



[www.mdclimatechange.us](http://www.mdclimatechange.us)

**Catalog of State Actions**  
**Human Health and Public Safety Working Group**  
**Priority Recommendations for Policy Options**

**DRAFT**

A catalog of state-level, Adaptation and Response actions and policy options prepared by the Center for Climate Strategies (CCS), Maryland Department of Natural Resources, and others based on actions undertaken or considered by Maryland and other states, including regional, state, local and private actions.

***Important Note: The Adaptation Policy Options below are numbered solely for convenience in referencing them. Their numbers do NOT reflect a ranking or prioritization of the policy options.***

**Notation regarding options:**

**Flexibility (H,M,L):** The degree to which the option could be changed as climate change evolves.

**Capital Intensity (H,M,L):** The cost of implementing the options.

**Adaptive Capacity (H,M,L):** The degree to which implementing the option would build adaptive management capacity and reduce climate risks under highest (H) magnitude impacts, medium (M) magnitude impacts and lowest (L) magnitude impacts...within governmental institutions and private entities.

**Urgency (H,M,L):** The degree to which NOT taking action soon would result in a significant opportunity cost, ie. What is the cost of inaction?

**Options marked with an asterisk (\*) indicate options that are at least partially “base case” policies, i.e., that have been considered or undertaken at some level in Maryland.**

**Priority Levels:**

**H = High**  
**M = Medium**

**L = Low**  
**X = Consensus Reached**

Option No.	Adaptation Policy Option	Flexibility	Capital intensity	Adaptive capacity	Level of consensus	Notes
<b>OVERARCHING ISSUES</b>						
1	Health Impact Assessments	H	M	H	X	
2	Inter-governmental Coordination	H	L	H	X	
3	Surge Capacity Across All Sectors					
4	Uniform Data Standards	H	M	H	X	Focus on sea-level rise only?
<b>FLOODS, STORMS, AND STORM SURGES</b>						
5	Surge Capacity Support	H	L	H	X	
6	Disaster Response Plans	H	M	H	X	
7	Early Warning Systems	H	M	H	-----	Focus on extreme events related to sea level rise
8	Education and Training for Emergency Medical Services Personnel	H	M	H	X	
9	Protection of Service and Security Infrastructure	H	M	H	X	
<b>VECTOR- AND WATERBORNE DISEASES</b>						
10	Vector-borne Surveillance and Control Programs	H	H	H	X	Replace "climate change" with "sea level rise"?
11	Vector- and Waterborne Disease Awareness and Education	H	M	M	----	Change "in a warmer climate" to "in the case of sea level rise"?
<b>HEAT WAVES</b>						
12	Responding to Heat Wave Crises	H	M	H	-----	One TWG member suggests eliminating