The National Nonstructural Committee (NNC) was chartered in 1985 to promote the use of nonstructural measures for reducing life loss and minimizing property damages.

**Authority, Objective, and Scope.**
The NNC functions under Section 206 of the 1960 Flood Control Act, as amended, and is under the direction of the Chief, Planning and Policy Division, Directorate of Civil Works. The objective of the NNC is to support USACE Headquarters by providing leadership in the development and implementation of nonstructural flood risk management measures, and by providing support for all USACE floodplain and flood risk management activities.

**Definition of Nonstructural Measures.**
Nonstructural measures are proven methods and techniques for reducing flood risk and damages by adapting to the natural characteristics of the floodplain.

Nonstructural measures are categorized as **physical** or **nonphysical** measures used to mitigate loss of life as well as existing and future flood damages. The physical measures adapt to the natural characteristics of the floodplain without adversely affecting or changing those natural flood characteristics. These measures generally cause no adverse effects to the floodplain, flood stages, velocities, flood duration, or the environment.

Nonstructural flood risk management measures are permanent or temporary measures applied to a structure and/or its contents that prevent or provide resistance to damage from flooding. Nonstructural flood risk management measures differ from structural measures, such as levees, dams, diversions, or channel modifications, all of which change the probability of flooding. Nonstructural measures instead modify the consequences of flooding.

The most common physical nonstructural measures are:
- Acquisition / Buyout
- Relocation
- Elevation
- Dry Flood Proofing
- Wet Flood Proofing
- Basement Removal / Utility Addition

Nonphysical nonstructural measures are generally identified as management measures within the floodplain. These measures address flood risk through regulation and best management practices, and can be considered separately or as a combination of floodplain management and planning functions. The most common nonphysical measures are:
- Flood Warning Systems
- Floodplain Mapping
- Flood Insurance
- Flood Emergency Preparedness Plans
- Land Use Regulations
- Zoning
- Evacuation Planning
- Floodplain Management Plans
- Risk Communication

An elevated structure with flood vents

Relocation to evacuate the floodway/floodplain
**Types of Assistance.**

The NNC offers technical consultation on a full array of nonstructural flood risk management measures in support of the USACE planning process, from initial assessments and plan formulation through technical review, with additional support provided to Engineering & Construction, Regulatory and Operations.

Some of the most common types of assistance include:

- Nonstructural assessments
- Nonstructural plan formulation
- Workshops and webinars
- Public meeting presentations
- Quality assurance
- Technical Review
- Risk reduction behind levees
- Risk reduction below dams

**Technical Resources.**

The NNC also offers the following tools and services:

- Publications
- Assessment tools
- National Flood Barrier Testing & Certification Program
- Nonstructural Matrix

**NNC Website.**

The committee website provides technical publications, tools, resources and links to other agencies.


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**NNC Members and Advisors.**

The NNC consists of members from across the agency with engineering, planning and economics experience:

- Lea Adams, Chair, Davis, CA
- Danielle Tommaso, Sec, New York, NY
- Jodie Foster, Fort Worth, TX
- Andrew MacInnes, New Orleans, LA
- Brian Maestri, New Orleans, LA
- Christina Rasmussen, New York, NY

**Charges for Assistance.**

The NNC services are provided at a cost to USACE Districts, State agencies and local governments, Indian Tribes, and other Federal or Nonfederal public agencies.

**How to Request Assistance.**

Contact the NNC to inquire about any of the available services, tools, educational outreach, or your specific nonstructural needs.

**Contact the NNC:**

Attention: Lea Adams, Chair, NNC  
(530) 302-3729  
USACE, Hydrologic Engineering Center

**Email the NNC:**

[NNC@usace.army.mil](mailto:NNC@usace.army.mil)

Google: USACE NNC

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**Dry flood proofing to prevent future damages**