



# Making Progress in a “Locked-Down” World!

---

Presenter: Roger Wolfe & Don Bailey  
West Virginia Division of Natural Resources



[conservationengineers.org](http://conservationengineers.org)

59<sup>th</sup> Annual  
ACE Conference

VIRTUAL | Oct. 22, 2020

# West Virginia Division of Natural Resources



## State Parks

37 State Parks  
Including 9 lodges.

Activities range from hiking and biking to zip-lining and natural spring roman baths.



[conservationengineers.org](http://conservationengineers.org)

## Wildlife Resources

99 WMA's  
Over 400 Public Access Sites and boat launches  
31 Shooting ranges  
Hundreds managed Lakes and Thousands of miles of stocked trout waters



## Law Enforcement

Currently has a staff of 101 Natural Resource Police Officers covering the entire state.  
16 Command Staff



# West Virginia Division of Natural Resources



Then you have....

## Planning, Engineering and Maintenance

A dedicated group of 10 individuals tasked with keeping the whole operation running.

Engineers, Architects, Project Managers and more...



PEM Group administers between \$12 and \$14 million dollars in projects on an average year



**However,**

In 2018 the WVDNR received \$66 Million in bond money to make much needed repairs to state parks.

PEM group was tasked with administering \$45.75 million of that money

The remaining \$20.25 Million would be spent by the parks directly.



## Tight time frame.

135 bond projects

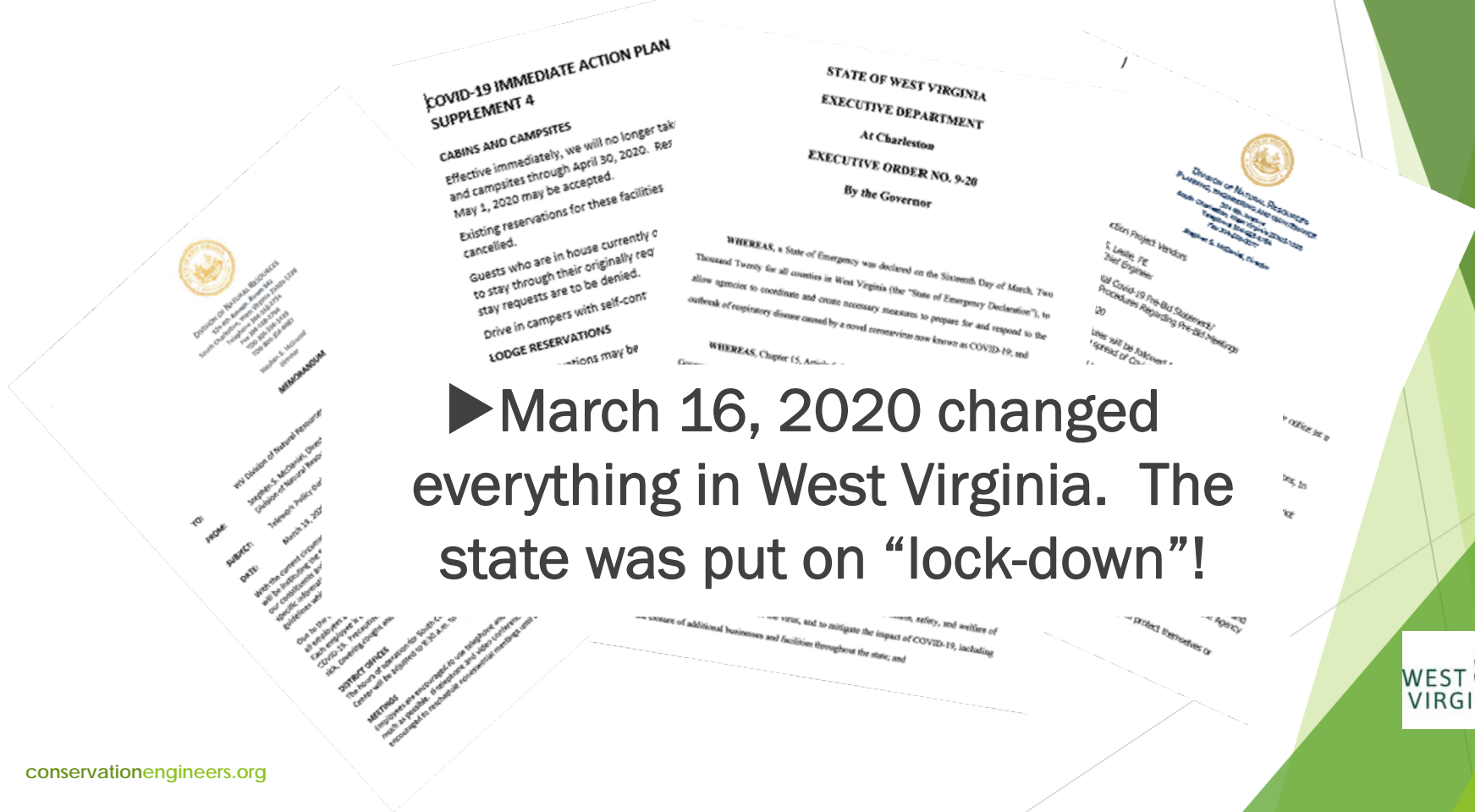
Ranging in size from a few thousand dollars to a couple million dollars in size.

