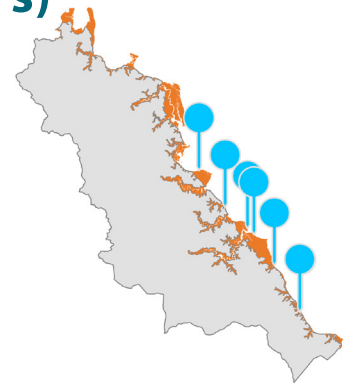


COASTAL RESILIENCE SUMMARY

ESSEX 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: Essex coastal areas less than 10-ft elevation, with targets for new NNBFs

NNBFs in Essex Coastal Areas

9,571 acres All Coastal NNBFs, including:



5,147 acres Tidal Marsh



2,035 acres Wooded



1,739 acres Forested Wetland



504 acres Scrub-Shrub Wetland



<1 miles Hybrid Living Shorelines

Visit www.AdaptVA.org to view all coastal NNBFs

Benefits of NNBFs in Essex



1,902 acres of NNBFs that decrease flooding risks for buildings



9,556 acres of NNBFs that improve water quality by reducing sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorus



6,809 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

8% of Essex area (12,751 acres)

576 coastal buildings

0 critical facilities

11 coastal buildings without NNBF benefits

7 targets for new NNBFs

Chesapeake Bay RPA 100-ft Buffer Overview

across all of Essex County

8,897 acres of RPA buffer

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



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