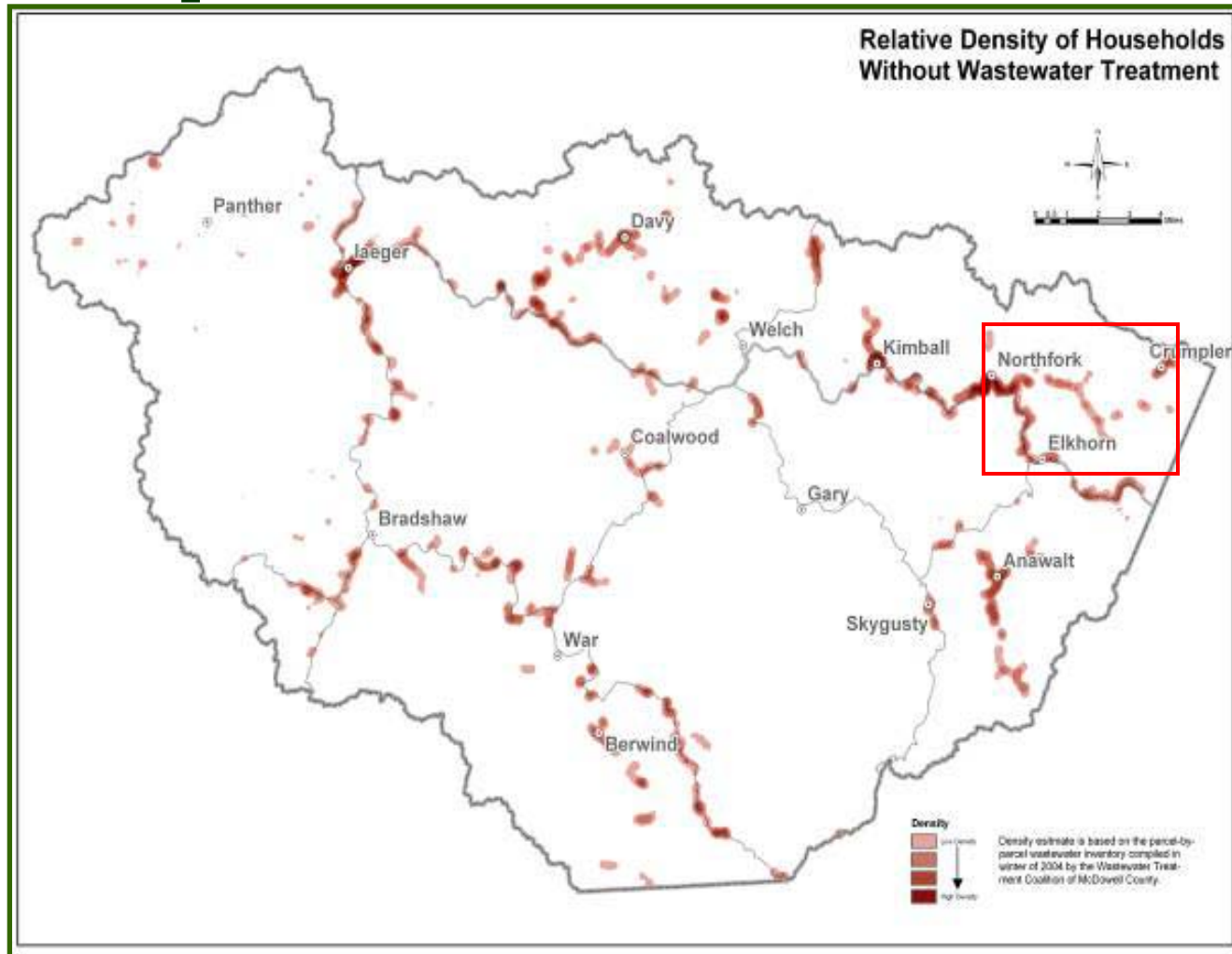


Building Infrastructure in McDowell County



WASTEWATER TREATMENT COALITION
OF MCDOWELL COUNTY

First step is headwaters of Elkhorn Creek



WASTEWATER TREATMENT COALITION
OF MCDOWELL COUNTY

Coalfield communities are falling through the cracks

- **Past programs focused on municipalities**
- **Existing programs are stretched thin**
- **Traditional solutions are not economically feasible**



