

# Urban Flooding – A Growing Threat

## WHAT WE CAN DO NOW

### Comprehensive Planning

Collaborate to develop, implement and enforce building codes



### Capturing Rain Where It Falls

Establish building codes that eliminate increases in runoff and implement tactics such as rain gardens and green roofs



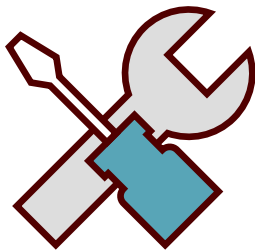
### Eliminating Or Reducing The Risk Of Flooding

Elevate or buy out properties in areas where drainage improvement is too costly



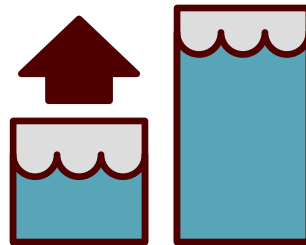
### Adequate Maintenance

Encourage local residents to assist in maintenance of stormwater systems by clearing drains of debris or reporting problems prior to storms



### Upgrading of Capacity Standards

Propose collaborative action to develop modern capacity standards for older stormwater and wastewater systems



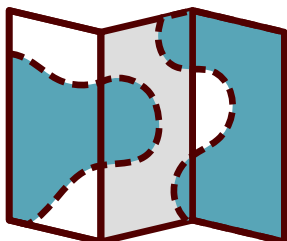
### Risk Communication: Gaining Public Understanding

Use high-water mark signs to identify height of historical floods, alerting residents and educating on flood risks



### Mapping Urban Flood Zones

FEMA is using the Risk MAP program to develop maps that better convey flood risk.



### Disclosing Risks In User-Friendly Ways

Software such as Texas A&M's "Buyers Be-Where" disseminate easy-to-understand flood information to potential home buyers.



### Insuring At-Risk Properties

Community programs should encourage the purchase of flood insurance. Occupants of flood-prone "islands" within a community can obtain insurance, generally at low rates.

