



# Coastal Construction Manual

Principles and Practices of Planning, Siting, Designing,  
Constructing, and Maintaining Residential Buildings  
in Coastal Areas (Fourth Edition)

*FEMA P-55 / Volume I / August 2011*



**FEMA**

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# Preface

The 2011 *Coastal Construction Manual*, Fourth Edition (FEMA P-55), is a two-volume publication that provides a comprehensive approach to planning, siting, designing, constructing, and maintaining homes in the coastal environment. Volume I provides information about hazard identification, siting decisions, regulatory requirements, economic implications, and risk management. The primary audience for Volume I is design professionals, officials, and those involved in the decision-making process.

Volume II contains in-depth descriptions of design, construction, and maintenance practices that, when followed, will increase the durability of residential buildings in the harsh coastal environment and reduce economic losses associated with coastal natural disasters. The primary audience for Volume II is the design professional who is familiar with building codes and standards and has a basic understanding of engineering principles.

For additional information on residential coastal construction, see the FEMA Residential Coastal Construction Web site at <http://www.fema.gov/rebuild/mat/fema55.shtm>.



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