

## Announcing Version 2.0 of the Substantial Damage Estimator Tool

### What is the Substantial Damage Estimator (SDE) Tool?

- Developed to assist State and local officials in determining substantial damage in accordance with a local floodplain management ordinance meeting the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)
- Can be used to assess flood, wind, wildfire, seismic, and other forms of damage
- Helps communities to provide timely substantial damage determinations so that reconstruction can begin following a disaster

### How is the SDE Tool used?

- Based on the concept of using damage estimates for individual building elements to determine whether the building as a whole is substantially damaged
- Depending on the type of structure and specific attributes, the tool calculates the value of each building element as a percentage of the total building
- Using the SDE-calculated element percentages, the user can apply a “Percent Damaged” or “Percent Improved” value to each element to establish a substantial damage/improvement determination for each building

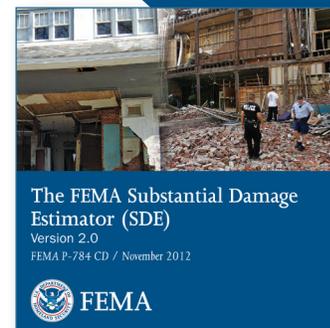
### Updates between SDE Version 1.0 and 2.0 include:

- Added a Bulk Editor function to facilitate revisions within the SDE database
- Added a Default Data function to pre-load up to 22 data fields that are common to all assessments
- Revised the depreciation methodology to be more reasonable based on pre-damage condition (and not just age) of the structure
- Added data field for manual entry of total square footage
- Added structure counts to all Search, Filter, and Bulk Editor screens
- Added the current database name to the top toolbar on the Main Menu
- Revised the tool so that Search, Filter, Bulk Editor, and Report loading functions are faster and more stable

Note that *The SDE User Manual* (FEMA P-784) is being updated to reflect the new functions in SDE v. 2.0 and will also be revised to be shorter and more concise, focusing on the use of the SDE Tool and referring users to the *Substantial Improvement/Substantial Damage Desk Reference* (FEMA P-758) for policy and other non-tool issues.

### Questions?

- Visit FEMA’s Building Science Web site at <http://www.fema.gov/building-science>
- Download FEMA Building Science publications at <http://www.fema.gov/building-science-publications>
- View FEMA’s Building Science and SDE FAQs at <http://www.fema.gov/frequently-asked-questions>
- Contact FEMA’s Building Science Helpline by email at [FEMA-BuildingScienceHelp@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-BuildingScienceHelp@fema.dhs.gov) or by calling 866-927-2104



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