



**Jackson County  
Development Authority**

# **JCDA 2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

---



**Jackson County  
Development Authority**

---

# MISSION STATEMENT

The Jackson County Development Authority facilitates the growth and development of business, private investment, and jobs in order to improve the standard of living for all county residents.

# A MESSAGE FROM MARK & MEGHAN

This last year has been exciting, fast-paced, and eventful. Tons of positive news. Growth. Successful recruitments. Stronger Marketing efforts. We couldn't be prouder of what we have accomplished nor more excited about the future. We have great partnerships, seamless relationships, and a great team. Our assets are strong. We believe the JCDA to be a strong, viable force in economic development in the region for many years to come.

As we grow and inevitably change. Our goal is to steer that change in a manner that advances our core mission, to attract new investments, and to foster the creation of new jobs and real careers for our community who wish to live and work in West Virginia.

Bring on 2025!

-Mark & Meghan





# Jackson County Development Authority

## Economic Development Activity – Jackson County

Project Name	Investment	Job Creation	Scope of Work/Details
Berkshire Hathaway Energy Solar Plant <b>Ravenswood</b>	\$500 million*	10-15	<b>Under Construction:</b> In 2023, Berkshire Hathaway Energy (BHE Renewables) began construction on a 2,000-acre renewable energy microgrid-powered industrial site; Annual salary \$70,000 to \$90,000; ECD 2025
Precision Castparts Corporation <b>Ravenswood</b>	\$500 million*	200	<b>Planned:</b> Will be the first company to locate at the BHE Renewables site; Constructing a state-of-the-art titanium melt facility
Titanium Metals Corporation, Incorporated <b>Ravenswood</b>	\$500 million*	1,000 (300 jobs in initial phase)	<b>Planned:</b> Will construct a facility that manufactures titanium products for the aerospace industry and other industries at the BHE Renewables site; Initially 300 jobs and up to 1,000 jobs once fully operational. Most wages will be \$60,000 and higher.
Our Next Energy <b>Ravenswood</b>	\$22 million	105	<b>Planned:</b> In 2022, announced plans to lease a 40,000 square-foot utility-scale battery storage system at the BHE Renewables site; Expected to attract additional carbon-free manufacturing companies to build in the area which may lead to additional jobs and investments; Hiring to begin in 2024; ECD 2025; Most wages will be \$60,000 and higher.
Thunder Mountain Environmental Services <b>Millwood</b>	N/A	N/A	<b>Planned:</b> Permits issued fall 2023; Waste-to-energy facility that will accept certain medical waste, shred it, and convert it to energy
Star Plastics <b>Ravenswood</b>	\$5 million	N/A	<b>Completed:</b> Installed upgraded equipment in 2022 that improves production rates and triples capacity for future long-term growth
Constellium <b>Ravenswood</b>	\$9.5 million	N/A	<b>Completed:</b> Facility updates completed in late 2021

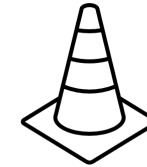
\*Total investment for three companies  
 ECD – Estimated Completion Date  
 N/A – Not Available

Economic Development  
Announced 2023-2024



Infrastructure Projects – Jackson County			
Project Name	Investment	Status	Scope of Work/Details
City of Ripley Utility Board	\$23 million	Under Construction	Improve sewer system; Project includes new connecting lines
Frontier Broadband	\$31 million	Planned	In 2023, received funding for expansion of broadband services near Ripley and Ravenswood
City of Ravenswood	\$5 million	Planned	New site development in need of water lines; Currently out for bid
Optimum	N/A	Completed	Network upgrade to launch faster internet service and phone service in Jackson, Kanawha and Lincoln counties
West Virginia Appalachian Power	\$60 million	Completed	Rebuilt approximately 30 miles of transmission line and upgrades
Altice USA	\$10 million	N/A	Funding for expansion of broadband services to 5,895 addresses; Addresses are also located in Kanawha County
Citynet	\$23 million	Planned	Installation of new fiber network that will provide gigabit-speed internet service to approximately 5,000 targeted households; To begin construction early 2024; ECD 2026; This project will affect Clay, Jackson and Roane counties
City of Ripley Wastewater Project	\$30 million	Under Construction	Wastewater project
Phase IV Viking Lane Stormwater upgrades	\$1.5 million	Planned	Stormwater project
Klondyke Road and First Avenue/Charleston Drive area	\$3 million	Design & Funding Stage	Sewerlines upgrade and stormwater project
Ravenswood Infrastructure	\$90 million	Under Construction & Planned	Various sewage infrastructure projects
Southern Jackson County PSD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sewer Plant Upgrade • \$18 million</li> <li>• Water Line Extension • \$4.5 million</li> <li>• Water Line Extension • \$2.1 million</li> <li>• Future Water Line Extension • \$2.8 million</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UC</li> <li>• UC</li> <li>• Planned</li> <li>• Planned</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrade to expand treatment capacity</li> <li>• 10-mile extension in four areas</li> <li>• New water line; in funding stage</li> <li>• Three-branch extension; in planning stages</li> </ul>

