

*"The only place where success comes before work is in the dictionary."
~Vidal Sassoon*



WYOMING COUNTY ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

HELLO FRIENDS AND PARTNERS!

Summer is a time for rejuvenation and relaxation. We hope that the summer is treating you well!

Visit Our Website

Remembering John Conley

We would like to take a moment to remember not only a dedicated journalist, but a kind soul, and a friend to all who had the pleasure to know him. John passed on June 16, 2018, leaving behind a spotless reputation for his humbleness and his quality of work.

John will be deeply missed, unable to be replaced, and always appreciated among our entire community.



WV Small Business Champion of the Year

Executive Director Christy Laxton and Administrative Assistant for Loans and Operations Laura Roberts-Lambert attended the 2018 SBA Small Business Week Luncheon to accept the award for being named the 2018 WV Small Business Champion of the Year. The event was held in Fairmont, WV in May 2018.

[Please click here for a story on this great accomplishment!](#)



Visit Wyoming County Days 2018

We hope that you were able to take part in some portion of Visit Wyoming County Days 2018, held

June 22-24! The weekend was a true showcase of what makes our community so wild and wonderful.

The weekend was kicked off by a tour of the Coalfields Expressway which is currently under final stages of construction. The tour was led by Executive Director Richard Browning.

Senator Swope donated his time to allow helicopter rides for two days at this year's event. While we ran into some unexpected difficulties, the turnout was great and all those were able to participate greatly enjoyed the aerial views of our beautiful Wyoming County.

The Army Corps of Engineers once again hosted its Outdoor Safety and Adventure Fair and to say it was a hit would be an understatement. Nearly 250 people came and spent the afternoon at R.D. Bailey Lake participating in the events.

Many other events were held all weekend long, including kayak racing in Mullens, a 5K and 10K run in Twin Falls State Park, free swim days at Gilliland Park Pool in Oceana and at the Mullens Pool, outdoor movies and games in McGraws, spaghetti eating contests in Mullens, ghost stories and guided tours of the Castle Rock in Pineville, and the Road Angels Car Show in Oceana. The weekend wrapped up with a picnic at Palisades Park in Pineville where door prizes were given out.

If you weren't able to make it out to any of the events this year, we encourage you to schedule in some time next year. It is sure to be another success!

Thank you to each and every sponsor that donated to our fund either through time, money, or supplies. This event is not capable of happening without you!

[Follow "Visit Wyoming County Days" on Facebook to stay informed for next year's event!](#)



HUBZone Workshops Available

The Robert C. Byrd Institute will be partnering with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) in August as they host a series of free HUBZone workshops across West Virginia.



These workshops will help you understand how to apply the requirements of the HUBZone Program to help small businesses receive their fair share of contracting opportunities.

Workshops will be 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the following locations:

- August 13: Wyoming County
- August 14: Braxton county
- August 15: Harrison County
- August 16: Grant County
- August 17 Pocahontas County

Registration deadline is 3:00 p.m. of the day before each event. [Follow this link to register for the workshop nearest to you!](#)

Wyoming County Leads the State in Average Business Growth Rates for the Year

From June 2017 to June 2018, the Register Herald reported that Wyoming County outpaced the average

business growth rate for the entire state. During this time period, Wyoming County's average growth rate was 10.71 percent, in comparison to the State's average of 8.33 percent.



Office Space Available for Lease

Office space is now available for lease! The property is located adjacent to the Wyoming County EDA in Pineville, WV. If you are interested in this space, please contact Christy Laxton at 304-732-6707. Thank you!



Small Business Survey!

We are conducting a Small Business Survey to see how we can service our small businesses better in Wyoming County. This survey is focused specifically on your current business or your potential business. The survey will take around 15 minutes to complete. The survey will not time out if you are unable to complete it all at once and all questions may not be applicable to your business. Most questions are rating scales of 1-5. We appreciate your time in assist...ing us with our effort to provide better services to the small businesses of Wyoming County. We are also looking for volunteers to be a part of our Entrepreneurial Communities Team, please let us know if you would like to be a part of the team.

