

# 2016 FLOOD SUMMERS COUNTY, WV

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# Synopsis of the Flood

In June, 2012, a derecho storm line coming from Indiana entered WV. It was widespread, from NC to PA. Result: It had powerful winds, but no rain. The damage was tremendous. The warning was inadequate.

2016: The National Weather Service, once again, issued derecho "warnings" for WV. What happened in 2012 was an anomaly, most derechos carry heavy rain. In their lifetime, they had only experienced a "dry" derecho, the severity of flash flooding wasn't on most people's radar.

The first touch of severe thunder storms hit Summers County at Barksdale. Next day, scattered showers. Then, the real derecho showed up. It dumped 7-8 inches of rain on the tops of mountains, in a couple of hours. In Southern WV, all of the creeks rapidly swelled, and most flowed into the Greenbrier and Meadow Rivers. In 1996, the flood was about 1 foot higher. Difference: it rose over a few days, with warning. 2016, rose in about two hours, and the creeks dumped in 30=40 minutes. People simply didn't have time to get out of the way. Rupert: practically wiped out. Rainelle: over 100 homes and businesses completely destroyed. Clendenin, nearly wiped off the map. Richwood: entire business section destroyed.

June 21, 2016



**HINTON, W.Va. — As much as four inches of rain fell in one hour Tuesday afternoon causing flash flooding in parts of Summers County. The storm was part of a number of pop-up storms that rocked sections of the Mountain State during the mid to late afternoon hours. There were a number of severe storm watches and warnings, flash flood warnings and a few tornado warnings. The flooding in Summers County caused water to rise quickly around Summers County High in Hinton. WVVA-TV reported some water got into the building. There were a number of students at the school at the time participating in the summer practice period. There were no injuries reported..**





**Summers County High School**



**Route 20 - Barksdale**



**New River Road near Brooks Falls**

June 22, 2016



**Issuing Office: Roanoke/Blacksburg**  
**Source: The National Weather Service**

1:45pm EDT, Wed Jun 22

FLOOD ADVISORY FROM 1:45PM EDT WED UNTIL 5:15PM EDT WED

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN BLACKSBURG HAS ISSUED A

\* URBAN AND SMALL STREAM FLOOD ADVISORY FOR... SUMMERS COUNTY IN WEST VIRGINIA...

\* UNTIL 515 PM EDT

\* AT 139 PM EDT... DOPPLER RADAR INDICATED A STRONG THUNDERSTORM WAS APPROACHING SUMMERS COUNTY FROM RALEIGH COUNTY. THIS STORM WILL ENTER THE WESTERN PORTION OF SUMMERS COUNTY AROUND 200 PM EDT... AND REACH THE EASTERN PORTIONS AROUND 215 PM EDT. VERY HEAVY RAIN IS EXPECTED WITH THIS STORM... ON THE ORDER OF ONE-HALF TO THREE-QUARTERS OF AN INCH IN AN HOUR. THE BULK OF THIS AMOUNT WILL FALL IN THE FIRST 15 MINUTES. PORTIONS OF THE COUNTY ARE SUSCEPTIBLE TO FLOODING AFTER THE EXTREMELY HEAVY RAIN EVENT OF YESTERDAY.

\* SOME LOCATIONS THAT WILL EXPERIENCE FLOODING INCLUDE... HINTON... SANDSTONE... PIPESTEM... ELLISON... AND INDIAN MILLS.

THE AREA BETWEEN JUMPING BRANCH TO HINTON TO HIX IS THE MOST LIKELY PLACE TO EXPERIENCE MINOR FLOODING. THIS WOULD INCLUDE MADAM CREEK... BEECH RUN... AND TUG CREEK.

PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...

EXCESSIVE RUNOFF FROM HEAVY RAINFALL WILL CAUSE PONDING OF WATER IN URBAN AREAS... HIGHWAYS... STREETS AND UNDERPASSES AS WELL AS OTHER POOR DRAINAGE AREAS AND LOW LYING SPOTS. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO TRAVEL ACROSS FLOODED ROADS. FIND ALTERNATE ROUTES.

EXCESSIVE RUNOFF FROM HEAVY RAINFALL WILL CAUSE FLOODING OF SMALL CREEKS AND STREAMS... AS WELL AS FARM AND COUNTRY ROADS. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO TRAVEL ACROSS FLOODED ROADS. FIND ALTERNATE ROUTES.