WASTEWATER TREATMENT COALITION
OF MCDOWELL COUNTY

Special constraints in Southern Coalfields

➤ Economics and demographics

- **Loss of jobs**
- **Environmental problems reduce desirability**
- **Result is drastically declining populations**

➤ Topography

- **Narrow hollows**
- **Steep slopes**
- **Small lots near or in floodplains**



WASTEWATER TREATMENT COALITION
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WASTEWATER TREATMENT COALITION
OF MCDOWELL COUNTY

Many people are without treatment

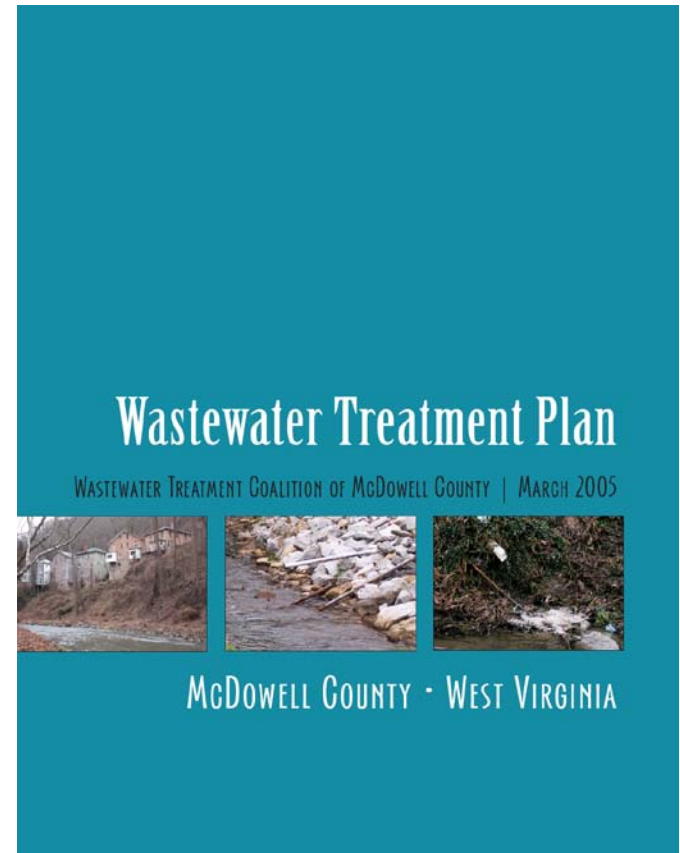
- **67% of homes are without treatment**
- **The four treatment plants in the county are operating at 33% capacity**
- **As a result:**
 - **Significant contamination in waterways**
 - ❖ **Levels of bacteria higher than post-Katrina New Orleans**
 - ❖ **Some 1,000 times the normal levels**



WASTEWATER TREATMENT COALITION
OF MCDOWELL COUNTY

Leadership of Wastewater Treatment Coalition of McDowell County

- **Proactive inclusive group**
- **Setting county-wide priorities**
- **Developing local capacity**
- **Finding funding for non-traditional approaches**



WASTEWATER TREATMENT COALITION
OF MCDOWELL COUNTY

10/10/2007 at 12:28 PM 10/10/2007



Ashland community system under construction



WASTEWATER TREATMENT COALITION
OF MCDOWELL COUNTY

Ashland System Wetlands

**Planting
scheduled
for April 17
at 9am**

**Volunteers
are needed!**



WASTEWATER TREATMENT COALITION
OF MCDOWELL COUNTY

Ashland community system under construction

- **Volunteer labor**
- **Local engineers and contractor**



WASTEWATER TREATMENT COALITION
OF MCDOWELL COUNTY

From wetlands to drainfields



WASTEWATER TREATMENT COALITION
OF MCDOWELL COUNTY

Crumpler is next in The Plan

- **Highest and largest community in North Fork headwaters**
- **120 homes, 2 churches and no treatment**
- **WVU Chapter of Engineers Without Borders helping with preliminary scoping**
- **Coalition working to sign up residents**
- **Next step is facilities design plan....**



WASTEWATER TREATMENT COALITION
OF MCDOWELL COUNTY