



**AMERICAN**

**FLOOD**

**COALITION**

# **Welcome**

**A NONPARTISAN COALITION  
ADVOCATING FOR NATIONAL SOLUTIONS  
TO SEA LEVEL RISE AND FLOODING**

# Member benefits



**Add your voice to a powerful coalition** that advocates for federal policy and funding. We're a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and nonpartisan coalition advocating for national solutions to flooding and sea level rise. We proactively address the growing threat of higher seas, stronger storms, and more frequent floods by advocating for smarter planning and investments that protect our nation's residents, economy, and military installations.

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**Leverage best-in-class communications tools** to engage citizens on flooding challenges and solutions. We provide talking points and messaging tips that enable local leaders to more effectively communicate to their citizens and advocate for their community.

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**Share best practices in a national forum** that supports local and state level responses to flooding and sea level rise. Access our network of leaders, our member portal and educational resources, our monthly newsletter, and other tools.





# How to use the coalition's Member Portal

## Logging into your account

Access your account and create a profile by following the steps below:

- ① You will receive an email from [info@floodcoalition.org](mailto:info@floodcoalition.org) with instructions about accessing your account and creating a user profile.
- ② Follow the link in the email to reset your password.
- ③ Once you have reset your password, follow the prompts on the screen to create your user profile.
  - ▶ Fill out basic information like your title and location.
  - ▶ You will have the option to fill in your expertise by writing a short bio and uploading a headshot.
- ④ If you check “I am willing to be contacted by other coalition members,” other portal users will see your email address and phone number (if added). If you choose not to check this, your contact information will remain private.



**If you have any issues** accessing your account or resources, check that you are using the latest version of your internet browser.

## Navigating the portal

Once you have created your profile, we encourage you to explore the portal, as described below:

- ① Use the **Dashboard** as your main view of the portal. Here you will find a snapshot of the latest announcements and resources.
- ② See a list of other portal users on the **Member Directory**. You can filter by member type, location, and expertise.
- ③ Find the latest announcements and events on the **Announcements** page. Click on specific announcements and events for more detail.
- ④ Access our library of educational resources on the **Resources** page.
- ⑤ Edit your profile at any time by clicking **My Profile**.
- ⑥ Find background materials about the coalition on the **Coalition Essentials** page. These include the coalition one-pager, our policy booklet, and more.

Once again, welcome to the portal! If you have any questions about this or do not receive an email with your login information, please reach out to [info@floodcoalition.org](mailto:info@floodcoalition.org).

# Our objectives

We believe in the power of local voices, and will work with you to raise the profile of local flooding issues at a national level. Together, we look forward to advancing solutions that can support flood-affected communities, focused around these four objectives:



## Economy

Invest in infrastructure and natural solutions that boost the economy and protect property values



## Communities

Use proactive planning to keep communities safe and save taxpayer dollars



## Rebuilding

Build back stronger to protect communities from future flooding



## Military

Ensure our military installations are ready to deploy 365 days a year



# Economy

## Invest in infrastructure and natural solutions that boost the economy and protect property values

**O**ur national economy relies on our highways, ports, and other essential infrastructure, much of which is at risk from riverine, coastal, and flash flooding and sea level rise. The American Flood Coalition supports dedicated funding and incentives for resilience that will help prevent flood damage, ensure property values and coastal tourism remain strong, and spur innovation and job creation.

The construction of new infrastructure will create local employment opportunities that cannot be outsourced, bringing more jobs to the community. As our communities adapt to flooding and sea level rise, we'll also be able to build new businesses and innovation that we can export to others around the globe.

### Policies

- ▶ Support communities investing in adaptation through dedicated federal funding and incentives, such as adaptation trust funds, revolving loan funds, and tax breaks
- ▶ Increase innovation grants for research into flood mitigation technology
- ▶ Facilitate the exchange of best practices among flood-affected communities
- ▶ Broaden available financing methods for flood infrastructure projects in ways that engage the private sector, such as public-private partnerships and low-interest debt financing



**Investing  
\$100M  
in water  
infrastructure  
creates an  
estimated  
1500+ jobs  
in the local  
community<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>2</sup> Value of Water Campaign. The Economic Benefits of Investing in Water Infrastructure. 2017.



# Communities

**Use smart planning to keep communities safe and save taxpayer dollars**



**\$1 spent on  
pre-disaster  
mitigation  
saves \$4-7  
in disaster relief<sup>3</sup>**

Investing in resilience can save taxpayer dollars and untold heartache for affected communities, but to plan smart our communities need accurate information and policies that empower them to act. As a first step, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) should upgrade its flood maps, 15% of which reflect information from the 1970s and 1980s, and none of which include future sea level rise.

