

COASTAL RESILIENCE SUMMARY

FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Natural and Nature-Based Features (NNBFs)

Forests, trees, wetlands, beaches, and living shorelines benefit communities by reducing storm wave energy, soaking up floodwaters, improving water quality, providing areas for recreation, creating habitats for important plants and animals, and even lowering flood insurance costs. These **Natural and Nature-Based Features (NNBFs)** have been mapped for areas that are less than 10-feet in elevation, experience tidal and storm flooding, and include buildings at risk. *(All numbers are approximate.)*



MAP: Fairfax coastal areas less than 10-ft elevation, with targets for new NNBFs

NNBFs in Fairfax Coastal Areas

1,984 acres All Coastal NNBFs, including:



613 acres Tidal Marsh



590 acres Wooded



503 acres Forested Wetland



132 acres Scrub-Shrub Wetland



<1 miles Hybrid Living Shorelines

Visit www.AdaptVA.org to view all coastal NNBFs

Benefits of NNBFs in Fairfax



159 acres of NNBFs that decrease flooding risks for buildings



1,971 acres of NNBFs that improve water quality by reducing sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorus



3,863 acres of NNBFs potentially eligible for FEMA Community Rating System credits (100-ft RPA buffer and wetlands located within 100-year flood zones)

Coastal Area Facts

for areas less than 10-ft elevation

1% of Fairfax area (2,648 acres)

422 coastal buildings

0 critical facilities

19 coastal buildings without NNBF benefits

4 targets for new NNBFs

Chesapeake Bay RPA 100-ft Buffer Overview

across all of Fairfax County

31,847 acres of RPA buffer

5,278 acres of RPA buffer currently turfgrass potentially eligible for water quality credits if converted into NNBF



To learn more: www.vims.edu/ccrm/nbf