

Find this online: floodready.vermont.gov/info

Flooding is Not a Disaster

Flooding is natural, periodic, largely predictable and avoidable. Flooding also helps reduce unbudgeted destruction, reduce pollution, build soil and replenish groundwater.

[Flooding is the most common recurring natural hazard event in the State of Vermont.](#)



For municipalities, most damage comes from the erosive power of moving water.

Floodplains and River Corridors:

1. **reduce the damage caused by the power of high flows**
2. **delay and diminish peak flows**
3. retain phosphorus and sediment
4. build soil
5. recharge ground water
6. provide places for agriculture
7. provide recreation and beauty
8. provide habitat
9. support community identity and prosperity, and
10. **are essential to public safety**

Learn more at: www.floodready.vt.gov

How can we choose to avoid the costly disasters that plague towns and use our public funds better?



dec.vermont.gov/watershed/rivers
www.floodready.vt.gov



Who can do what? When?

Your community can:

- Protect the room needed by the river
- Protect floodplain functions
- Require no adverse impact
- Protect public safety



State and Federal Agencies

Develop data to identify inundation and erosion hazards.

Provide model regulations
Develop incentives for communities.

Community

Regulate to avoid known hazards, and not aggravate the risk to structures, families, and assets already in the hazard zone.

Take steps to reduce existing exposure, and improve emergency response capacity.

Homeowner

Make a family plan.
Prepare an emergency kit.
Practice the plan.
Get insurance.
Get finances in order.
Elevate structure.
Relocate structure.

Disaster is
not necessary

A photograph of a street scene after a flood. A silver pickup truck is stuck in deep water, surrounded by debris and fallen trees. The water is high enough to cover the lower half of the truck. In the background, there are more trees and some buildings.

FLOOD READY VERMONT

Through ERAF, the [Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund](#), Vermont communities taking five steps to become more flood resilient benefit from additional state financial aid after federally-declared disasters.

Most communities in Vermont now qualify for the higher levels of state ERAF reimbursement (12.5% and 17.5%) after disasters.

What has your community done?

Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund Flood Resilient Communities

5. River Corridor Protection 28%

4. Local Hazard Mitigation Plan 65%

3. Local Emergency Operations Plan 86%

2. National Flood Insurance Program 89%

1. Road and Bridge Standards 93%

Contact your [Regional Planner](#) and [Regional Floodplain Manager](#) to learn more.

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