



The Elkview Flood of 2016

Event Details

- Date: June 2016
- Flood Type: Summer Thunderstorm
- FEMA Disaster ID: FEMA-4273-DR
- Fatalities: 23
- Streams Where Fatalities Occurred: Howard Creek, Big Clear Creek, and several other small streams where lives were lost
- Counties with Fatalities: Greenbrier, Kanawha, and Ohio

Mitigation Efforts

- 60.9% of fatalities occurred on streams with a stream gauge
- 9% occurred on streams with a structure
- Remaining locations had no mitigation

Risk and Impact Analysis

- Flood Zone Classification:
 - 26.1% in Zone AE (Floodway)
 - 39.1% in Zone A
 - 8.7% in Shaded X
- Cause of Death:
 - 20 by drowning
 - 2 by utilities
- Fatality Locations:
 - 11 in water
 - 10 in structure
 - 1 in vehicle
- 6 fatalities (26.1%) occurred in mass casualty events (3+ deaths in one location)

Demographics of Victims

- Age Groups:
 - 2 children (0–12)



- 2 teenagers (13–19)
- 1 young adult (20–39)
- 12 middle-aged adults (40–69)
- 6 elderly (70+)
- Gender Distribution:
 - 11 female
 - 12 male

Sources

- <https://newspaperarchive.com/bluefield-daily-telegraph-jul-04-2016-p-1/>
- <https://newspaperarchive.com/beckley-register-herald-jul-21-2016-p-3/>

Picture Credits

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- *Richwood*: Rick Adams (Pinterest), Jeromy Rose, abcNEWS
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<https://abcnews.go.com/US/inside-flooded-richwood-west-virginia-devastated-small-town/story?id=40186248>
- *Clendenin*: WOWK-TV via NOAA
<https://www.weather.gov/rx/2016-historic-june-flooding>
- *Clay County*: West Virginia Public Broadcasting
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- *White Sulphur Springs*: CNN (Pics 1–3), The Register Herald (Pics 4–9)
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