

Did you know?

- Coastal defenses are only required on Kosrae because people have built homes and roads too close to the coastline.
- Coastal defenses will not protect property or infrastructure from the effects of a severe storm or typhoon.
- Building seawalls or tipping rock on the beach often cause an increase in coastal erosion and loss of beach.
- The best coastal defense on Kosrae is a healthy coral reef, reef flat, beach and, where found, mangroves.



How does it affect you?

Building seawalls:

- Costs money - a typical cost for an effective coastal defense is between \$750 – \$1,500 per foot of coastline. This cost can be avoided.
- Will not protect property close to the coastline from the effects of a severe storm or typhoon.
- Can cause increased loss of land along neighboring sections of the coastline and loss of beach in front of the defenses.



Coastal defenses cost a lot of money to build. Coastal defenses also cost a lot of money to maintain and repair. Avoiding the need for coastal defenses will save people a lot of money.



What can you do?

You can help reduce the need (and cost) of coastal defences on Kosrae:

- HELP – by building new development as far from the coastline as possible – at least 100 feet from the vegetation line.
- HELP – by protecting the natural coastal defenses by not sand mining, cutting excessive amounts of mangroves, polluting or letting sediment wash off land on to the reef.
- HELP – by being aware that coastal defenses will not protect your property from the effects of a severe storm or typhoon.
- HELP – by sharing this information and factsheet with friends and neighbors who may be planning to develop land close to the coastline.



Where to get more information

To get more information on seawalls, contact the Development Review Commission on 370 2076 or come into the office in Tofol.

There are also a number of other factsheets on coastal issues. Contact the DRC for more information.