\*Total investment for three companies  
 ECD – Estimated Completion Date  
 UC – Under Construction  
 N/A – Not Available



### Construction of the Mountaineer Xpress

Pipeline in 2021 and 2022 brought hundreds of workers to the county which increased economic activity in the area. Additionally, there have been several extraordinary economic announcements for the county, of which some projects have already broken ground. Economic development activity totaling approximately \$537 million has either been recently completed, is currently under construction, or is planned to commence in the near future. The largest of these announcements is the Berkshire Hathaway Energy Renewables industrial site in Ravenswood (total valuation of \$500 million), which includes a solar power plant project, a titanium melt facility, and a titanium product manufacturing plant. The projects in the preceding tables are expected to create an extraordinary number of new jobs in the area. In addition, infrastructure projects totaling about \$304 million are either under construction, have recently been completed or are planned within the county.

# BROADBAND

- \$23 million dollar/9 county investment
- Dark Fiber Opportunities
- Frontier received \$5,710,010 in Major Broadband Project Strategies funds for expansion of broadband connectivity to 1,967 targeted addresses in the greater Ripley area, including locations in the communities of Kenna, Given, Gandeeville, Gay, Evans, and Kentuck. The project will approximately 249 miles of fiber.
- Frontier also received \$7,672,782 in MBPS funds for the expansion of broadband connectivity to 4,165 targeted addresses in the greater Ravenswood area of Jackson County. This project will serve locations in the communities of Ravenswood, Cottageville, Sandyville, Evans, Ripley, Millwood, Mount Alto, Peewee, Somerville Fork, Le Roy, Amigo, Elizabeth, and Lindale. The project will include the installation of approximately 381 miles of fiber infrastructure to provide broadband service in the project area. Over 6,000 addresses will be served with these funds.





# JCDA FACILITATED \$3.1 MILLION DOLLARS IN SMALL BUSINESS LOANS

12 TOTAL LOANS



# MARKETING PROJECTS:

- Quality of life rack cards & retractable banners
- Ambassador program Partnerships with Main Street Ripley, ONTRAC Ravenswood, Ravenswood Development Authority, Ripley CVB, Jackson County Community Foundation, and Jackson County Chamber of Commerce
- New Jackson County data flyers
- Website Updates and promotion of website & social media
- Work with Advantage Valley, WVEDA, WVEDC, WVDOC and more
- Attended conferences, trade shows, supply chain expos, and most recently the Nucor See and Seek.







Ongoing:



Promote a local and regional contact database of developers and builders.



Meet with contacts to discuss development opportunities and how JCDA can facilitate their possible investments.



Promote site inventory on the JCDA website and WV website using the LOIS System. The LOIS Map Viewer showcases buildings, sites and areas to potential buyers.



# SITE INVENTORY GOALS REACHED:

Quantified demand for housing and other commercial activity to attract investment interest.

Met with contacts to discuss commercial development opportunities and how JCDA can facilitate their possible investment.

Jackson Crossings: Facilitated with their Phase 1





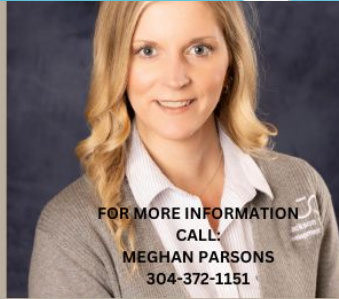
# SITE INVENTORY



Jackson County  
Development Authority

Coming Soon in MILLWOOD, WV

NEW CONSTRUCTION  
INDUSTRIAL  
BUILDING



FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CALL  
MEGHAN PARSONS  
304-372-1151

## 35,000 SQ FT BUILDING

Can be finished out to meet tenant needs.

