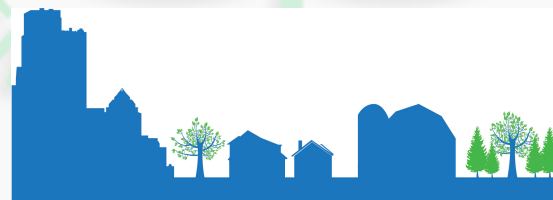


Smart Growth *Can* Be Safe Growth: Resilience Lessons from Vermont and California

New Partners for Smart Growth Conference

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Smart Growth
PROGRAM

In this session we will:



- Learn how Vermont and California are working to **create safer, smarter growth**, with help from EPA's Smart Growth Implementation Assistance Program.
- Learn about a **Flood Resilience Checklist** developed in Vermont that communities can use to prepare for future floods.
- Learn about **Safe Growth Strategies** being used in the Bay Area of California to reduce vulnerability to earthquakes, flooding, and sea level rise.
- Discuss **how you are using similar approaches in your communities** and what tools and resources you need to help you build smarter, safer neighborhoods.

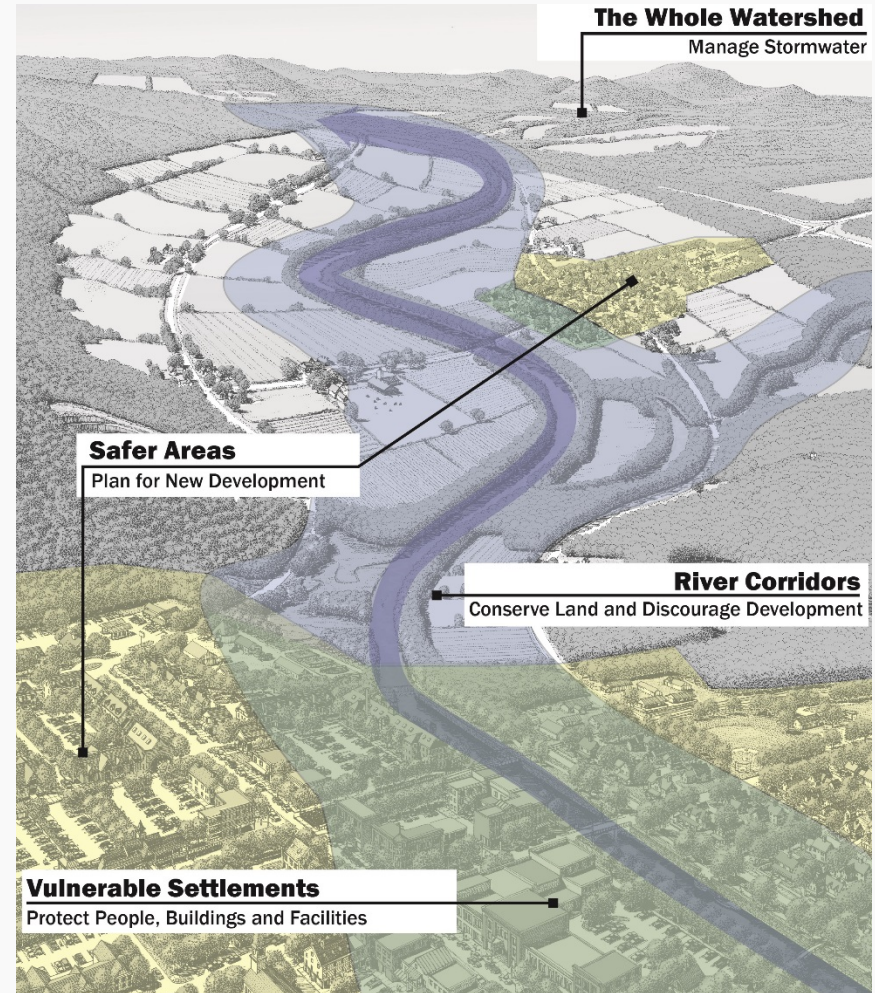
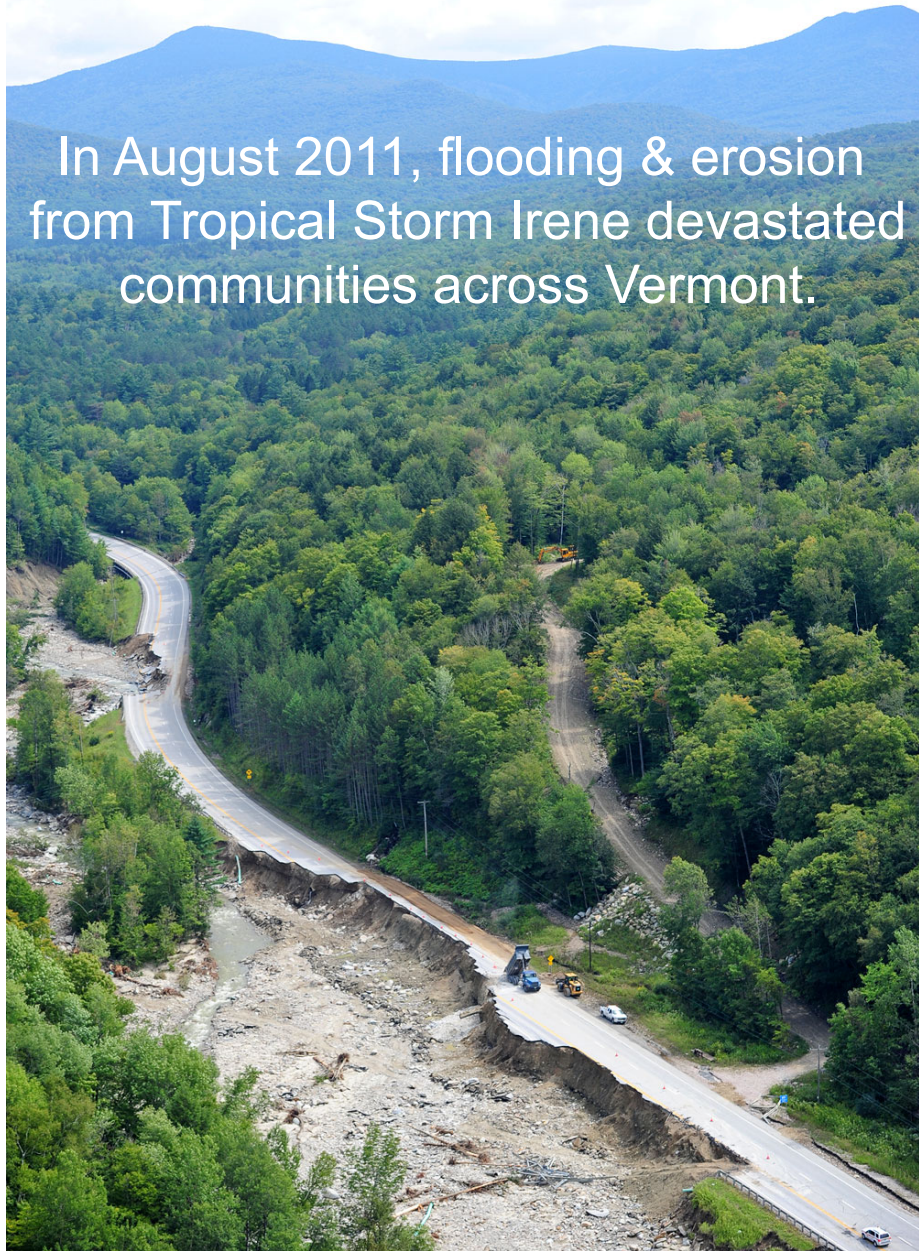
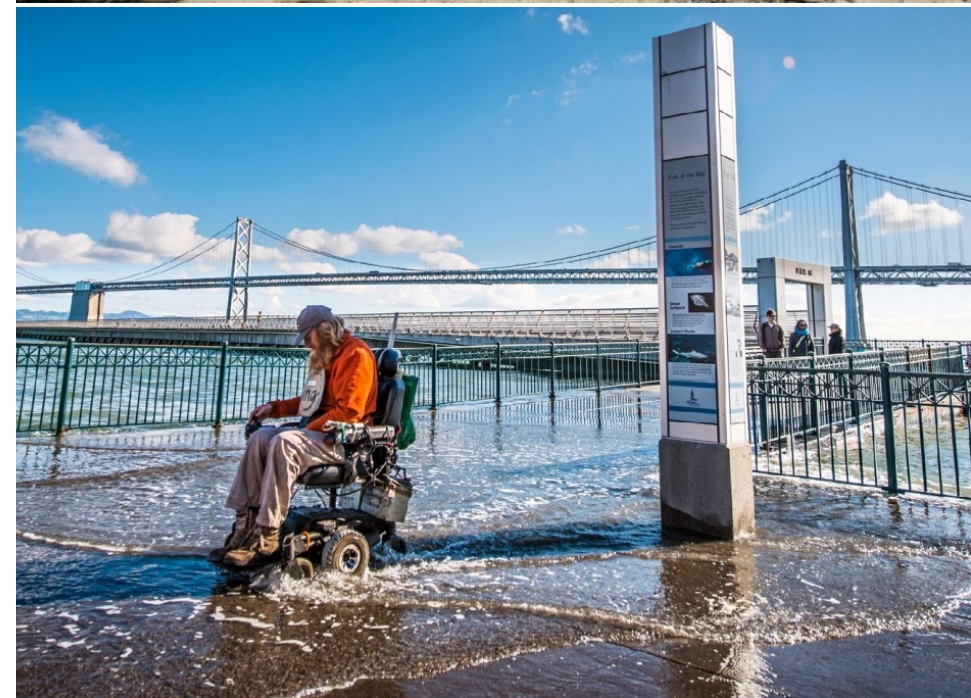