**Power Pole across from Magic Mart - Avis**

June 24, 2016





**Reference Photo**  
**Camp Summers – circa 2015**



**Overlooking Camp Summers**



Camp Summers





**4H Camp Road**



**Route 12 near Forest Hill**





**Near River Valley Baptist Church**





**Barger Springs**

















**The Greenbrier is Swelling**





**Groundworks Nursery - Route 12**







**Greenbrier Drive**







**Greenbrier Drive**











**The Convergence of the Greenbrier and New Rivers  
Near Pizza Hut**





**Brooks**







# Emergency Shelter & Relief Supplies Established







### God's Pit Crew

- We are delivering two tractor trailer loads of relief supplies, including water, Gatorade and Blessing Buckets to Hinton, West Virginia and Ansted, West Virginia. Tomorrow, a third load of supplies will be delivered to White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia.
- Our ministry partner, Mercy Chefs will also be heading to White Sulfur Springs tomorrow to begin preparing hot meals for disaster victims.
- We have been talking to people all over the affected areas in West Virginia today. The stories of loss and devastation we are hearing are heart breaking.



June 25, 2016



**Camp Summers High Water - 2 ft Below 1996 mark**





Camper two-thirds submerged



Near Country Roads Store – Pence Springs





Country Roads Store – Pence Springs







John Henry Camp Ground - Pence Springs





Camper left at John Henry Camp Ground – Pence Springs





Greenbrier River



Hungers Creek - Talcott





Greenbrier at Willow Wood Road















Route 3 and Greenbrier River





Greenbrier at Wiggins Bridge









Greenbrier Drive







View of Greenbrier Drive from Nelson Street















Bridge to Bass Lake Campgrounds destroyed





Runoff at Brooks





Route 20 Sandstone Mountain









Torrential Rains Caused Creeks to Quickly Grow and Wreak Havoc Downstream



# More Supplies



The Market and Mountain Plex Media delivering more food and supplies to those affected by the flooding. We appreciate everyone's support and prayers.

# Hilldale Flood Relief Depot

- June 30 at 5:34am Bill Costomiris Facebook post

Good Morning Summers County!

And now the latest from Hilldale Flood Relief Depot. We will remain open at the Hilldale location as long as we are needed. I want to assure everyone that whatever may be left over when we have met the needs of those affected will not just be discarded. We will get it to people in need.

Next, if you have or know someone who has donations that you want to drop off somewhere, please call me before you come out to Hilldale. 304-712-0939. It helps me try to stay somewhat organized.

Next, I need volunteers to help with loading and unloading. We have been blessed with great people so far. Some of them need to get back to their families and take care of business, or they just need a break. If you can spare a few hours or a few days call me or text me.

I do NOT stay on Facebook all day. If you need to get in touch with me. Please call or text. 304-712-0939. As the need arises I will let you all know what we need.

THANK YOU all for the great job you're doing in getting help for our friends and families.























# Talcott Elementary School

Talcott Elementary was basically the main support center for the County, as far as shelter, daily meals, and flood relief supplies.

They brought in their school cooks to prepare the meals and The Market coordinated and sent food vans out each day to various places of need within the county. Example: Camp Summers was fed every day by one of those two groups. (Really good food, too!)

At Talcott Elementary, most of the Summers County Board members, as well as new Superintendent, Kim Rodes, volunteered each day to help distribute and care for the flood victims.

Hilldale also had a relief center, There were other relief centers scattered around, but not on that scope.







# WV Natural Resources Police Officers



Additional Natural Resources Police Officers have arrived in Summers and Greenbrier Counties. The officers have brought additional equipment and supplies to aid in rescue.





# FEMA

**For Help Call:**

**1-800-621-FEMA (3362)**

TTY 1-800-462-7585

711 or Video Relay Service 1-800-621-3362



# FEMA

Apply Online at [DisasterAssistance.gov](http://DisasterAssistance.gov)

Apply via a smartphone at [m.fema.gov](http://m.fema.gov)

<http://www.twitter.com/fema>

<http://www.facebook.com/fema>

<http://www.fema.gov/blog>

<http://www.youtube.com/fema>





June 27, 2016

WARNING \*\*\* WARNING \*\*\* FLASH FLOOD WARNING

Be out of the Greenbrier River by 1 pm today Monday,  
June 27 in Summers County

\*

Event: Flash Flood Warning

Alert:

...THE FLASH FLOOD WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 600 PM EDT  
THIS EVENING FOR SUMMERS AND GREENBRIER COUNTIES...