- Large truck access
- New Industrial Access Road
- Near Ohio river and rail served by CSX
- WV RT 2 access, 6 miles from I-77
- 3-phase power line provide electricity to the park, and a 4" line supplies natural gas. PUBLIC water is pumped to the center through a 10" line. Fiber optic TELEPHONE cables and digital switching are available for all of your communication needs.
- We enjoy Foreign Trade Zone Status and this property is part of an Opportunity Zone. Describe your needs and we'll talk about a custom-built facility. A Smart Location – Jackson County Maritime & Industrial Centre is within one day's drive of 60% of the U.S. population. Located on the Ohio River, it gives easy access to the East and Midwest. It is centrally located among three of West Virginia's largest cities: Charleston, Huntington, and Parkersburg.



Jackson County  
Development Authority



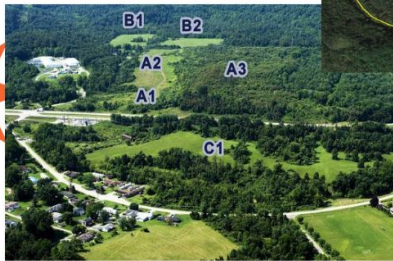
# SITE INVENTORY SPOTLIGHT



## PROPERTY SPOTLIGHT Jackson Crossings

- Approximately 1 mile from Ravenswood's Business District
- 13 miles from Ripley
- 21 miles from Pomeroy, Ohio
- KS of WV (auto parts manufacturer) is on the adjacent property
- Miles from the largest employer is Constellium Aluminum & upcoming TIMET

Contact:  
Meghan Parsons  
304-372-1151  
meghan.parsons@jcda.org



Parcels of Land:  
Parcel A1: 7.96 AC  
Parcel A2: 18.49 AC  
Parcel A3: 61.01 AC  
Parcel B1: 9.10 AC  
Parcel B2: 7.68 AC  
Parcel C1: 44.00 AC



72 Acres of Commercial Property, part of this property is out of city limits, multi use property adjacent to Wal-Mart Super Center, property is split into 3 parcels all totally 72 acres, there are a list of restrictions dirt work etc for the 2 smaller parcels.  
304-372-1151 For more information

**Property spotlight**

This vacant commercial/residential development acreage of 247 +/- Acres is prime land for many uses; public water, electric, and natural gas are available; numerous access points along Rt 21 and Cedar Lakes Road; this parcel includes some residential lots & commercial development land, all on east side of Rt 21. Survey map is large and available for review. Listing price: \$1,950,000

Oil, gas, and mineral rights included in the sale. Excellent potential for a hotel, restaurants, and retail. Public sewer system at the Southern Jackson County Public Service District and was recently upgraded. Cable and internet available.

Jackson County Development Authority  
304-372-1151  
www.jcda.org



CONNECT • DEVELOP • GROW



# CONFERENCES, TRADE-SHOWS, SUMMITS: OCTOBER 2023-NOVEMBER 2024

- Attended the ILA 2024-Berlin Germany
- Battery Technology Expo in Orlando, FL
- Las Vegas Shot Show
- SEDC Meet the Consultants
- SEDC Annual Conference
- West Virginia Broadband Summit
- WVEDC Legislative Updates Conference
- WVEDC Fall Conferences
- AEP Stakeholder Roll Out
- FASTER WV conference
- AV Expanding Markets
- Polymer Alliance Zone Annual Meeting
- Wood County Annual Joint Meeting
- 2024 Issues and Eggs
- NPE 2024
- Countless meetings





#### GRANTS

1. THE JACKSON COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDED THE JCDA \$3,950 FOR MARKETING.

2. THE WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AWARDED THE JCDA \$31,800 FOR LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

3. THE WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AWARDED THE JCDA WITH \$9,500 FOR HVAC REPLACEMENT

#### SCHOLARSHIPS

1. IN JANUARY 2024 MEGHAN WAS AWARDED A SCHOLARSHIP FROM THE WEST VIRGINIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, HAVE PENDING SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2025

2. IN SEPTEMBER 2024 MEGHAN WAS AWARDED TWO ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS FROM THE WEST VIRGINIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL





# JCDA DONATIONS

- \$10,000 to the new addition of the WVU-JGH Hospital
- \$2,500 to the Jackson County Community Foundation
- \$100 to the Ripley Main Street Alpine Movie Sponsorship
- \$500 Brothers Keepers
- \$500 Jackson County Hunting Heroes
- \$100 Main Street Beautification Flower Basket Sponsorship