Image courtesy of Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development

In August 2011, flooding & erosion from Tropical Storm Irene devastated communities across Vermont.



Images courtesy of Lars Gange and Mansfield Heliflight



Images (from top left, clockwise) courtesy of napavalleyregister.com, hlswatch.com, usatoday.com, science.kqed.org

Why does this conversation matter?



Where and how we build our communities will affect our ability to withstand disasters in the future.

**Smart Growth =
Safe Growth?**



Image courtesy of Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development

Resources



- Flood Resilience Checklist and the SGIA Project in Vermont:

http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sgia_communities.htm#rec1

- Safe Growth Strategies and the SGIA Project with the Association of Bay Area Governments:

http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sgia_communities.htm#rec3



Flood Resilience Checklist

Is your community prepared for a possible flood? Completing this flood resilience checklist can help you begin to answer that question. This checklist was developed as part of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Smart Growth Implementation Assistance project in the state of Vermont. More information about the project can be found by reading the full report, *Planning for Flood Recovery and Long-Term Resilience in Vermont*, found online at www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sgia_communities.htm#rec1.

What is the Flood Resilience Checklist?

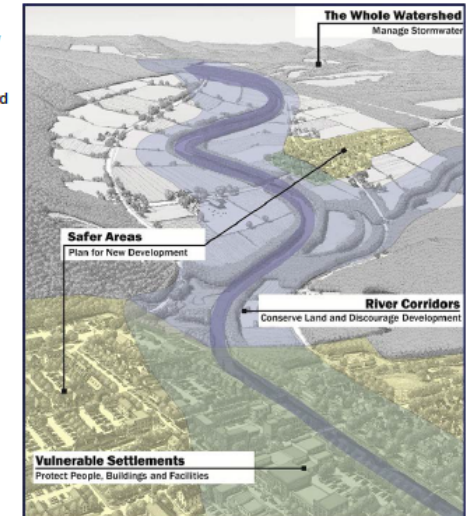
This checklist includes overall strategies to improve flood resilience as well as specific strategies to conserve land and discourage development in river corridors; to protect people, businesses, and facilities in vulnerable settlements; to direct development to safer areas; and to implement and coordinate stormwater management practices throughout the whole watershed.

Who should use it?

This checklist can help communities identify opportunities to improve their resilience to future floods through policy and regulatory tools, including comprehensive plans, Hazard Mitigation Plans, local land use codes and regulations, and non-regulatory programs implemented at the local level. Local government departments such as community planning, public works, and emergency services; elected and appointed local officials; and other community organizations and nonprofits can use the checklist to assess their community's readiness to prepare for, deal with, and recover from floods.

Why is it important?

Completing this checklist is the first step in assessing how well a community is positioned to avoid and/or reduce flood damage and to recover from floods. If a community is not yet using some of the strategies listed in the checklist and would like to, the policy options and resources listed in the *Planning for Flood Recovery and Long-Term Resilience in Vermont* report can provide ideas for how to begin implementing these approaches.



This graphic illustrates the four categories of approaches to enhance resilience to future floods. Credit: Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development.