

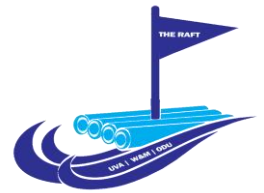
# The RAFT: Maintaining Progress in Coastal Virginia

Grant # NA23NOS4190255    Task 91.02

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality,  
Coastal Zone Management Program

# The RAFT

## (Resilience Adaptation Feasibility Tool)



The **Resilience Adaptation Feasibility Tool (RAFT)** is both a tool for resilience planning and implementation, and a process for ensuring equitable resilience.

The goal: Help Virginia's localities improve resilience to flooding and other hazards while striving to thrive both economically and socially.

The RAFT has eliminated the feeling of being siloed in the trends & issues affecting our community, highlighting we are a team & "one community" working together to address the overall needs of our citizens.

Dept of Social Services

Chamber of Commerce

The RAFT turned the tide for our town. During a pandemic, when the world shut down, we continued to grow.



## PARTNERSHIP

The RAFT is a partnership with the regional Planning District Commissions and localities.

- Increases knowledge among elected leaders, staff, and residents
- Brings academic objectivity and resources to assessment, priorities, and implementation
- Identifies vulnerable areas and populations
- Facilitates understanding of different dimensions of risk
- Generates community-wide discussion about resilience
- Creates a community-supported plan to enhance resilience
- Increases regional collaboration and integration
- Enhances position to find and apply for relevant funding

### Components of The RAFT Resilience Assessment

POLICY, LEADERSHIP, AND COLLABORATION

RISK ASSESSMENT AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCE

PLANNING FOR RESILIENCE

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, HEALTH, AND WELL BEING

### THE RAFT 3-STEP PROCESS

- HOLISTIC (Qualitative & Quantitative) ASSESSMENT OF RESILIENCE**
  - Simple, accessible, & objective assessment
- SETTING PRIORITIES**
  - Community workshop
  - Resilience Action Checklist (RAC)
- IMPLEMENTATION**
  - Locality Implementation Teams to pursue RAC items
  - 1-year of support and assistance



# Acknowledgment of Funders

This RAFT product was created with funding from:  
**Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Coastal Zone Management Program\***



**Virginia Coastal Zone**  
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



**We are grateful to these funders for supporting various phases of  
The RAFT from 2015-Present.**

Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 2017- Present

Virginia Environmental Endowment, Virginia Program, 2017- Present

University of Virginia Environmental Institute, formerly Environmental Resilience Institute, 2018-  
Present

Virginia Sea Grant Adaptation and Resilience Program, 2017-2024

Jessie Ball duPont Fund, 2019- 2024

Natural Hazards Center, Public Health Disaster Research Award Program, 2022-2024

Agua Fund, 2022-2023

University of Virginia School of Architecture, Faculty Summer Research Program, 2018, 2022

Commonwealth Center for Recurrent Flooding Resiliency, 2021-2022

Anonymous, 2018-2019

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Restoration and Community Stewardship Grant, 2016-  
2018

**For more information visit The RAFT website: [raft.ienvirginia.edu](http://raft.ienvirginia.edu)**

\*\* This product was funded in part by the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program at the Department of Environmental Quality through Grant # NA23NOS4190255 of the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended. The views expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA, or any of its subagencies.