

Welcome to the Building Flood Resiliency in West Virginia Communities Symposium

March 12 & 13, 2024



Plan for this morning

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Introductions & Remarks

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Research Project

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Symposium Overview

Visions & Goals

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State Resiliency Office (SRO)

Remarks from SRO

The research team

- **Dr. Jamie Shinn**, Project Leader, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF)
- **Dr. Aaron Maxwell**, Project Cdeader, Assistant Professor of Geography at WVU
- **Julian Levine**, Project Cdeader, Director of Population Health & Community Engagement at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine Center for Rural and Community Health
- **Kurt Donaldson**, Director, West Virginia GIS Technical Center
- **Eric Hopkins, Behrang Bidadian, & Annie Mahmoudi**, West Virginia GIS Technical Center
- **Katherine Garvey & Jared Anderson**WVU Land Use and Sustainable Development Law Clinic
- **Robert Martin & Edwin Martin**, West Virginia State Resiliency Office (SRO)
- **David Lumsden**, Episcopal Diocese of WV
- **Paula Brown**, Greenbrier County Homeland Security & Emergency Management
- **Jenny Gannaway**West Virginia Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (WV VOAD)
- **Debbie Sizemore** Williamsburg Area Response Team (WART)
- **Cathy Rennard** Former Disaster Case Manager Supervisor for WV VOAD
- **Andrea Cass** PhD student, SUNY ESF
- **Dara Vance** West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine

Special Guests

- **Brian Aluise** , Senator Joe Manchin's office
- **Thomas Smith** Senator Shelley Moore Capito's office
- **Darian David**, Congresswoman Carol Miller's office
- **State Senator Mike Caputo** member of joint legislative committee on flooding
- **Dr. Jacob Kravetz**, National Science Foundation
- **Aaron Titus**, Executive Director of Crisis Cleanup
- **Governor Jim Justice**(not present)

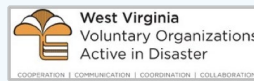
Research Project Formalities

- **Participation:** Your participation is completely voluntary and you may take a break or leave at any time
- **Risks:** Potential for psychological or emotional discomfort as a result of discussing flood events
- **Benefits:** No compensation for your participation, but we hope for beneficial outcomes
- **Confidentiality:** No identifiable written data will ever be made public and any direct quotes used will be anonymous; our team will be taking photographs and videos. If you would not like your photo used, please inform any member of our team
- **Questions:** Jamie at jeshinn@esf.edu or (315) 562-5622; Institutional Review Board at (315) 403-4033
- We assume everyone present:
 - Agrees to participate in the research project
 - Is 18 years of age or older
 - Understands that part of the symposium will be video recorded and photographed
 - You have been given a copy of this information in your welcome packets

The West Virginia Flood Resiliency Framework (WVFRF)



Project Website: <https://mapwv.gov/civic/>



A National Research and Action Competition Driven By Community Priorities

The Civic Innovation Challenge is a multi-agency, federal government research and action competition that aims to fund ready-to-implement, research-based pilot projects that have the potential for scalable, sustainable, and transferable impact on community-identified priorities. It aims to flip the community-university dynamic, inviting communities to identify civic priorities ripe for innovation and to then partner with researchers to address those priorities.



**U.S. Department of
Homeland Security**

Co-Lead and Co-
Funder



**U.S. National Science
Foundation**

Challenge Lead and
Funder



**U.S. Department of
Energy**

Co-Lead and Co-
Funder



**U.S. Department of
Agriculture**

Co-Lead and Co-
Funder

More information available at:

<https://civicinnovation.gov/>

Stage 1 Award: Lessons Learned from 2016 Flood in Greenbrier County (2022-2023)

- Survey of residents on flooding (2,215 responses)
- Community and virtual focus groups to identify lessons learned
- Creation of flood risk vulnerability maps and visualizations
- Confirmed hypotheses:
 - Organizations in the response and recovery network require increased capacity
 - There is a need for improved cross network coordination
 - Additional flood risk knowledge is essential to better prepare communities for future floods

