

# Town of Scituate Home Elevation Program Fact Sheet

## What is the Home Elevation Grant Program?

The Program provides financial assistance to homeowners located in a flood zone to elevate their homes. Funding for the program is provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). FEMA requires that grants only be used to elevate existing homes.

Grants are typically available for up to 75% reimbursement of the cost of elevating existing homes which qualify. Some properties classified by FEMA as Severe Repetitive Losses may qualify for up to 100% reimbursement.

The elevation grant program is administered locally by the Scituate's Coastal Management Officer. Call 781-545-8829 or e-mail at [cmiles@scituatema.gov](mailto:cmiles@scituatema.gov) if you have questions or would like to apply.

## Why Elevate?

Many homes in the Town of Scituate are vulnerable to flooding from storms, wave action, and sea level rise. Elevating your home above the base flood elevation significantly reduces the risk life and property as well as your flood insurance policy rates.



## How Does the Program Work?

To be eligible for a grant, FEMA requires homeowners to sign a deed restriction that states flood insurance will be maintained on the property by themselves and all subsequent owners as long as the house is standing.

The grants provide *reimbursement* to the homeowner *after they have paid* for the work. A licensed general contractor must be used to oversee the work and all contractors and sub-contractors working on the elevation must be appropriately licensed as required.

## How to Apply?

A completed [application form](#) which includes:

1. A copy of the current Declarations Page from your homeowners' flood insurance policy
2. An elevation certificate stamped by a professional land surveyor showing the current height of the house proposed to be elevated.
3. A site plan and structural plans for the elevation suitable for obtaining a building permit completed by a professional land surveyor and structural engineer, licensed in Massachusetts. Plans must include the existing and proposed elevation of the lowest structural member of the house in velocity zones or the finished first floor for property in other flood zones.
4. Description of the method of elevation.
5. Two detailed estimates for the elevation based on these plans.
6. A valid Order of Conditions from the Conservation Commission is also required.