

GREEN BROOK UPPER BASIN FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT PROJECT  
SOMERSET, MIDDLESEX AND UNION COUNTIES, NEW JERSEY  
GENERAL REEVALUATION REPORT  
“UPPER BASIN STUDY”

ALTERNATIVE 4: NONSTRUCTURAL MEASURES PLAN

Nonstructural features reduce flood risk by modifying the characteristics of the buildings and structures that are subject to floods or modifying the behavior of people living in or near floodplains. In general, nonstructural features do not modify the characteristics of floods nor do they induce development in a floodplain that is inconsistent with reducing flood risk. The nonstructural measures plan consists of a combination of these measures in the 456 structures with the highest flood risk in the study area.

Some measures include removing buildings from floodplains by relocation or acquisition; floodproofing buildings; implementing flood warning and preparedness activities; and implementing floodplain regulation. Typical measures are shown below.



ELEVATION

- ♦ Raising the living area of a structure above the design flood elevation.
- ♦ Elevation can be done by raising a structure on piers, posts, or by extending the foundation below the structure.



FLOODPROOFING

- ♦ Consists of making changes in design, construction, or alteration of individual buildings to reduce flood damages.
- ♦ There are two general types: wet and dry floodproofing that differ in whether they allow water into that lowest opening to allow for the hydrostatic pressure to equalize on the structure (wet) or if the water is kept out (dry).
- ♦ It can consist of things like creating a watertight barrier around structures, elevating electrical and mechanical systems, using sealants on the foundation, flood louvers and flood doors.
- ♦ Primarily recommended for non-residential structures.



ACQUISITION

- ♦ Acquisition includes acquisition of properties with high flood risk and demolition of the structure to restore the floodplain.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The Upper Basin Study is conducting initial public engagement under NEPA to inform the evaluation of alternative plans for flood risk management in the Green Brook Upper Basin. Public feedback is being requested via the website or via e mail at [greenbrookfrmproject@usace.army.mil](mailto:greenbrookfrmproject@usace.army.mil)

For additional information, please visit the project website:  
<https://www.nan.usace.army.mil/GRR/>



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