



## Maine Coastal Hazard Resiliency Tools (CHRT) Project

### Lessons Learned and Recommendations:

- Community and municipal resiliency efforts are greatly aided by open dialogue with town members and high quality localized data and technical assistance.
- Use of previous local climate hazards information helped communities decide how to adapt to future conditions, and create transferable lessons.
- State level resiliency grants made follow through on the implementation of adaptation projects possible.

### What They Did, and Why:

The CHRT project aims to improve municipal resiliency to flooding, storm surge, and sea level rise. The State of Maine created a transferable method of community assistance and engagement to develop high quality localized climate data and identify options for adaptation and resiliency projects.

The goal is to spark local conversations around coastal hazards. As a result of this effort, many towns took further resiliency actions including the establishment of floodplain and shoreland zoning ordinances, shore and harbor plans, and vulnerability assessments.

To date, the CHRT team has successfully worked with over 40 of Maine's coastal communities including Saco, Damariscotta, and Cape Elizabeth.



Retrofitted houses in Saco, Maine. Saco is a community that participated in the CHRT program.

### Benefits:

- State provided local data and technical assistance for resiliency dialogue.
- Projects were geared towards developing transferable adaptation methods.
- State staffers gained understanding of local needs by working with multiple communities at one time.

### For more information:

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“We’ve seen in very real terms what can happen to structures down at the beach.”

“Coastal homeowners have been receptive of the policy, and ‘some really appreciate the city partnering with them on this,’” -  
Bob Hamblen,  
City of Saco