

# INFORMATION ON RETROFITTING YOUR HOME

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## Homeowner's Guide to Retrofitting

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



As a homeowner, you may need clear information about the options that are available to reduce flood damage to your home and guidance on selecting the option that is 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 readers who have little or no knowledge of flood protection methods or building construction techniques. Should you take action to avoid repetitive flood damage to your house 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 by 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* at [www.fema.gov](http://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, and it is an important tool in hazard mitigation.

## Financial Assistance

Financial assistance can come in the form of loans, grants, and insurance payments. The assistance goes to individual property owners, communities, and states. Programs such as the FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and the Flood Mitigation Assistance 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](mailto:floodinfo@colliergov.net)

## Six Ways to Protect Your Home From Flooding

					
<b>Elevation</b> is raising your home so that the lowest floor is above the flood level. This is the most common way to avoid flood damage.	<b>Wet floodproofing</b> makes uninhabited parts of your home resistant to flood damage when water is allowed to enter during flooding.	<b>Relocation</b> means moving your home to higher ground where the exposure to flooding is eliminated altogether.	<b>Dry floodproofing</b> is sealing your home to prevent flood waters from entering.	<b>Levee and floodwall protection</b> means constructing barriers to prevent flood waters from entering your home.	<b>Demolition</b> means tearing down your home and rebuilding properly on the same property or buying a home elsewhere.