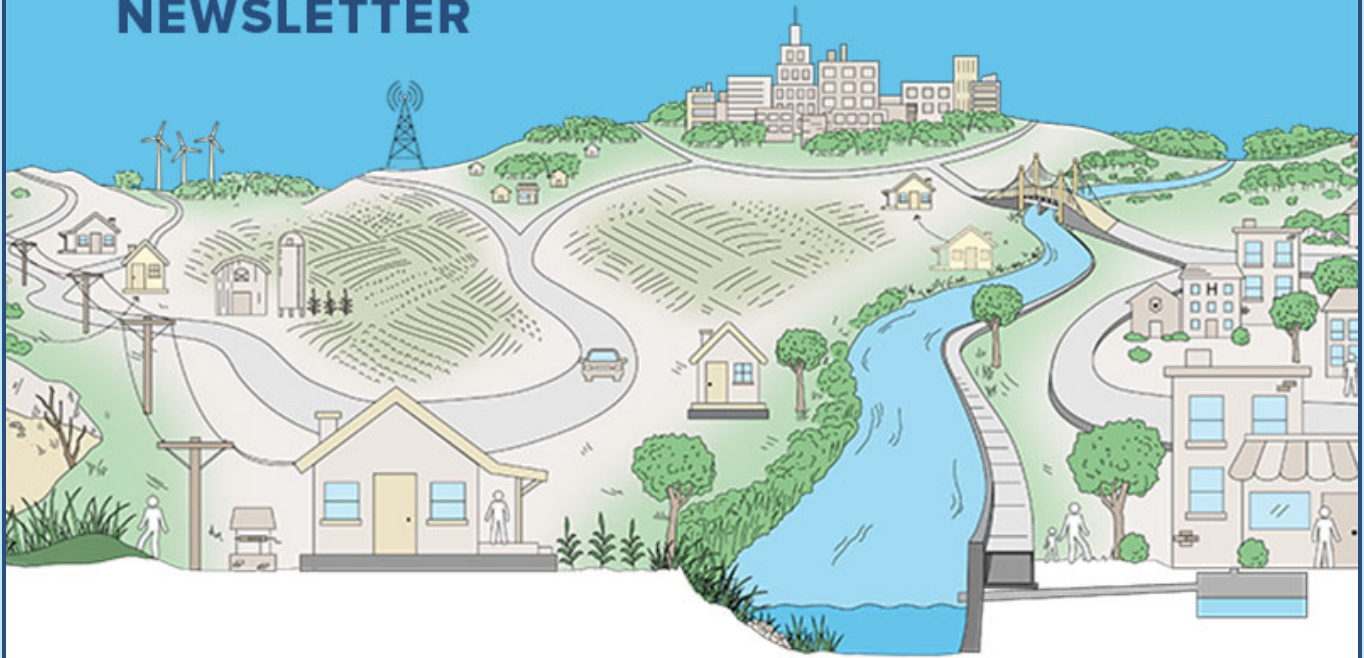


DCR OFFICE OF

Resilience Planning

NEWSLETTER



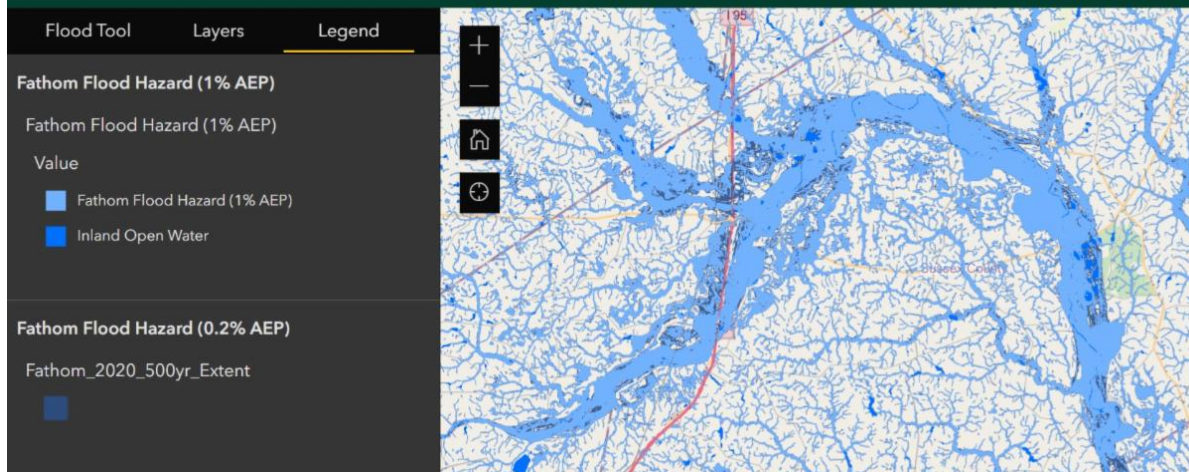
Explore our new statewide flood risk data

