



## Brenton, Wyoming County Pre-Disaster Mitigation

### Full Mitigation Best Practice Story

#### *Wyoming County, West Virginia*

**Wyoming County, WV** – In 2004, when Vance’s Trailer Park in southern West Virginia flooded, Dean Meadows, Wyoming County Emergency Services Director, knew he had to do something to help. The families in the nine mobile homes had repeatedly been flooded, year after year, including 2001 when the most severe storm in the County’s history swamped the trailer park.



Meadows knew that if he didn’t find a solution, the cycle of flooding, rebuilding, and flooding again, would continue for the nine trailer park homes. The solution was a Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) voluntary acquisition project. A PDM is a competitive grant subject to Congressional appropriations to reduce the overall risk to people and property from future disasters, and to lessen reliance on Federal, State, and local disaster recovery funding.

After the families were moved to their new homes, most of which were in Wyoming County, the trailer park was converted to a community park that a local church volunteered to maintain. They also bought picnic tables, and recreational and playground equipment where today children play on the swings under the watchful eye of a proud community.

This PDM project paid off. During the May 2009 flood, the Guyandotte River rushed over its banks and covered the property with 3 feet of muddy water. This time no homes were damaged and no families were forced to leave. Also, the County, State, and Federal governments avoided funding costly disaster-related losses.

“This type of flood mitigation project is one hundred percent effective and having the church taking pride in their community and become caretaker of the recreational park is an added bonus,” said Meadows.

#### Activity/Project Location

Geographical Area: **Single County in a State**  
FEMA Region: **Region III**  
State: **West Virginia**  
County: **Wyoming County**

### Key Activity/Project Information

Sector: **Public/Private Partnership**  
Hazard Type: **Flooding**  
Activity/Project Type: **Acquisition/Buyouts**  
Structure Type: **Manufactured Housing**  
Activity/Project Start Date: **04/2004**  
Activity/Project End Date: **04/2005**  
Funding Source: **Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)**  
Funding Recipient: **Local Government**  
Funding Recipient Name: **Wyoming County**  
Application/Project Number: **PDM #3**

### Activity/Project Economic Analysis

Cost: **\$105,484.00 (Estimated)**  
Non FEMA Cost:

### Activity/Project Disaster Information

Mitigation Resulted From Federal  
Disaster? **No**  
Value Tested By Disaster? **Yes**  
Tested By Federal Disaster #: **1838 , 05/15/2009**  
Repetitive Loss Property? **Yes**

### Reference URLs

No URLs were submitted

### Main Points

No Main Points were entered.



Dean Meadows stands in new Wyoming County public park



Park prior to aquisition