



# PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET

## WV Bridges

Revised 2020-12-10

FLOODING — 2015

### LOCATION

West Virginia is nicknamed The Mountain State, and its many mountains are cut by narrow valleys containing roads, streams, and homes. WV is known for its natural beauty and wonderful outdoor opportunities, and the tourism sector is one of the major employers in the state. Average household income in WV is among the lowest in the US, and unemployment is among the highest. The decline of the coal industry has contributed to the decrease in jobs.

### DISASTER

Several flood events in the spring of 2015 damaged over 300 private stream crossings (bridges) in southwest West Virginia. Homeowners who cross streams to get to their homes are either driving through the stream bed, using a neighbor's bridge if they can, or parking on the other side of the stream and walking across a temporary walkway or a neighboring bridge.

Because these are private structures, the government cannot help directly, so the only potential assistance is voluntary organizations like MDS.

### MDS RESPONSE

Together with the WV VOAD, MDS is rebuilding private bridges in the areas around Clendenin, WV. Volunteers will stay at the Stillwaters Ministries building near Clendenin.

The jobs will involve physical labor, working with concrete and steel for the structure and oak planks for the bridge decking. MDS will place small crews on site, because the jobs will not need large numbers of volunteers.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### Physical Address

Stillwaters Ministries  
1166 Spencer Rd  
Clendenin, WV 25045



#### Telephone

(717) 471-9362

#### Email

[wvbridges@mds.mennonite.net](mailto:wvbridges@mds.mennonite.net)

### TRANSPORTATION

It is the responsibility of weekly volunteers to plan, schedule, and pay for their transportation to and from the project. If you choose to fly in or take a bus, you will need to be sure to arrange for transportation from the station to the project, as MDS is not able to pick up weekly volunteers. If you have questions about this, please call the Coordinator for Weekly Volunteers at 800-241-8111.

- Yeager Airport is the closest airport, about 24 miles away. Rental cars are available through several organizations (AVIS is one and can be reached at 800-331-1212). Taxi service is also available (C&H Taxi is one and can be reached at 304-344-4902).
- Amtrak has a train station in Charleston, about 24 miles away.

### DIRECTIONS

Some GPS systems will locate the address at Stillwaters Ministries correctly, but others (like Google Maps) will not. If you are using Google Maps, try the previous address of 65 Spencer Rd in Clendenin. For any address, volunteers should look for the Stillwaters Ministries sign and drive around to the back of the church, on the basement level, for the MDS entrance.