



Growth Management Department

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Information on Retrofitting Your Home

The following content is informational in nature and has been obtained from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) website www.fema.gov.



Homeowner's Guide to Retrofitting

Six Ways to Protect Your Home From Flooding
FEMA P-312, 3rd Edition / June 2014



What Can I Do To Prepare?

As a homeowner, you may need clear information and guidance about the options available to reduce flood damage to your home so you can select the option that's best for you. Quite often this is a difficult task. To assist homeowners who want to know how to protect their homes from flooding, FEMA has published the *Homeowner's Guide to Retrofitting: Six Ways to Protect Your Home From Flooding*.

The *Homeowner's Guide to Retrofitting* is for individuals who have little or no knowledge of flood protection methods or building construction techniques. If you plan to take action to avoid repetitive flood damage to your home you may need to know: what damage-reduction methods are available; the degree to which they work; how much they cost, and whether they meet your needs. All of these questions are answered in the Guide.

In addition, the Guide explains how the degree of flood risk varies from one location to another. By knowing the basic questions to ask, you are guided toward the investment in retrofitting that may be appropriate for you. You can access the *Homeowner's Guide to Retrofitting* on the FEMA website www.fema.gov.

What Is Retrofitting?

Retrofitting means making changes to an existing building in order to protect it from flooding or other hazards, such as high winds. Retrofitting is an important tool in hazard mitigation.

Financial Assistance for Retrofitting

Financial assistance can come in the form of loans, grants, and insurance payments. Assistance goes to individual property owners, communities, and states. Programs such as **FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program** and the **Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program** are designed to financially assist property owners with retrofitting projects. The *Homeowner's Guide to Retrofitting* describes many government and non-government programs and it explains how you might qualify for assistance. For additional retrofitting information and assistance contact the Flood Info Hotline at (239) 252-2942 or email floodinfo@colliergov.net.

Six Ways to Protect Your Home From Flooding



Elevation

Raising your home so that the lowest floor is above the flood level. This is the most common way to avoid flood damage.



Dry Floodproofing

Is sealing your home to prevent flood waters from entering.



Wet Floodproofing

Makes uninhabited parts of our home resistant to flood damage when water is allowed to enter during flooding.



Barrier Systems

Means constructing barriers to prevent flood waters from entering your home.



Relocation

Means moving your home to higher ground where the exposure to flooding is eliminated altogether.



Demolition

Means tearing down your home and rebuilding properly on the same property or buying a home elsewhere.