# • OTHER 2024 MENTIONS:

1. Discussions with Goodwill for additional stores
2. Assisted the Rashid's with a truck-stop feasibility study
3. Many projects with Advantage Valley & Polymer Alliance Zone
4. Worked with many consultants and completed RFI's.
5. Assisted BHE with additional land acquisition & water/sewer extensions
6. Working with Armstrong on possible expansions
7. Assisted the MOVRC with community development projects
8. Assisted Greens Equipment on a location in Jackson County
9. Assisted the Butcher Block in opening
10. Assisted White Tail Lodging on tourism issues
11. Presented to Ripley Rotary on the housing analysis findings
12. Attended the 2024 Construction Expo
13. Interviewed engineers for housing project and shell building project
12. Attended two supply chain expos
13. Attended the WVU JGH Ribbon Cutting
14. Attended the AEP Aerospace and Aviation report
15. Attended Mountaineer Log Homes Ribbon Cutting
16. Networked at the AI-Rec Annual Cookout
17. Assisted several area employers with learn and earn or training programs and dollars



**Industrial Supply Chain Expo**  
Connect with new customers and suppliers in West Virginia

**Valley Park**  
**Sept. 26**  
9 a.m. to noon  
**Hurricane**

**In-Demand Goods & Services**

- Maintenance parts, supplies
- Pumps, valves, compressors, pipe fittings
- Pipe fabrication
- Machining
- Shafts and castings
- Heat control
- Industrial maintenance/repair
- Electrical/mechanical contracting services
- Roofing repair
- HVAC repair services
- Construction services
- Packaging materials
- Industrial gases, chemicals
- IT and cybersecurity services
- Crane inspection services
- Safety systems
- Security systems
- Storage
- Food and beverage contracting services
- Steel and metal treatment
- Painting
- Heat trace services
- Waterproofing
- Restoration services (floor, fire, mold)
- Printing services
- Sales and buying
- Generator services and installation
- Tents and other events
- Control systems and equipment
- Logistics, trucking and warehousing
- Non-destructive testing
- Mechanical engineering services
- Waste management services
- Temp employer services

If you operate a small business and want to expand your customer base or work for a large company interested in sourcing goods and services closer to home, this event is for you! Our expo will connect West Virginia small businesses to supplier opportunities with large industries while providing an opportunity for large companies to shorten their supply chains by sourcing goods and services locally. There is no cost to participate.

Questions? Contact Tanner Drown at [tanner.drown@mfg.marshall.edu](mailto:tanner.drown@mfg.marshall.edu)

Presented by  
ADVANCED MANUFACTURING CENTER  
ADVANTAGE VALLEY

Register at [www.mfg.marshall.edu/septexpo](http://www.mfg.marshall.edu/septexpo)

**TRI-STATE metal tech expo** March 8, 2024

PRESENTED BY  
ADVANCED MANUFACTURING CENTER  
WEST VIRGINIA DEVELOPMENT OFFICE  
ADVANTAGE VALLEY

**NEED MARKETING COLLATERAL?**  
**Advantage Valley can help!**

We will help develop one high-quality COLOR FLYER and one tabletop foam core LOGO SIGN for your business, for FREE.

- Send us a high-resolution logo and one or two high-resolution photographs
- Send us a word document with everything you want to share about your company that will fit on a two sided flyer, including contact information, certifications, etc.
- We will work with a pre-approved vendor to get a flyer laid out for you
- Once you approve, we will print flyer and signage prior to March 8th EXPO

**Let us help you market your business!**  
Contact [marjorie@advantagevalley.com](mailto:marjorie@advantagevalley.com) to get started.

# CONTINUED EFFORTS

- Marketing Jackson County & available sites for industrial, commercial and residential development.
- Maintaining land database
- Website, social media & media updates
- Business Retention & Expansion Visits (40+ visits this year)
- Trade shows/Conferences
- Workforce Development





# CONTINUED GOALS:



	Promote a local and regional contact database of developers and builders
	Meet with contacts to discuss development opportunities and how JCDA can facilitate their possible investments.
	Promote site inventory on the JCDA website and WV website using the LOIS System. The LOIS Map Viewer showcases buildings, sites and areas to potential buyers.
	Continue our annual retention visits in partnership with WV Development Office and utility partners
	Continue to provide ongoing support to existing companies needing assistance with issues identified.
	Encourage participation by the larger companies in the county and region
	Continue to work with Advantage Valley to help promote and to take advantage of their outreach programs and to utilize Advantage Valley's Zoom Prospector