Once communities understand their risk, they need federal funding for smart investments. We need to dramatically increase FEMA's pre-disaster mitigation funding, which currently makes up less than 1% of its budget. Communities should also be empowered with the flexibility to invest in living shorelines and other natural infrastructure solutions by making the planning and permitting process more efficient.

## Policies

- ▶ Increase pre-disaster mitigation funding across agencies
- ▶ Adopt federal minimum flood standards across all major federal programs
- ▶ Update FEMA flood maps to reflect current data and include sea level rise projections
- ▶ Support efficient planning and permitting for living shorelines, including working with the Army Corps to expand the new living shoreline permit category

<sup>3</sup> National Institute of Building Sciences, Natural Hazard Mitigation Saves: 2017 Interim Report. December 2017.

# Rebuilding

## Build back stronger to protect communities from future flooding

When disaster strikes and the national government spends billions to rebuild, we need to build back stronger so our communities can withstand future flooding instead of drawing on taxpayer dollars to rebuild again and again. By creating federal standards for rebuilding that take a clear-eyed view of future risk, we can keep our citizens safe and prevent wasteful spending.

We need to improve Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), FEMA, and Small Business Administration (SBA) programs so that they allow and incentivize rebuilding to higher standards.

### Policies

- ▶ Create federal resilience standards for rebuilding after hurricanes and flood events
- ▶ Issue guidance from HUD on how the Community Development Block Grant program can be used to encourage adaptive rebuilding
- ▶ Have FEMA allow for and incentivize the adaptation of damaged facilities with Public Assistance funding
- ▶ Allow the SBA Disaster Loan Program to incentivize resilient construction

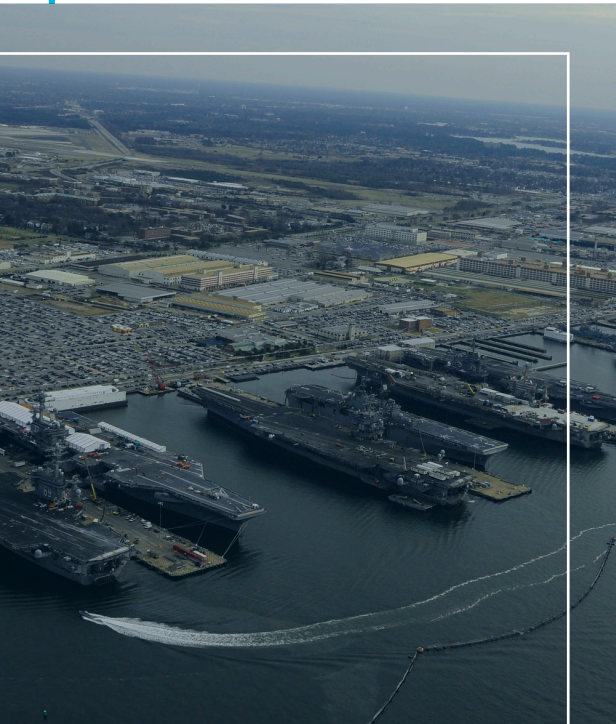


**89% of registered voters support a requirement for all federally funded infrastructure to better withstand flooding<sup>4</sup>**

<sup>4</sup> The Pew Charitable Trusts. Poll. January 2018.

# Military

**Ensure our military installations are ready to deploy  
365 days a year**



**The DoD  
found that  
931 military  
installations  
have experienced  
flooding<sup>6</sup>**

When military facilities are flooded, it puts our national security at risk. At Norfolk Naval Base, the main access road floods about 10 times per year, affecting the over 90% of servicemen who live off base<sup>5</sup>. Some installations are already taking action to protect against flooding, but we need coordinated national action.

The Department of Defense (DoD) must prioritize adaptation plans to ensure our military is prepared for the future, and we must give base commanders the flexibility to invest in critical infrastructure on and off the base.

## Policies

- ▶ Give the DoD the authority to assess the impact of flooding on our military installations
- ▶ Allow base commanders the flexibility to use mission funds to address flooding off-base by expanding programs such as Defense Access Roads
- ▶ Promote alternative funding mechanisms for our military through public-private partnerships

<sup>5</sup> Virginian-Pilot, Naval Station Norfolk's first 100 years: World's largest navy base anchored to community, June 2017.

<sup>6</sup> Department of Defense Climate-Related Risk to DoD Infrastructure Initial Vulnerability Assessment Survey (SLVAS) Report. January 2018.



# Your outreach team

**D**o you have questions, input or ideas about resources or activities that would benefit you and other members of the coalition as you seek to take action on the issues of flooding and sea level rise? Our Outreach Team is always interested in hearing from you. Please do not hesitate to be in touch!

## Contact us



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