\*

AT 1049 AM EDT...DOPPLER RADAR INDICATED AN EXPANDING AREA OF  
THUNDERSTORMS PRODUCING HEAVY RAIN ACROSS PORTIONS OF THE WARNED  
AREA. THIS AREA IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE TO EXPAND AND ENCOMPASS ALL  
OF SUMMERS AND GREENBRIER COUNTY BY EARLY AFTERNOON. FLASH FLOODING  
IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN SHORTLY.

EXCESSIVE RAINFALL AND RUNOFF OVER THE WARNED AREA WILL CAUSE MUD  
SLIDES NEAR STEEP TERRAIN. THE MUD SLIDE CAN CONSIST OF  
ROCK...MUD...VEGETATION AND OTHER LOOSE MATERIALS.  
SOME LOCATIONS THAT WILL EXPERIENCE FLOODING INCLUDE...

\*

ALLEGHANY...

LEWISBURG...

HINTON...

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS...

AND RONCEVERTE.

THIS INCLUDES THE WEST VIRGINIA STATE FAIRGROUNDS.

\*

Instructions: MOVE TO HIGHER GROUND NOW. ACT QUICKLY TO PROTECT YOUR LIFE. DO  
NOT WAIT FOR WATER LEVELS TO BEGIN TO RISE...THEY WILL RISE VERY QUICKLY! DO  
NOT ENTER OR CROSS FLOWING WATER OR WATER OF UNKNOWN DEPTH. STAY AWAY  
FROM STREAMS AND CREEKS. TURN AROUND...DONT DROWN WHEN ENCOUNTERING  
FLOODED ROADS. MOST FLOOD DEATHS OCCUR IN VEHICLES. WHEN IT IS SAFE TO DO  
SO...PLEASE SEND YOUR REPORTS OF FLOODING... INCLUDING MUDSLIDES OR ROAD  
CLOSURES...TO THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE BY CALLING TOLL FREE AT 1...8 6 6...2  
1 5...4 3 2 4. REPORTS AND PICTURES CAN ALSO BE SHARED ON THE NATIONAL WEATHER  
SERVICE BLACKSBURG FACEBOOK PAGE AND ON TWITTER.

Target Area:

Greenbrier

Summers





Camp Summers Before Cleanup













Foot Bridge at Camp Summers Destroyed



Willow Wood Road















Greenbrier Drive





Brooks Mountain Road

June 28, 2016





Willow Wood Road









Bass Lake Bridge











# Supplies and Aid Continue

## Burrito Depot





## Burrito Depot

Supplies just arrived. Anyone who needs them please come by and pick up!  
Please Share ! If you know anyone that needs cleaning supplies or water we  
have them! Share - Share - Share! Located just down from DQ in Hinton!