# ONGOING GOALS AND COMPLETION FY 2024-2025

- Maintain a modern professional website, including an aggressive social media and marketing program
- Work in conjunction with Putnam, Mason, Kanawha, Cabell Counties on a regional marketing campaign
- Attend a minimum of 2 domestic trade shows per year in conjunction with WV Department of Commerce
- Attend a minimum of 2 international trade shows per year in conjunction with WV Department of Commerce
- Participate in a Site Consultant events





## RETENTION & EXPANSION VISITS:

- Completed 40+ business retention and expansion visits in Jackson County
- Monthly follow-up emails to BRE folks
- Weekly meetings with BHE & TIMET



# SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT



Facilitated in  
employee recruitment



Facilitated in  
workforce  
development training



Several small  
businesses visited



Several new start-ups



Identified  
opportunities



Developed new logos  
and marketing  
materials and website



# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT GOALS REACHED:



Roane Jackson Technical Center



Development of countywide roundtable of major employers and training providers.

Identified gaps in soft and hard skills

Partnered with MOVRC, Roane-Jackson Technical Center, Industry & WVU-P & Ohio University

Identified representative to participate in one or more manufacturing, Health Care and technology meetings

Improved talent pool that meets employer workforce needs.



# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



## **Workforce Training at WVUP's Jackson County Center:**

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) awarded a \$1.3 million grant to West Virginia University at Parkersburg (WVUP) for workforce training. This grant, combined with local funds, will heighten advanced manufacturing workforce training efforts in the region.

Specifically, the re-envisioned WVUP's Jackson County Center in Ripley will be a hub for technical skills training. It's an exciting step toward equipping our workforce with the skills needed for emerging industries<sup>2</sup>.



## **Local Efforts by the Jackson County Development Authority:**

The Jackson County Development Authority actively partners with organizations to provide funding for flexible, customized training programs. These programs directly support businesses and facilitate the transfer of knowledge and skills.

Two key training grants—the Governors Guaranteed Workforce (GGWFP) and Workforce Investment (WIA)—encourage growth, attract new enterprises to West Virginia, and ensure that businesses find skilled workers to compete and succeed in today's dynamic business landscape.

**NEED NEW EQUIPMENT?**  
THE WVEDA 2023 EQUIPMENT FINANCING PROGRAM CAN HELP!

The WVEDA offers financing for up to 100 weeks, at 0% interest and up to 10% financing for 30 years at 4% interest.

**Manufacturers**  
**Industrial Processors**  
**Warehousing**  
**Distribution**

Maximum loan \$2 million and minimum loan \$50,000  
Call the JCDA today @ 304-372-1151 for more information

**Jackson County Certified Ambassador Program**

**ONLY 20 spots are open! Call to register today! 304-372-1151**  
Lunch will be provided.

**THINGS THE AMBASSADORS WILL LEARN:**

- TRANSPORTATION HUBS-THE JC AIRPORT, BOAT RAMPS/LAUNCHES
- ACTIVITIES, EVENTS, ATTRACTIONS
- GOVERNMENT-CITY & COUNTY
- CONFERENCE HOTELS, CENTERS & MEETING PLACES
- LOCAL MOM & POP SHOPS AND DOWNTOWN
- SCHOOLS AND HIGHER EDUCATION
- MEDICAL FACILITIES & CLINICS
- LODGING & HOTELS
- REAL ESTATE AND INVESTMENT FIRMS
- COMMUNITY & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
- PLACES TO DINE
- TOURISM PROMOTERS (CHAMBERS, CVB, AND EDA'S)

**APRIL 22, 2024**  
**NOON - 1:15**  
**167 SENECA DRIVE**  
**RIPLEY, WV 25271**



# Rent a conference space today!

Our space is designed to meet your needs. Perfect for meetings, presentations, and workshops.

304-372-1151  
167 Seneca Drive  
Ripley, WV 25271

**Jackson County Development Authority**

**OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE**

304-372-1151

meghan.parsons@jcda.org

**DO YOU NEED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR YOUR BUSINESS?**

**WHAT WE DO:**

- Neighborhood Development Strategies
- Business Start-Up & Entrepreneur Support
- Workforce Development
- Strategic Planning Marketing & Attraction
- Finance Assistance & Incentivizing
- Real Estate Development & Reuse
- Credit Analysis
- Business Retention & Expansion
- Professional business incubation rentals at a low cost
- Commercial, Industrial, & Residential land database
- Data & Statistics

The Jackson County Development Authority offers technical assistance at no charge to businesses both small and large. The Jackson County Development Authority partners with organizations to provide funding towards flexible, customized training programs that offer assistance to businesses and direct supports the transfer of knowledge and skills. The Jackson County Development Authority wants your business to succeed. In partnership with local, state and national organizations the JCDA can assist you in acquiring the knowledge and tools to plan, launch, manage and grow your Jackson County business.

