Flood-related disasters are the costliest and most frequent type of disaster facing the United States. From 2000 to 2018, flood-related events cost more than $830 billion in economic losses, accounted for 73% of presidential disaster declarations, and caused more than 6,200 deaths. Floods are an immediate threat to 53 military installations across the nation.

These numbers reflect what Americans and people across the globe already know: floods are affecting our way of life. Addressing the challenges posed by flooding and other extreme weather impacts will require individuals, communities, and state and federal governments to work collaboratively to build a more sustainable future for us all.

Support robust and steadily increasing funding to science-based federal agencies.

Support science centers and programs that research region-specific flooding concerns and incentivize scientists working within their communities.

Support legislation that ensures science can be conducted and inform policy freely and openly.

Support policies to manage flooding and its impacts that account for a changing world.

Between 2000 and 2018, hurricanes caused $1.3 billion in property damages.

The Virginia Department of Emergency Management recognizes flooding is the #1 natural hazard posing risk to people and property in the state.

Flooding is an immediate threat to eight military facilities in Virginia.

The U.S. Geological Service Water Science Centers fund and conduct water research and monitoring driven by state priorities.

The NOAA National Sea Grant College Program supports coastal communities through research and extension programs shaped by local needs.

TO EMPOWER COMMUNITIES TO UNDERSTAND AND ADDRESS THEIR FLOOD RISK, POLICY MAKERS CAN:

The Virginia and West Virginia Water Science Center spent $40 MILLION between 2010 and 2019 on Virginia’s flood research and education priorities. In 2017, Virginia Sea Grant work resulted in 160 JOBS and 67 BUSINESSES.

NEED HELP NOW? Contact the Virginia Department of Emergency Management: 804-897-6500