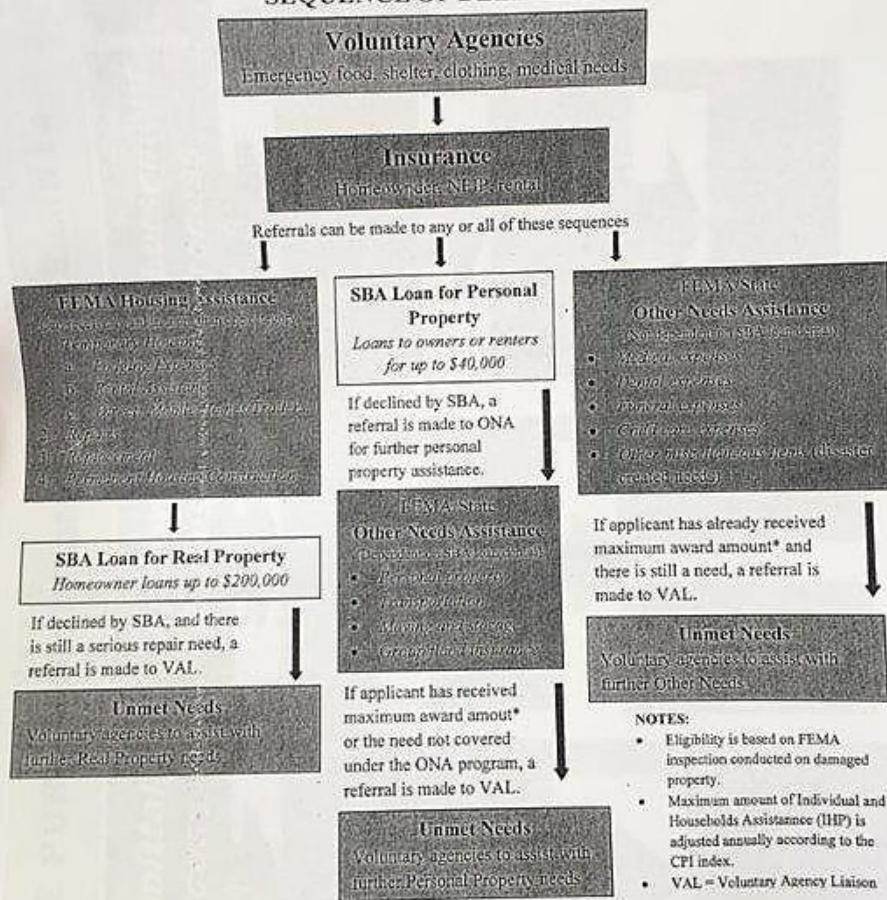


# FEMA

## Fact Sheet

### INDIVIDUALS AND HOUSEHOLDS PROGRAM (IHP)

#### SEQUENCE OF DELIVERY



April 2016

"FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards."

UNITED STATES SENATOR  
**JOE MANCHIN**

**My offices stand ready to assist you.**

Toll Free: (855) 275-5737

**If you are in need of assistance, the following agencies are  
available to help:**

1. FEMA — 1-800-621-FEMA (1-800-621-3362) or [disasterassistance.gov](https://disasterassistance.gov).
2. Emergency Services Info by county — Main Number: 304-558-5380 (County numbers on back) Link [here](#).
3. WV Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster — <https://wvvoad.comunitivos.org/cms/home> 1-800.451.1954  
this is to allow for signing up to request help with cleanup.

**How to help:**

1. VolunteerWV.org sign up to volunteer yourself, groups, etc. Donations may be mailed to The United Methodist Foundation PO Box 3811 Charleston WV 25338 ; WV VOAD in the memo line.
2. Redcross Disaster Assistance — 855-224-2490 ; Safe and Well link: <https://safeandwell.comunitivos.org/cms/index.php>.
3. Salvation Army — 304.343.4548 [www.salvationarmymwv.org](http://www.salvationarmymwv.org).
4. United Way — [www.unitedwaygreenbrier.org](http://www.unitedwaygreenbrier.org) 304.647.3783 304.340.3500 <http://www.unitedwaycwv.org>.
5. Local churches — WV Council of Churches 304.344.3141.
6. Veterans organizations — <http://www.veterans.wv.gov/offices-facilities/Pages/Outreach-Services.aspx> 304.558.3661.

**Contact information for the state offices of Senator Joe Manchin:**

Toll Free: (855) 275-5737

**Charleston**

900 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Suite 629  
Charleston, WV 25302  
Tel: (304) 342-5855  
Fax: (304) 262-7144

**Martinsburg**

261 Aikens Center  
Suite 305  
Martinsburg, WV 25404  
Tel: (304) 264-4626  
Fax: (304) 262-3039

**Fairmont**

Citizens Building  
230 Adams Street  
Fairmont, WV 26554  
Tel: (304) 368-0567  
Fax: (304) 368-0198

**Snapchat:** senjoemanchin

**Facebook:** Senator Joe Manchin III

**Twitter:** @Sen\_JoeManchin

**Web:** [www.manchin.senate.gov](http://www.manchin.senate.gov)





Dollar General Hinton Donation



Due to the decrease in flood victims who need overnight accommodations, showers, and hot meals, the Talcott Elementary School Emergency Shelter will be closing tomorrow - Wednesday, June 29, 2016 at 7:00 PM.

- All supplies for flood victims will be available after 7 PM Wednesday at the old Twin State Building next to Gotta Stop in Hilldale.
- The Talcott School community wants to extend their thanks to those who have volunteered tirelessly to serve the needs of our community at this difficult time.
- Please continue to pray for all those affected by this disaster.



June 29, 2016

# Summers County Added to Disaster Declaration

Jun 29 - 5:40 p.m.

Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin says a federal disaster declaration has been approved for five more flood-ravaged counties in West Virginia.

Tomblin announced on his Twitter feed that the Federal Emergency Management Agency granted the state's request for Clay, Fayette, Monroe, Roane and Summers counties. It allows residents to apply for individual assistance from FEMA.

Previously, federal disaster declarations were approved for the three hardest-hit counties — Greenbrier, Kanawha and Nicholas.





FEMA has opened an office in the Summers County Memorial Building auditorium in Hinton. They will be open as of Friday July 1, 2016. The office will be operating from 7 am to 7 pm until otherwise posted.



# Cleanup Continues



Local Volunteers Haul Debris to Designated Dump Sites

















Summers County High School Volunteers – donated their time and energy both locally and in Nicholas County



July 1, 2016

# Camp Summers Much Improved









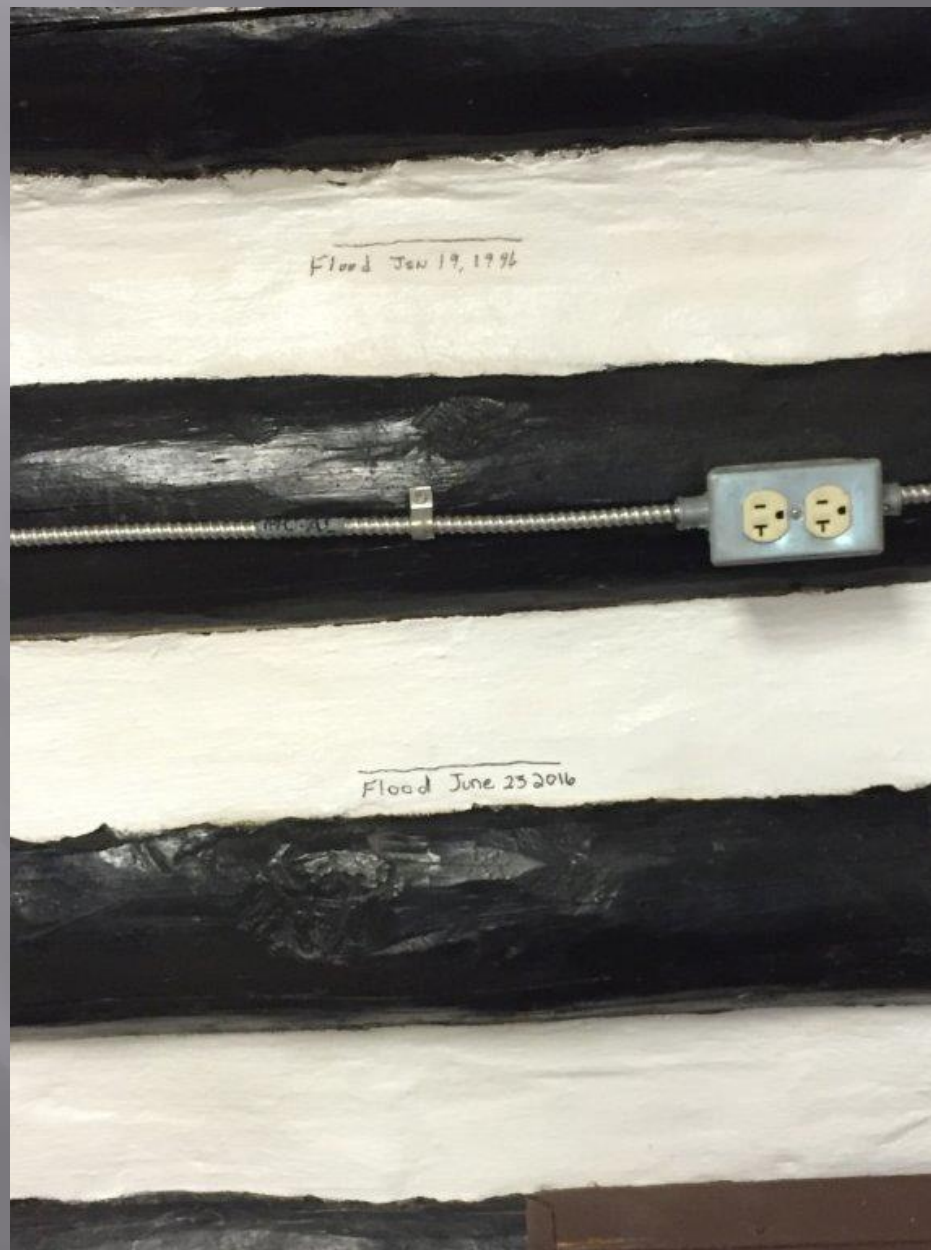






Footbridge Under Construction

June 19, 1996



June 23, 2016

Waterlines Recorded





All Will Be Ready for the First 4H Campers Since the Flood







Enjoying a Well Deserved Lunch















The “Mattress Crew” Unloaded and Installed  
240 New Mattresses in the Cabins



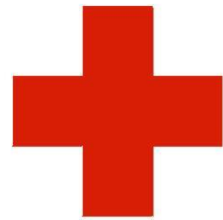
# Local and National Service Continue Online Physician Bank - Hinton











**American  
Red Cross**

## Disaster Services

The Red Cross Mobile feeding Truck will be arriving in Summers County today (Friday) around 4:30 to 5:00 pm. It will meet up with a local volunteer at the Hilldale Flood Relief Distribution point. It will drive a route to serve the most affected individuals and volunteers cleaning up along the flooded areas. They will specifically hit the Doc Fox Trot road area, the 4-H road area, and the Camp Lightfoot area. It will also go wherever else they are needed.

The plan is to expand and also serve lunch and dinner starting tomorrow if there is a need.

Please spread the word, so that people here in Summers county know the Red Cross is coming with meals.



# Summers County Flood Recovery and Relief



One way you can help is by donating supplies for cleaning kits!  
Have friends who live far away, but want to help? They can make a donation through Hinton Area Foundation <http://hintonareafoundation.org/> - memo 2016 Flood Victims.

2016 WV FLOOD 

# VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION

**For your safety:** Please do not self deploy.

## VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION

Please use **this form** to register your interest in helping West Virginia flood response and recovery efforts.

At this time, volunteers are asked to stay at home for your own safety. As soon as road hazards are clear and needs are identified, a volunteer coordinator will contact you to schedule a volunteer shift or overnight deployment.