DCR recently updated the [Virginia Flood Risk Information System](#) (VFRIS) to include the Fathom Flood Hazard 0.2% (500-yr) Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) data layer. This new data accompanies the Fathom Flood Hazard 1% (100-yr) AEP data layer that was shared in May. Together, they display **non-regulatory** floodplain extents that include coastal, rainfall-driven, and riverine flood sources. To help determine flood risk, users can view these data layers and compare to other data layers available via the VFRIS.

To ensure that Virginia has access to up-to-date and forward-looking flood hazard data, and to support the development of the Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan, DCR procured data from [Fathom](#), which include areas vulnerable to rainfall-driven flooding not typically captured in the federally mapped regulatory floodplain. These data can be used in tandem with regulatory data and are intended to support more informed flood resilience planning.

Additional Fathom data is available for public entities in Virginia to sub-license from DCR for planning purposes. Flood hazard data is available for five annual flood exceedance probabilities of 0.2%, 1%, 2%, 4%, & 10%. These data are available for baseline conditions (2020) and four future scenarios, reflecting uncertainty in climate scenario projections and providing options for use under different risk tolerances and planning horizons.

To inquire about a sub-license agreement, including data use limitations, please [contact us](#).



Our flood resilience data in action

The Eastern Shore is no stranger to flood risks. In 2003, coastal flooding from Hurricane Isabel caused as much as nine feet of storm surge in some parts of the region. Today, 38% of the Shore's land area faces at least a 1% chance of experiencing coastal flooding each year. As precipitation patterns continue to change and sea levels rise in the decades to come, the region could see more floods, especially in areas close to shorelines where stormwater and rising tidal waters meet.

To prepare for and adapt to these changes, researchers from the University of Virginia (UVA) and Old Dominion University (ODU) have partnered with Eastern Shore residents to help communities prepare for long-term stresses including flooding. The effort is funded through the National Science Foundation and will culminate in the creation of a web-based [Eastern Shore Livability Hub](#). Among other content, the Hub will feature a Livability Tool, an application intended to help local leaders understand challenges in their communities and develop informed, forward-looking solutions.

In response to residents' concerns about stormwater flooding, researchers from UVA are conducting inland flooding analysis as part of the project. This work leverages the rainfall driven flood hazard data developed for the Coastal Resilience Master Plan, Phase II. Using this DCR flood resilience data, it identifies areas of roadway flooding, explores how different land uses could be exposed to rainfall-driven flooding, and identifies hotspots and opportunities for solutions. Researchers are also adapting the flood models to understand the benefits and costs of stormwater infrastructure maintenance. Ultimately, these findings will be displayed in the online Livability Tool.

For more information on the Eastern Shore Livability Hub and the flooding analysis underway, please contact Dan Pelletier (urv2ey@virginia.edu) or Dr. Larry Band (leb3t@virginia.edu).

For more information on how you can use DCR's flood resilience data or to explore products, visit the [Flood Resilience Open Data Portal](#). [Contact us](#) if you have questions or need assistance.



Saxis Island, Virginia Eastern Shore | Credit: Aileen Devlin, Virginia Sea Grant 2018

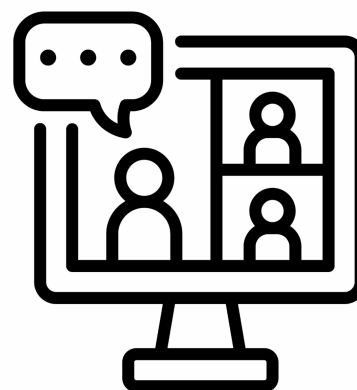
Meet our new Resilience Planner



In August, we welcomed a new resilience planner, Emily Breen, to the team. She brings a wealth of experience in resilience planning and interagency collaboration. Her background includes hazard mitigation planning and outreach at FEMA and facilitating strategic planning for the Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership. In her new role, Emily will be supporting DCR's flood resilience initiatives by strengthening our collaboration networks, enhancing technical assistance to partners, and helping us build more adaptive and flood resilient communities across Virginia.

Upcoming Flood Advisory Committee Meeting

The next Flood Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, December 17, from 1:00-4:00 PM**. The meeting will be entirely virtual. Details of the meeting including webinar link, agenda, and related meeting materials are available on [Virginia Regulatory Town Hall](#).



Other DCR Newsletters

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