

**Fact Sheet**  
**Nonstructural Measures**  
**(Land Acquisition Measures)**

**Option: Purchase of Property/Structure Acquisition**

- Description:** Public acquisition of privately-owned developed or undeveloped lands vulnerable to flooding, for long-term protection and preservation, with potential use as a public recreational resource. Purchase of developed lands requires purchase and removal of buildings.
- Example(s):** In 2006, six houses in the Hutchinson area of Harmony Township (part of the Interim Feasibility Study for New Jersey area) were acquired using funds from FEMA and the NJDEP’s Green Acres Program. The buildings were demolished and the future use of the property restricted to open space.
- Benefits:** Eliminates the potential for development and future structure and property damage; permanent protection of land as a natural resource and buffer area; makes building lots available for land swaps; increases public access; provides long term cost effectiveness; provides flexible local control measures over properties.
- Challenges:** Limited public funding for acquisition; many riverfront areas are developed, and their (typically) increased real estate value makes acquisition for long-term preservation difficult; loss of tax revenue for municipalities. Technique requires cooperation between various forms of government and property owners.