We are currently surveying Wyoming County business owners to better assess the needs of the county. Please take a few moments and tell us where you feel you may need additional information or assistance. Your responses will be kept completely confidential and none of your individual information will be disclosed. We appreciate your willingness to share your story with us! Contact information will be used only if follow-up questions are necessary and to provide general demographic information for all those completing the survey

[Follow this link to take our survey!](#)

Business of the Month Program

The Wyoming County EDA "Business of the Month" program is another opportunity to show our appreciation to Wyoming County businesses for investing in our community. We encourage everyone to buy local as often as possible. Buying local saves jobs and businesses in Wyoming County.



Each month, the Wyoming County EDA will select a business who has been nominated and is located in Wyoming County to be chosen as the "Business of the Month". The business is spotlighted for one month. The "Business of the Month" receives marketing opportunities with an announcement on our website at www.wyomingcounty.com and our [Facebook page](#). You can find the nomination form [in this link](#).

To nominate a Business of the Month, please email entries to christylaxton@wyomingcounty.com or fax them to 304-732-6963.

2018 Loan Program Status

It is the Wyoming County EDA's mission to partner, not compete, with lending institutions and other funding sources to maximize the loans that can be leveraged by small businesses in our communities.

However, we also understand that sometimes there are funding gaps not addressed by these institutions. In order to provide the capital that small businesses need to start and grow in Southern West Virginia, the WCEDA oversees five loan funds geared towards filling these needs.

We take pride in these achievements, and look forward to watching new companies grow and serve our communities!

[Click here for our loan summary report for June 2018!](#)

[Click here for our report on loans made since the inception of the Wyoming County EDA Loan programs in 2001!](#)

[For more information, please visit our website!](#)



Brownfields Update

In partnership with our contractors, the WV Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and the WV Brownfields Assistance Centers (BACs), we have made great progress on the former Lusk Lumber site in Tralee. The EPA Brownfields grant will be on September 30. A Certificate of Completion from the WV DEP will be awarded once remediation is complete through construction. We are looking forward to soon be working with new tenants to grow Wyoming County!

[Click here for the most recent report from Stafford!](#)

[Click here for the most recent status report from Terradon!](#)



The following is a projected schedule as of June 2018:

- *June 11* - Contractor submit signed contract and bonds
- *June 18* - Pre-Construction Conference at EDA - EDA sign contract and Notice to Proceed
- *September 1* - Substantial Completion (75 Days)
- *September 11* - Final Completion

The project was awarded to Main Street Builders of Princeton, WV. Costs for clean up and remediation are being funded by the Brownfields Clean Up Grant in the amount of \$208,500. The remainder of construction is being funded by the Wyoming County EDA in the amount of \$625,500 for a total project cost of \$834,000.

Take a look below at a few pictures of the current construction underway at the site!



Coming soon--Industrial Leases at the Barkers Creek Industrial Park!

[Follow this link for an overview of the layout of Barker's Creek Industrial Park.](#) The site is equipped to accommodate a 50,000 square foot building! Below is a panoramic view of the Barkers Creek Industrial Park site.



Upcoming Events

Monthly Meetings:

EDA Board of Directors - Please See Below for Upcoming Meeting Dates for this Year!

- Thursday, August 16, 2018
- Thursday, November 15, 2018

County Commission - First and Third Wednesdays

Mullens City Council - Third Thursdays

Oceana City Council - Second Thursdays

Pineville City Council - Second Mondays



Need Assistance?

Questions? Interested in one of our programs or properties?

Contact your Wyoming County EDA Staff today!

- Christy Laxton - Executive Director
- Laura Roberts-Lambert - Administrative Assistant, Loans and Operations
- Whitney Bailey - Administrative Assistant, Accounting and Finance



WYOMING COUNTY ECONOMIC
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