All of these projects needed to be nearing completion within a 3-year window.

This is on top of the routine projects that come up each year.



# Then in March 2020 the wheels ran off!



▶ March 16, 2020 changed everything in West Virginia. The state was put on “lock-down”!

# Business as usual wasn't usual anymore

Everything went Virtual, Virtually overnight.

It took weeks to figure out who was essential and what that even meant.

Protocols and masks and a brand-new way of operating became the order of the hour.



# “Holy Tech Savvy Batman!” What do we do now?



Telework

Quarantine

Pandemic!

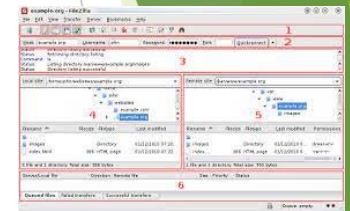
Social  
Distancing

Essential Employee



Lock-Down

CDC/ WHO





# Make it happen!

On 3/16/2020

3 – Projects in Construction

18 – Projects in design

9 – in Procurement

6 – out to bid



## Keep on trucking

As of October

15 – Projects in Construction

20 – Projects in design

3 – in Procurement

1 – out to bid

These are just bond projects. Not to mention all the other  
Projects for both Parks and Wildlife



## Covid or not things gotta get done.



As guidelines got put in place and people started back to work PEM was poised to hit the ground running that is exactly what happened.



# Pipestem Campground upgrades

Started November 2019



# Twin Falls Structural Repairs

Started April 2020



[conservationengineers.org](http://conservationengineers.org)



# Hawks Nest Structural Upgrades

Started June 2020



# Claudia L. Workman Wildlife Education Center

Started May 2020



# Elk River Boat Ramps

Started July 2020





# Bowden Trout Hatchery Improvements

Started May 2020 August 2020



# Summersville WMA Office/Storage

Started March 2020



# Frozen Camp WMA Office/ Storage

Started May 2020



# Babcock State Park Asbestos Roof Replacement (started August 2020)



# Audra State Park Septic System

Started July 2020



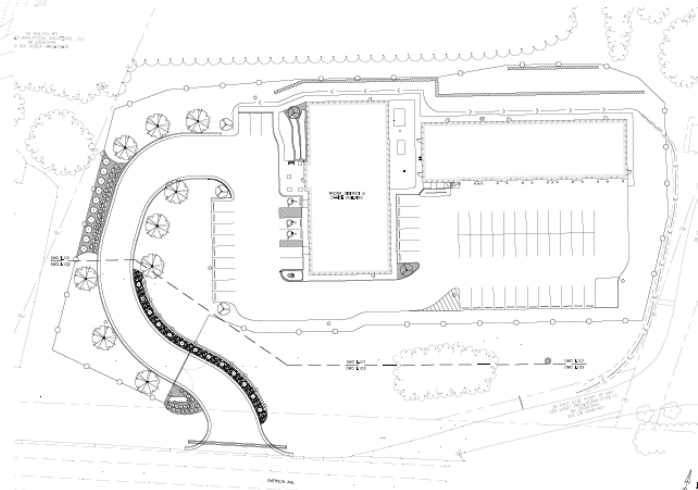
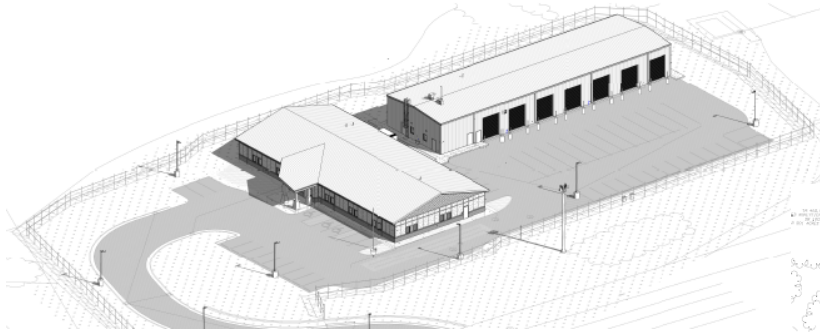
# District 6 Headquarters

Currently Bidding

WEST VIRGINIA DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PARKERSBURG, WV

DISTRICT 6 OFFICE COMPLEX





## Still Rolling with the Punches

PEM, and all WVDNR, continues to adapt and change the way we do business.

WV State Parks and Wildlife resources have seen more usage in 2020 since COVID arrived than it has in years. State Parks and Public Hunting areas are one of the safer places for recreation during the pandemic and it is a huge undertaking to keep everything working and improving through it all.

As **conservation engineers** we owe it to the resources and our customers to keep making progress even in a locked-down world.

# Questions?

