

Pennsylvania's extensive levee infrastructure protects \$9.6 billion in property and 130,000 people.

Pennsylvania

Counties with levees shown in green (USACE)

Most of the levees in Pennsylvania have exceeded their design life of 50 years.



Forty Fort



About 65% of Pennsylvania's levees are not accredited by FEMA.



There is a financial mismatch between community capacities and needed levee upgrades.



Changing hydrologic conditions will challenge existing infrastructure.




Federal regulations use deterministic and overconservative analyses that drive up costs.

Watershed scale flood inundation models rely on individual levee performance, which is difficult to characterize without detailed (often unavailable) information.



Smithfield

A scenic landscape featuring a paved path on the right, a grassy embankment in the middle, and a body of water on the left. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. Trees and bushes are visible along the path and water's edge.

A path forward:

- Piloting innovative technical solutions to make critical levee data cheaper to obtain.
- Advancing model-driven visualization techniques to better communicate flood and levee hazards.
- Partnering directly with communities to better understand hurdles to reducing flood risk.