

# BUILDING BLOCKS FOR REGIONAL RESILIENCE

## *Southern Minnesota*

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Community Revitalization is working with state and local partners in southern Minnesota to identify regional strategies to reduce flood risk, to address other chronic stressors that disproportionately affect rural, agricultural areas, and that result in broader community, environmental, and economic benefits.

### PROBLEM STATEMENT

Southern Minnesota has a history of flooding, which affects physical infrastructure such as roads and rural electric utilities and causes farms to lose crops and livestock. This flooding is expected to get worse as more frequent and intense rainfall is projected to impact this agricultural region. EPA and FEMA have partnered with the Minnesota Homeland Security & Emergency Management (HSEM), interagency Resilience & Adaptation Team (R&AT), and southern Minnesota communities to develop specific actions the region can take to reduce flood risks and increase the region's resilience to climate change.

### BENEFITS

Participants in this workshop will:

- create a shared understanding of the flood risks and a common definition of resilience, learn
- about success stories from other communities in the state,
- pick top five actions the region can take to become more resilient, and
- identify key funding sources and partners to implement priority actions.

HSEM and the interagency R&AT also hope to use this assistance to create a replicable model of resilience technical assistance that can be applied in other rural parts of the state.



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## PROJECT TIMELINE

The project team will host a series of three (3) virtual workshops for partners of the southern Minnesota region. Each virtual workshop will be 90 minutes long and take place once a week for three weeks in August and September. At the end of the workshop series, the project team will share a "Next Steps" memo that partners can use to take actions agreed upon during the workshop.



## CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information on the Building Blocks for Regional Resilience project, visit the project website at:

<https://brsinc.com/minnesota/>

Or contact:

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