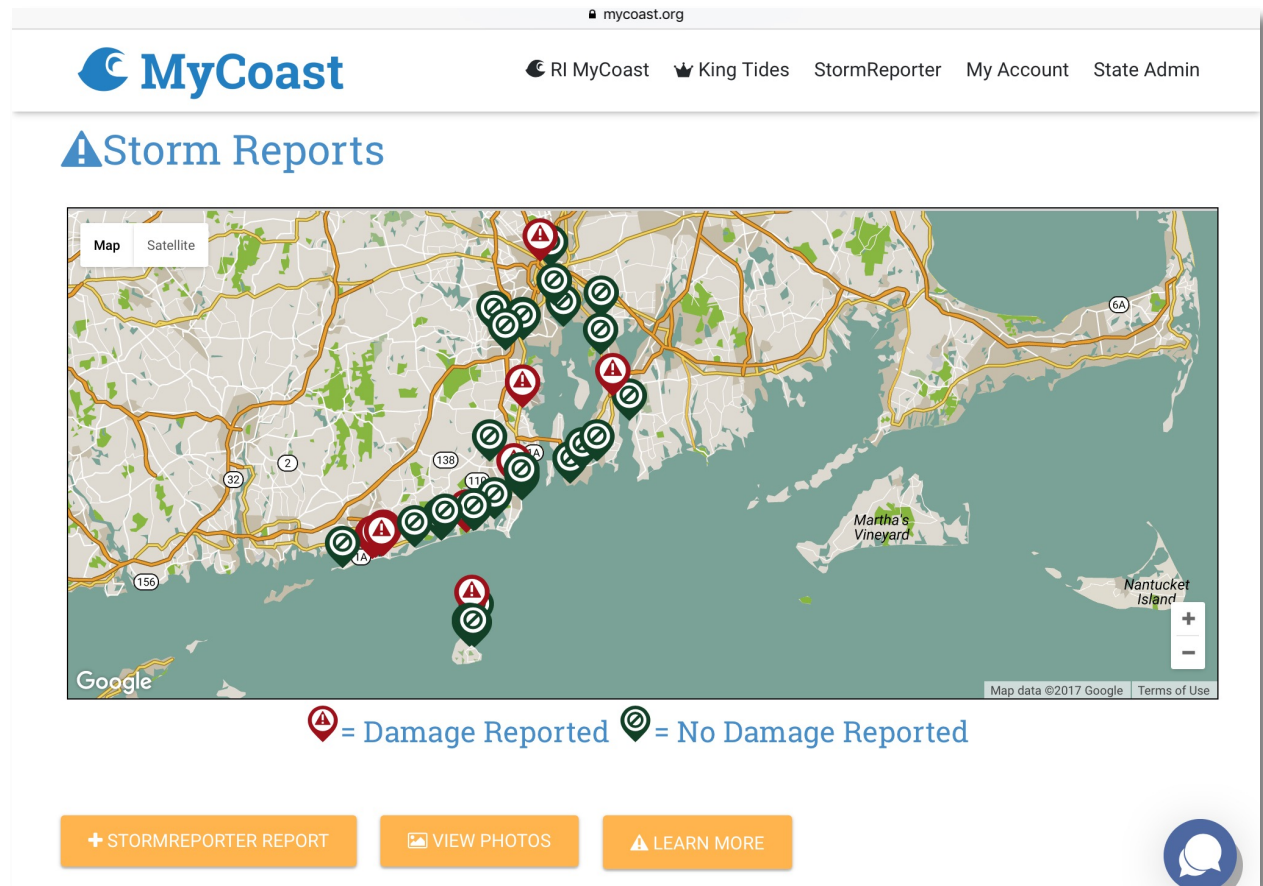


New England MyCoast



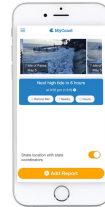
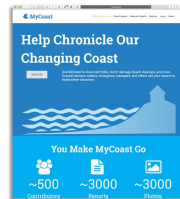
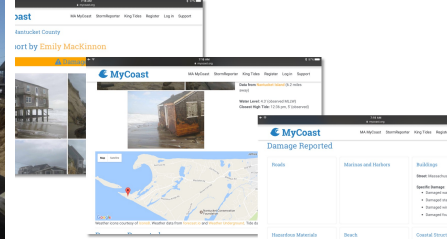
MyCoast is a suite of tools to collect and analyze pictures and data relating to coastal events. Information gathered through these tools is used to visualize the impact of coastal hazards and to enhance awareness among decision-makers and stakeholders. MyCoast includes both a website and dedicated mobile applications. It is currently being used in New England, South Carolina, the Gulf of Mexico, and Washington State.

MyCoast is built on a flexible framework to allow it to be used to report many types of things. Report types in New England include:

- **Storm Damage** | MyCoast houses thousands of storm damage reports collected over the past 8 years. Most of these reports include photos and specific details on the damage assessed at a certain location after a storm event. While reporting began with trained personnel, improved technology allows nearly anybody with a cell phone to submit information useful for coastal decision makers, especially emergency management officials.

"Those who participate can send their photos by e-mail to Boston Harbor Now, or upload them to MyCoast.org"

- "Share your 'King tide' photos with researchers" (*The Boston Globe*. 10/18/16)



- **King Tides** | MyCoast has a growing library of photographs taken of extreme high water events -- many of these are so-called "King Tides," but others are photographs taken when there wasn't expected nuisance flooding, but a combination factors caused one. This is the simplest report type on MyCoast. All that is required of the user is to launch the app, take a picture, and hit submit.
- **New: Living Shorelines** | This tool was just released but allows for the monitoring of changing habitat and geological features along the coast.

With all of these report types, the initial data provided is augmented by MyCoast servers with local weather and tidal conditions. For example, when somebody submits a King Tide photo, MyCoast serves query NOAA and private servers to get the exact water levels for the closest three tide stations and records those data. Similarly, it gathers weather information for that time and place and stores those data, too. This allows the viewer of the report to benefit from a fleshed-out view of the conditions on the ground at the time of the report.

The list of partner organizations in New England is long, but includes the Northeast Regional Ocean Council, the Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems, NOAA, US Fish and Wildlife, the National Weather Service, The Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management, the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council, University of Rhode Island Coastal Resources Center, Rhode Island Sea Grant, and Save The Bay.