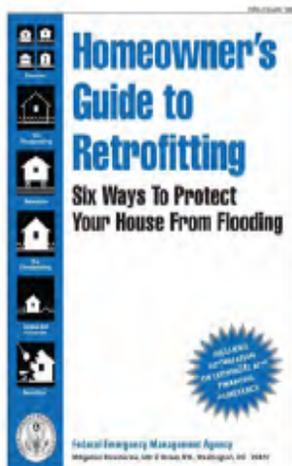


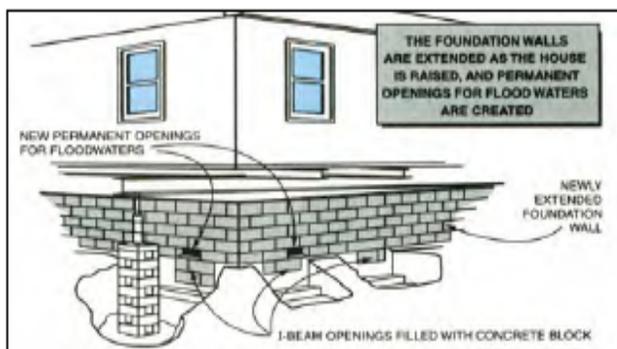
# Making your home safe from floods: Five ways to RETROFIT

## What is Retrofitting?

**RETROFITTING** means making changes to an existing building to protect it from flooding or other hazards such as high winds and earthquakes.



**FEMA PUBLICATION 312**  
*Home Owner's Guide to Retrofitting: Six Ways to Protect Your House From Flooding*, provides information that will help you decide whether your house is a candidate for retrofitting.



### Basic Steps in Elevating a Building:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | Have appropriate professionals disconnect all utilities.  |
| 2 | Hire a professional house mover to disconnect your house from the existing foundation, jack it up to the new height and provide a temporary foundation. |
| 3 | Build a temporary access stair to meet the new height.  |
| 4 | Build a new, permanent foundation.  |
| 5 | Have the house mover lower the house onto the new foundation and connect the anchor bolts.  |
| 6 | Have the utilities permanently reconnected.   |



**Elevation:** Raising your house so that the floor of the lowest living space is above the Base Flood Elevation, which is determined in studies conducted by FEMA.



**Relocation:** Moving your house to a new, safer location.



**Dry Floodproofing:** Sealing your house to prevent floodwaters from entering.



**Demolition:** Razing your house and re-building on the same property or buying a house elsewhere.



**Wet Floodproofing:** Using vents or breakaway walls to reduce structural damage by allowing floodwaters to flow through uninhabited parts of a building.

The ultimate retrofit? Move your home away from a flood-prone area.

