

Communities in Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida are facing stronger and more frequent storms, floods and natural hazards that are expected to worsen in the future threatening human life, property, and cultural heritages across the Gulf South region.

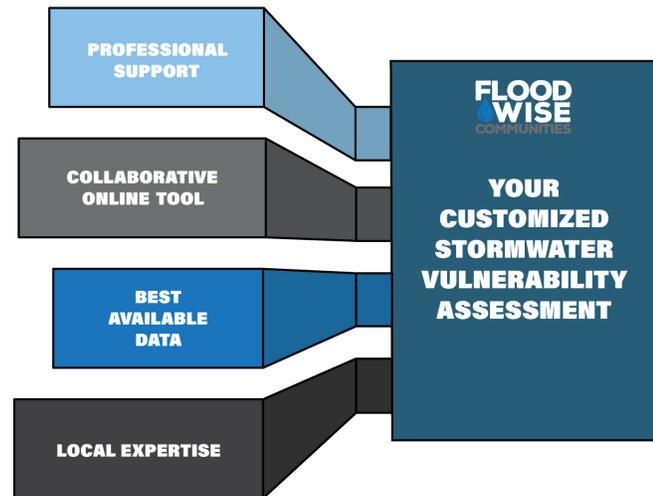
Proactive, local-level planning is a key component of reducing vulnerability and risk in the face of changing conditions. Successful planning should be informed by a vulnerability assessment that evaluates the exposure, sensitivity, and ability of local residents, infrastructure, and public services to adapt to future weather and climate conditions. However, this process can cost thousands of dollars and personnel hours to collect necessary data and perform analyses, which presents a barrier for some communities that are interested in beginning or enhancing local adaptation planning.

Beginning in Summer 2021, FloodWise Communities will partner with 60 small and medium-sized communities within 100 miles of the Gulf Coast to complete a customized vulnerability assessments of their local stormwater system at no cost.

The FloodWise stormwater system vulnerability assessment has been developed by cities and is intended to save time, energy, and financial costs for all local governments.

The Assessment is:

- A guided, step-by-step process walking users through examining extreme weather and climate vulnerabilities in their stormwater system.
- Specific to stormwater systems in the Gulf South region.
- Accessible, collaborative, technology-assisted, and tailored to each community.
- Informed by the best available weather, climate and socio-economic data that is downscaled to each community.
- Applicable to open and closed stormwater systems as well as traditional, LID, and natural stormwater system components.
- Supported by climatologists and adaptation professionals that are endorsed by several national and regional organizations.
- Free to all participating communities.



Past participant outcomes include 1) no-cost access to the best available data, 2) improved adaptation and mitigation planning, 3) data-backed grant, budget and project proposals, 4) increased collaboration, and 5) improved community resilience to extreme weather events and climate conditions.

As a participant, communities will receive:

- Access to the FloodWise online assessment tool
- Downscaled, high-resolution data profiles
- A custom training packet
- Access to an online dashboard and peer forum
- A final vulnerability assessment report
- On-going professional support from the FloodWise team.

The only cost to communities is their time.

On average, communities will complete their assessment over the course of 24 hours, or 3 working days, spread out over the course of several months.

How to apply:

- Visit floodwisecommunities.org
- Click "Apply Today!"
- Fill out the enrollment form
- Hit Submit

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