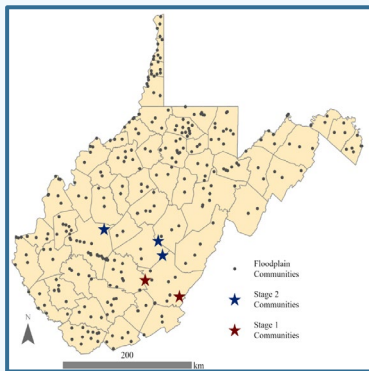


Presenting flood maps at community
focus group in Rainelle, WV

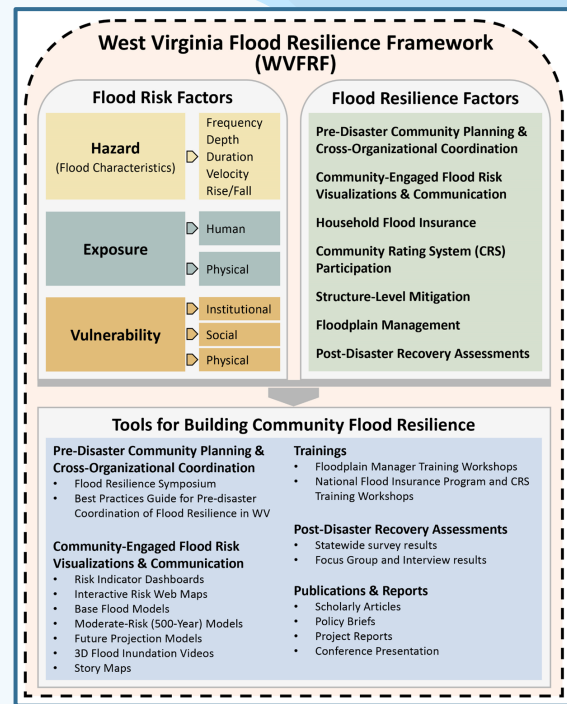
Read report at:
<https://www.greenbriercountyhealthalliance.org/civic-report>

Stage 2 Award: Creating the WVFRF

- \$800,000, 12-month award, began Oct 1, 2023
- **Statewide survey** on flood recovery and preparation - just launched!
- **Flood risk indicator reports** for all 286 floodplain communities
- Flood risk **visualization tools** for high-risk communities
- Floodplain management **trainings**
- **Symposium** on Building Flood Resiliency in WV Communities
- **Creation of WVFRF** A freely available online resource for residents, local leaders, non-profit organizations, state and regional officials, and others to catalyze flood resilience for WV communities through improved flood risk knowledge, floodplain management, comprehensive disaster preparation, and long-term resilience planning



WV floodplain communities



WVFRF conceptualization

Symposium Goals



Create common understanding of who the main players are their capabilities before, during, and after a flood



Increase understanding of how each organizations can better coordinate efforts in each phase of a disaster



Deepen understanding of barriers to coordination between organizations



Identify considerations that contribute to or detract from community resiliency



Thank you!



Tuesday, March 12, 2024

Day	Time	Session	Location	Presenter(s)
Tuesday	8:00 – 9:00	Registration Opens		
Tuesday	9:00 – 9:15	Welcome and Introductions	Centennial	Jamie Shinn
Tuesday	9:15 – 9:30	Overview of NSF Study & Symposium Goals	Centennial	Jamie Shinn & Research Team
Tuesday	9:30 – 10:00	State Flood Resiliency Plan	Centennial	Robert Martin & Edwin Martin
Tuesday	10:00 – 10:15	Coffee & Tea Break		
Tuesday	10:15 – 12:00	How to Plan for Everything Activity	Centennial	Aaron Titus
Tuesday	12:00 – 1:00	Lunch (provided)	Reception Hall	



Please be sure to take our end-of-symposium survey before you leave on
Wednesday!



Please participate in our surveys!



End-of-Symposium survey



Please be sure to take our end-of-symposium survey before you leave the event (5-10 min).

West Virginia Flood Resiliency Framework (WVFRF) Survey



Please take and share with your networks! By completing this survey, you can enter our raffle to possibly win a \$250 gift card!

Breakout 1 Questions

- Who are the main players and what are their capabilities before, during, and after a flood?
- What are the barriers to coordination between agencies and organizations in each phase of a disaster ?
- How can we overcome these barriers?

Breakout 2 Questions

- What are key attributes of individual and/or community flood resiliency?
- How can we build these attributes?
- What do you want to see included in the West Virginia Flood Resiliency Framework?