Mark W. Whitley, Executive Director  
Meghan D. Parsons, Associate Director



# EVENTS HOSTED:





**USDA** Rural Development  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)**  
West Virginia

**Who does this program do?**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) offers climate-smart solutions that provide rural small businesses and agricultural producers in West Virginia the opportunity to reduce their energy consumption and bolster their bottom line, which allows them to reinvest in growing their business and create jobs.

**Who can apply?**

- Agricultural producers with at least 50 percent of their gross income coming from agricultural operations.
- Small businesses in eligible rural areas.

**What is an eligible area?**

- Businesses must be located in rural areas with populations of 50,000 or fewer.
- Agricultural producers can be located in rural or nonrural areas.



Technician uses a REAP grant to purchase and install a 75kW solar array at its business in Glen Dale, helping it save \$75,000 per year.

**How can funds be used?**

Funds can be used for renewable energy systems and to buy, build, and install energy efficiency improvements. Some examples include:

**Renewable Energy**

- Small and large solar generation.
- Biomass (for example: wood broiler, biodiesel, etc.).
- Small and large wind generation.
- Geothermal for electric generation or direct use.

**Energy Efficiency**

- Lighting.
- HVAC systems.
- Insulation.
- Doors and windows.
- Replacement of energy-inefficient equipment.

Agricultural producers can also use guaranteed loan funds to install energy efficient equipment and systems for agricultural production or processing.

**REAP In Action**

**Renewable Energy**



Mountaineer Behavioral Health used a REAP grant to purchase and install a 200-kW solar array at its recovery center in Martinsburg, West Virginia. This project helped the organization out energy costs and save \$31,778 per year.

**Energy Efficiency**



Seachrist & Associates used a REAP grant to purchase and install LED lighting at its business in Wheeling, West Virginia. This project helped the business out energy costs and save \$2,678 per year.

**Jackson County Development Authority**

**WHO:** Jackson County Development Authority

**WHAT:** Coffee, Cookies & Conversation


**WHEN:** May 16 2024 NOON

**WHERE:** 167 Seneca Drive, Ripley

**WHY:** Come learn how you can take advantage of the USDA REAP funds for your business!

Spots are limited to 20!

Call: 304-372-1151 to register



**Jackson County Development Authority**

**COFFEE, COOKIES, AND CONVERSATION MEETING!**

**WHO:** Jackson County Development Authority

**WHAT:** Coffee, Cookies & Conversation

**WHEN:** May 7 8:30-9:30 AM

**WHERE:** 167 Seneca Drive, Ripley

**WHY:** Come learn who we are and what we do! (Spots are limited to 20)

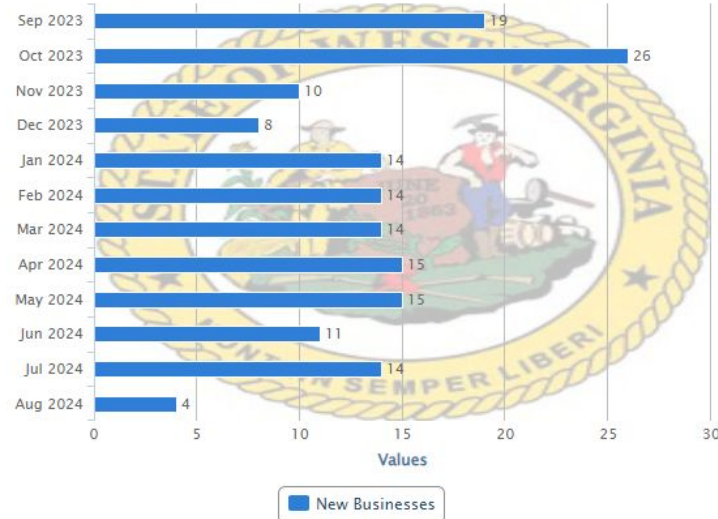
**Who should attend:** Entrepreneurs, business owners both large and small, owners of commercial property they would like to sell or lease, city & county officials, financing institutions, real estate agents, owners of developable residential real estate, educational/vocational, start-up businesses, or anyone who wants to learn about us.

