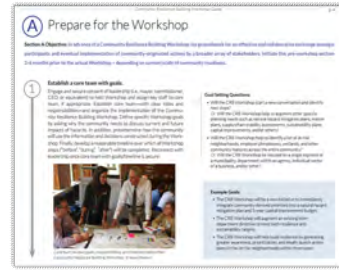
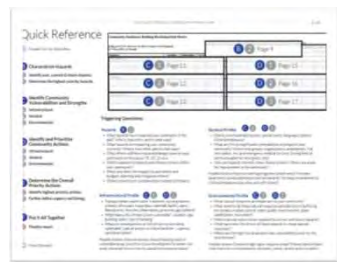


Enhancing Community Preparedness and Resilience with Natural Systems Approaches, Actions, and Partnerships that Work

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Advancing resilience by **creating “planning-to-action” collaboratives** within and across municipalities and organizations to ensure a **regional integration of community resilience** via **strong and growing partnerships** is the ultimately goal of ongoing outreach and engagement efforts; particularly those processes that recognize and **integrate natural system benefits and services**, comprehensively. This desired state is being currently being accelerated in many locations via the **Community Resilience Building** process – a flexible and friendly **“anywhere at any scale”** approach.



Community Resilience Building (www.CommunityResilienceBuilding.com)
 Create irresistible & sustainable momentum through collaborative & routine action over time

Strong networks and **collaborations designed to enhance community** preparedness and resilience benefit when engagement processes recognizes and integrates natural systems and services to reduce immediate risks and future climate challenges. A growing number of communities have realized a **balance between environmental and socioeconomic goals** in a “resilience” context by proactively affirming the **links between natural services and human health and safety** at the municipal and regional scale. In several cases, entities have been building resilient communities through collaborative actions for many years and now serve as role models for other **partnerships looking to strengthen and grow**. Key ingredients of success shared by these entities include the importance of leveraging existing partnerships, creating links between ongoing efforts, and identifying gaps where new capabilities are needed to inform decisions and actions on-the-ground; comprehensively for the entire community. What is required is a community engagement, development, and retention approach such as the **Community Resilience Building** that has successfully been used in **over 35 municipalities** across many planning regions. This process **fosters interdisciplinary, novel partnerships** across diverse groups on current and future challenges. The Community Resilience Building Workshops have recently been leveraged to bring together municipalities within a larger risk reduction construct. **Community Resilience Building** is designed to make the “pieces” (municipalities) recognize they are stronger and more competitive as a “whole” (regional collaboratives) despite several centuries of **home rule at the municipal level**. The Community Resilience Building process is ideal for communities looking for ways to **engage and build resilience at different/nested scales** (municipal and regional) with inclusion of natural systems.