

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

At Charleston

A PROCLAMATION

By the Governor

WHEREAS, beginning on July 21, 2026, a series of storm systems began moving across West Virginia, and in response, that afternoon, I declared a State of Preparedness for all fifty-five counties of this State; and

WHEREAS, by the evening of July 21, 2026, the storm had produced severe thunderstorms, damaging winds, torrential rainfall, flash flooding, and landslides; and

WHEREAS, the severe storms have particularly impacted portions of north central West Virginia, including, but not limited to, Lewis, Pleasants, and Upshur Counties, resulting in significant damage to homes, businesses, public infrastructure, and essential services; and

WHEREAS, rapid rainfall has overwhelmed streams, creeks, drainage systems, and transportation infrastructure, causing flooding, road closures, and hazardous conditions throughout the affected areas; and

WHEREAS, the impacts of these storm systems continue to develop and the full magnitude of damages remains undetermined, as local officials, emergency responders, and state agencies continue to conduct assessments and respond to evolving conditions; and

WHEREAS, declaring a State of Emergency in all fifty-five counties provides the necessary flexibility to rapidly coordinate, mobilize, and deploy resources where needed, ensuring the State is prepared to support communities affected by current and potential storm-related impacts; and

WHEREAS, the effects of the storms pose a severe and continuing threat to the health, safety, welfare, and property of the citizens of all fifty-five counties of West Virginia; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with my authority as Governor, it has been deemed necessary and beneficial to declare a State of Emergency, pursuant to West Virginia Code § 15-5-6, for all fifty-five counties of this State.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PATRICK MORRISEY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Governor of the State of West Virginia, and in view of the foregoing, do hereby **FIND AND DECLARE** that a State of Emergency exists and continues in all fifty-five counties of this State, and that said State of Emergency is to remain in effect for thirty days unless terminated by subsequent Proclamation. In response to this State of Emergency, I have **INVOKED** the emergency powers set forth in West Virginia Code § 15-5-6; **UTILIZED** the Emergency Operations Plan, as necessary; **ORDERED** appropriate personnel and resources to prepare to mobilize and respond to any emergency that may develop; and **DELEGATED** certain administrative powers to the Director of the West Virginia Emergency Management Division, as necessary, to facilitate the provision of essential emergency services.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.



DONE at the Capitol in the City of
Charleston, State of West Virginia, this
Twenty-First Day of July, in the Year of our
Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Six, in the One
Hundred Sixty-Fourth Year of the State.

Patrick Morisy
GOVERNOR

By the State

Kris Warner
SECRETARY OF STATE