Climate Resilience Planning in NJ

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Office of Climate Resilience | Bureau of Climate Resilience Planning | Blue Acres
EXECUTIVE ORDER 89

Establishes resilience positions, offices, and councils
- Chief Resilience Officer
- Interagency Council on Climate Resilience

Requires those entities to lead the development of foundational reports
- Scientific Report on Climate Change
- Climate Change Resilience Strategy
Overview

• Comprehensive effort to synthesize the latest and most reliable scientific information on the current and predicted future impacts of climate change.

• The report is one component of the State’s comprehensive strategy to both reduce emissions of climate pollutants that fuel global warming, and proactively plan and prepare for the climate impacts that New Jersey cannot avoid.

Released June 30, 2020

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON HUMAN HEALTH & COMMUNITIES
Released in September 2022.

Updated Atlas 14 data, Extreme Event Precipitation Projections & Projection Tool
The ability of social and ecological systems to absorb and adapt to shocks and stresses resulting from a changing climate, while becoming better positioned to respond in the future.
Priority 1. Build Resilient and Healthy Communities

Priority 2. Strengthen the Resilience of New Jersey’s Ecosystems

Priority 3. Promote Coordinated Governance

Priority 4. Invest in Information and Increase Public Understanding

Priority 5. Promote Climate-Informed Investments and Innovative Financing

Priority 6: Coastal Resilience Plan
EXTREME HEAT RAP

Public Webinars

February 9, 2023, 4 p.m.
March 2, 2023, 6 p.m.

https://nj.gov/dep/climatechange/resilience-action-plans.html
PRIORITY 1. BUILD RESILIENT AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

- Integrate resilience into local and regional planning
- Increase technical assistance programs to address community resilience

PRIORITY 2. STRENGTHEN THE RESILIENCE OF NEW JERSEY’S ECOSYSTEMS

- Protect valued natural lands and resources
- Incorporate natural and nature-based solutions for resilience

PRIORITY 3. PROMOTE COORDINATED GOVERNANCE

- Engage local governments and other partners to develop resilience solutions
- Incorporate equity and inclusion in resilience decision-making

PRIORITY 4. INVEST IN INFORMATION & INCREASE PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING

- Incentivize and support community resilience planning
- Support movement to safer areas

PRIORITY 5. PROMOTE CLIMATE-INFORMED INVESTMENTS & INNOVATIVE FINANCING

PRIORITY 6. COASTAL RESILIENCE PLAN
Launched in 2020 by DEP

**Goal: Produce community-led climate resilience & adaptation action plans**

Current program offerings include:
- 3 NGO grants
- 4 regional planning projects
- 5 municipal planning projects
- $6M to be awarded to additional regions/communities
- Online toolkit for municipalities

Each region assessed the impacts to critical facilities and assets **based on expected climate conditions in 2070.**

A Sandy-like storm surge event in 2070 could cause **$45.1 billion in property damages** across the four RNJ regions.

- By comparison, Hurricane Sandy caused $30 billion in damages statewide.
Action Plans recommend policy, projects, and programs that:

- **Reduce the risk of flooding**
- **Achieve a regional resilience for the future**

Action types:

- **Physical**
  - Stormwater management projects
  - Capital improvement projects
  - Brownfield remediation

- **Policy**
  - Permitting requirements
  - Resilience standards for redevelopment
  - Zoning & land use changes

- **Social**
  - Risk communications campaign
  - Resilience “hub” for accessible information & resources
Objective: manage the risk of coastal storm damage in the study area.

→ RNJ regions impacted: RRBC & NENJ

NJ Back Bays Coastal Storm Risk Management Study

Objective: reduce damages from coastal flooding affecting population, critical infrastructure, critical facilities, property, and ecosystems.

→ RNJ regions impacted: ACCR
Regional Program

- Extension of the Sandy regional projects to implement planning actions identified in their Action Plans through 2025
- Ida CDBG-DR funding for additional regional planning

Municipal Assistance Program

- Current program providing assistance to five coastal municipalities using $400,000 through CZM
- Applications closed for the second round of the program: $1 million through State CBT funds
- Third round coming soon
Goal: Dramatically reduce the risk of damage from future catastrophic floods and to help people move out of harm’s way.

Strategies:

- Ensure buyouts are part of comprehensive planning solutions to promote greater community resilience in the face of natural disasters.
- Ensure equitable opportunities to those that are most vulnerable to climate change.

Strategy 6.9.1. Expand New Jersey’s Blue Acres program, supporting buyouts of repeatedly flooding properties, especially for vulnerable populations.
NJ PROTECTING AGAINST CLIMATE THREATS (NJ PACT)

RESILIENT ENVIRONMENTS AND LANDSCAPES (REAL)

NJDEP REGULATORY REFORMS TO PROTECT COASTAL ASSETS AND COMMUNITIES FROM CLIMATE IMPACTS

PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 100 (MURPHY, JAN. 27, 2020)

https://dep.nj.gov/njpact/
Contact

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