

tially damaged in a storm, there is opportunity to rebuild a more resilient structure. Know your present and future risk from sea level rise, storm surge, and erosion.

- Elevate structure above flood levels predicted with sea level rise (use STORMTOOLS— <http://www.beachsamp.org/resources/stormtools/>)
- Retrofit or rebuild using programs like the IBHS FORTIFIED Program— <http://www.crmc.ri.gov/coastalresilience.html>
- Learn more by looking at the Coastal Property Guide—<http://www.beachsamp.org/relatedprojects/coastalpropertyguide/>
- Consult CRMC’s Experimental Coastal Erosion Control Program— http://www.crmc.ri.gov/coastalerosion/SaltPondSAMP_Section980.pdf
- Relocate landward, reestablish buffer zones — http://www.crmc.ri.gov/maps/maps_shorechange.html; (Also Section 140)



Reference

Refer to the RI CRMP:

- ◆ Type 1 Conservation Areas (Section 1.2.1 B)
- ◆ Coastal Beaches (Section 1.2.2 A)
- ◆ Barrier Islands and Spits (Section 1.2.2 B)
- ◆ Section 1.3.1 N *Maintenance of Structures*; Section 1.1.9 *Setbacks*; Section 1.1.11 *Coastal Buffer Zones* regarding structures on coastal barriers and beaches (and restrictions)
- ◆ Treatment of Sewage & Stormwater (Section 1.3.1 F)
- ◆ Shoreline Protection [Section § 1.3.1(G)]

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Rebuilding after the Storm

Hurricanes and powerful Nor’easters can cause extensive damages to coastal properties and infrastructure, and wreak havoc on your life and livelihood.

When the storm is over, the RI CRMC can help you get back on your feet, through a variety of unique permitting options and tools.

Learn more about emergency permitting procedures at the CRMC—the only RI state agency that offers a fast-track permit post-storm—as well as other resources we offer to property owners.

- If your property is located in CRMC jurisdiction, (generally, 200 feet from the coast, inland) you will need a CRMC permit, as well as a local building

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permit.

- After a major storm, CRMC works with other local and state entities in the towns hardest hit to coordinate emergency permitting procedures. On-site assessments may be made with the property owner, and permits distributed in the field, to streamline the recovery process.
- If you have an onsite waste water treatment system that was damaged, you will also need to contact DEM for an assessment and permit.

Post-storm recovery involves several entities, including the CRMC, R.I. Emergency Management Agency, and local building officials, which all play a role in getting your business operating and your home livable.

Emergency Procedures

After a hurricane or other catastrophic storm, the CRMC may establish Emergency Procedures for issuing permits. The Executive Director will assess the situation and make a determination whether normal permitting proce-

dures would impose an undue hardship on disaster victims. If this is the case, the CRMC will activate its unique emergency permitting process.

The ultimate goal is to assist Rhode Islanders return to a state of normalcy—as much as possible—as soon as is feasible.

Under emergency procedures:

- ◆ During the first few days, CRMC will assess damage and coordinate with officials regarding infrastructure impacts.
- ◆ Emergency permits will be issued at **no cost** and on-site for repair and maintenance **ONLY** of residential and commercial properties.
- ◆ If expansions or new additions are proposed, application review may be postponed until emergency permits have been handled completely.
- ◆ All work permitted under an Emergency Assent must be completed within a specific timeframe (outlined in assent); work can only include that which is outlined in the assent.
- ◆ Emergency permits are available in CRMC offices in Wakefield, or on-site if CRMC staff are in your area. After a storm event, contact CRMC at **(401)783-3370**, or visit us

online at www.crmc.ri.gov, or in our Wakefield offices to determine your specific permitting needs.

Be aware—Post-storm lot assessments will be made to determine if it will support the use you wish to rebuild. If the shoreline has eroded extensively, you may be limited in what size house and/or septic system can be rebuilt. In extreme cases, there may be no room on your lot for this (See References for relevant sections of the Red Book).

Rebuilding Smarter: Relocate, Elevate, Retrofit

The coastline is always changing, with most of that change occurring during storms.

Because of rising seas due to climate change, future storms will have increasingly more impact. When a property is substan-



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