To register and for information call 304-372-1151



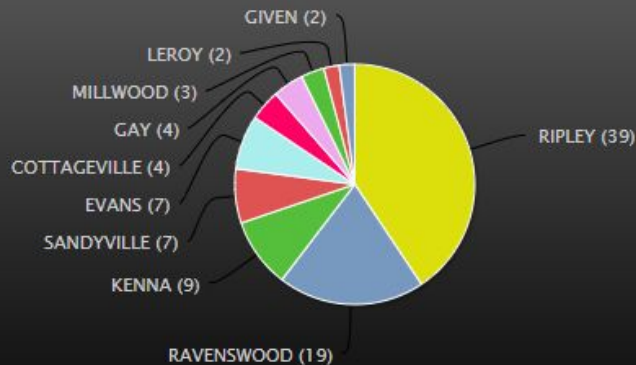
### Jackson County Statistics for the last 12 months

The number of businesses in Jackson county has grown by 11.40%.



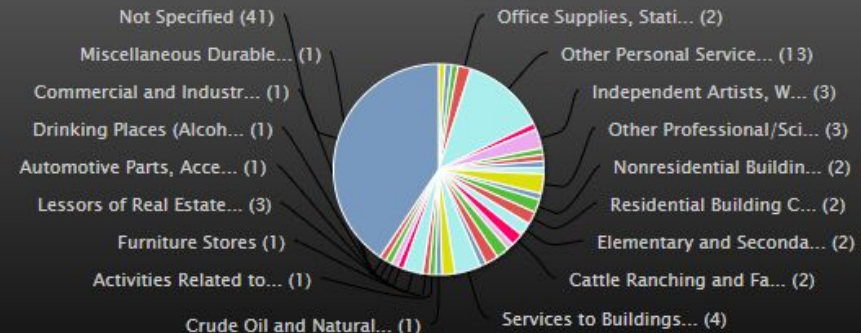
Highcharts.com

### City Distribution of New Businesses Jackson County



Highcharts.com

### Purpose Distribution of New Businesses Jackson County



Highcharts.com





# LOCAL NEWSPAPER MONTHLY CONTRIBUTIONS









# THRIVING INDUSTRIES OF JACKSON COUNTY

## 2024

Jackson County, West Virginia, is home to several thriving industries that contribute to its economic vitality. Let's explore some of these key sectors:

- **Aerospace:**

Jackson County has become a welcoming state for aerospace companies. From parts manufacturers to quality aircraft maintenance providers, this industry finds fertile ground here. Notably, the groundbreaking project involving BHE Renewables and Precision Castparts Corp. (PCC) aims to build a global aerospace manufacturing hub powered by renewable energy microgrids. This initiative positions Jackson County as a leader in sustainable aerospace manufacturing<sup>12</sup>.

- **Building Products:**

With its vast expanse of forest and advanced training programs for wood manufacturing technologies, Jackson County provides an ideal environment for building product companies. Whether it's lumber, furniture, or other wood-based products, the county's resources and skilled workforce support this industry.

- **Automotive Components:**

Jackson County hosts a strong profile of automotive component manufacturers. These companies benefit from the ready availability of a skilled workforce. As the automotive industry evolves, Jackson County remains a strategic location for related businesses.

- **Chemical and Polymer:**

Chemical and polymer companies thrive in West Virginia due to existing chemical industrial parks, abundant natural gas supplies, and shared services advantages. The state's supportive business climate attracts investment in this sector.

- **Energy Production:**

West Virginia's robust energy profile draws site selectors from around the world. The state offers cost savings and profit opportunities for energy production companies. Whether it's traditional energy sources or renewables, Jackson County plays a role in this dynamic industry.

- **Entrepreneurship and Small Business:**

Entrepreneurs and small business owners are the backbone of West Virginia's growing economy. Their innovative ventures contribute to job creation, community development, and economic diversification.

- **Information Technology (IT):**

West Virginia has become a hub for IT services. Many companies, including federal agencies, have found the state to be an excellent location for research, data centers, and information technology services.

- **Forest Products:**

Wood products manufacturing businesses—such as loggers, sawmills, furniture manufacturers, and veneer plants—thrive in Jackson County. The region's abundant forests provide raw materials for this industry.

- **Fulfillment Distribution Centers:**

Fulfillment distribution centers require efficiency. Jackson County's strategic location, low energy costs, and highly skilled workforce make it an attractive choice for companies seeking optimal logistics and distribution solutions.