- **To receive regular e-mail updates on storm volunteer response contact [Gina](#).**
- **If you'd like to make a financial donation, visit <https://wvvoad.communityos.org>**

Donations can be mailed to:  
WV Disaster Relief Fund  
PO Box 3811  
Charleston, WV 25338







The Talcott School community wants to extend their thanks to those who have volunteered tirelessly to serve the needs of our community at this difficult time. Thank you to everyone who has donated and volunteered. The list is endless so we want to thank everyone. Our community is truly incredible! Please continue to pray for all those affected by this disaster.

# Commentary

"I would like to add a personal note about the tragic events that took place in Summers County, WV (as well as many other WV communities). I grew up in Summers County in the '50s and '60s. It was a great place to live. The community watched over it's children, and the adults were always looking out for each other with a helping hand, when it was needed. They instilled in us, a sense of pride, and responsibility to look after ourselves and our neighbors. I live out of State now, but travel back to Summers County often. We started our "Making A Difference" organization in 2012 to give back to the community which nurtured us into productive adulthood. During all of the chaos of the flood, I stayed glued to the media to find out what was happening to my beloved roots. Once the waters had receded, the cleanup operations began. The transformation was and is amazing. I trekked over to help out, and spent a couple days pitching in at Camp Summers.

(Side note: Sandy Turner really has a handle on that facility. She is organized, and really knows how to handle people. She must be exhausted at this point, averaging 17 hours a day at the Camp.) Sandy Turner, the Camp Coordinator, simply says, "It's for the children. I don't want to see another child cry."



Here's what I saw over the last few days. Everybody (30-40 volunteers daily) showed up to work. NOBODY complained. Job assignments were handed out, and all were eagerly accomplished. When a job was completed, the smiles were contagious. This is the same pride of Summers County that I observed growing up. The community may have shrunk in population, because of the lack of job opportunities, but the pride and caring never left.

Join us, as we continue to give back to our beloved Summers County. Together, we CAN Make A Difference.

To help us continue to make a difference, please email us at [jholt1949@mac.com](mailto:jholt1949@mac.com) or call Jack Holt at 412-996-0066. Share your ideas, and offer your help. Let's do great things for our County. We can't continue to do this without your help.

MAD Editor