http://www.climigration.org/>

### **Water Resources Institute Climate Change Program**

Website with resources and information on climate change and resilience in the Hudson River Estuary.

**Website/Link:** <https://wri.cals.cornell.edu/hudson-river-estuary/climate-change-hudson-river-estuary/>

### **Community Risk and Resilience Act (CRRA)**

A 2014 New York State law with the purpose of ensuring that state monies, facility-siting regulations, and permits include consideration of the effects of climate risk and extreme-weather events.

**Website/Link:** <https://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/programs/resilience/index.html>  
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/102559.html>

### **Digital Coast**

NOAA-sponsored website focused on helping communities address coastal issues. Includes many tools and online training on topics such as vulnerability assessments, risk communication, adaptation strategies, and more.

**Website/Link:** <https://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/>

### **Hudson River Sustainable Shorelines**

A program of the Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve (HRNERR), which promotes management practices that enhance natural benefits while addressing erosion control and shoreline stabilization needs.

**Website/Link:** <https://www.hrnerr.org/hudson-river-sustainable-shorelines>

### **Sea Level Rise/Flooding Task Forces**

Flood Resilience Task Forces in Catskill, Kingston, Piermont, and Stony Point worked with a partnership of supporting organizations over several months to study sea level rise impacts on waterfront flooding, and recommended strategies for increasing resilience.

### **Website/Link:**

<https://www.scenichudson.org/ourwork/riverfrontcommunities/waterfrontresiliencetaskforces>