

## **Fact Sheet**

### Nonstructural Measures

(Land Use and Regulatory Measures-Construction)

**Option: Construction Practices**

- Description:** Recommended construction techniques to minimize storm damages from flooding and wind. These techniques are not required by local code, but have been proven effective in practice, as determined by post-storm building damage surveys.
- Example(s):** Enhanced bracing systems, selection of storm resistant building materials, building orientation with regard to flood forces.
- Benefits:** Reduced storm, flood, and wind damage to structures; better quality construction and improved design; increased property values; may result in the formulation of new/modified construction codes; achieves improved practices at a relatively low cost to the homeowner; protects adjacent homeowners from debris damage.
- Challenges:** Effectively reaching/educating contractors and homebuyers; documenting and publicizing the minimal increased costs of storm-resistant construction; difficult to enforce; may need to provide incentives to homeowners; encourages construction in areas where development should not occur (i.e., may give homeowner a false sense of security); mandates may be necessary to cover all structures in the hazard area.