- **Metals and Metalworking:**

Strong links between abundant raw materials, skilled metalworking labor force, and a supportive business climate create opportunities for metal suppliers in Jackson County.

These industries collectively contribute to the county's economic growth, job opportunities, and community well-being. Jackson County's commitment to sustainability, innovation, and collaboration ensures a bright future for all involved! ★



# DISCOVERING OUR COMMUNITY

**SCHOOLS**  
Schools are crucial learning environments for children. They provide structure and education.

**LIBRARIES**  
Libraries are special buildings filled with books of all kinds.

**PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS**  
Parks and playgrounds are outdoor areas with lots of fun things for kids to do.

**THEATERS**  
Theaters are places where you can watch exciting performances, like plays, musicals, or movies.

**COMMUNITY CENTERS**  
Community centers are buildings where people from the neighborhood come together to have fun and learn new things.

**SWIMMING POOLS**  
Swimming pools are places where you can go to swim and have a splashing good time!

**SCIENCE CENTERS**  
Science centers offer hands-on exhibits and experiments that stimulate curiosity and encourage scientific thinking.

# 2024 INFOGRAPHICS

## Distribution Center Supply Chain

**Daily Process**

- ### 1.Receiving Product

A distribution center without a clear receiving process runs into trouble when the business needs proof of a shipment shortage or quality issue.
- ### 2.Product Warehousing

Warehousing is the storage of physical inventory. The purpose of warehouses is to temporarily store bulk products before shipping them out.
- ### 3.Packing & Labeling

A packer chooses appropriate materials and containers for packaging the products, weighs the package, and labels it with the relevant invoice.
- ### 4.Product Shipping

Shipping is the movement of goods between points, such as from warehouse to customer. A shipping or logistics company controls and oversees packaging & shipping.

@reallygreatsite

## 5 benefits of Networking

- ### 1 Increased opportunities

Networking allows individuals to connect with a wide range of people, including potential clients, customers, and business partners. This can lead to new opportunities for growth and success.
- ### 2 Access to valuable information

By networking with others, individuals can gain insights and information about their industry, as well as tips and advice on how to succeed.
- ### 3 Enhanced credibility

Networking can help individuals build relationships and establish trust with others in their industry. This can lead to increased credibility and a stronger reputation, which can be beneficial for attracting new business and opportunities.
- ### 4 Improved visibility

By attending networking events and building relationships with others, individuals can increase their visibility and promote their brand. This can help them stand out in a crowded marketplace and attract new customers and clients.
- ### 5 Personal and professional growth

Networking can be a valuable learning experience, as individuals can connect with others who have different perspectives and experiences.

## Why are trades and skilled labor important?

- Economic Impact
- Filling the Skills Gap
- Job Stability
- Daily Impact

**Skilled trades are essential for our communities, economy, and overall well-being. They provide job opportunities, stability, and tangible benefits that impact us all.**

Jackson County Development Authority



## Supporting Small Businesses without spending any money



01  
Share their posts



02  
Like their posts



03  
Tag a friend



04  
Comment on something nice



05  
Post a picture



06  
Leave a positive review

## How to create a Social Media Strategy

### Know your audience

Who your audience is and what they need is key. That way you can create content that they will share. Age, location, gender, average income...

A social media strategy is a summary of everything you plan to do and hope to achieve on social media. It guides your actions and lets you know whether you're succeeding or failing. The more specific your plan is, the more effective it will be.

### Do a social media audit

Ask yourself tough questions: Keep your strategy focused: What's working and what's not? Can I use this account to help achieve my goals? Which networks does my target audience use?

### Align marketing goals to business objective

Your goals should be measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Time-bound

### Know your competitors

A competitive analysis allows you to understand what they are doing well and not. You'll get a good image of what's expected in your industry, which will help you set social media targets



## WHAT MAKES MANUFACTURING SO COOL?

- JOBS
- TRADE SKILLS
- SPONSORS OF COMMUNITY EVENTS
- LOCALLY MANUFACTURED GOODS
- INNOVATION



Jackson County Development Authority

# 2024 INFOGRAPHICS



# 2024 IN PHOTOS



**NEED NEW EQUIPMENT?**  
THE WVEDA 2023 EQUIPMENT FINANCING PROGRAM CAN HELP!  
The WVEDA offers financing for up to 10 years, at 0% interest and up to 10% financing for 30 years at 4% interest.

**Manufacturers**  
**Industrial Processors**  
**Warehousing**  
**Distribution**

Maximum loan \$2 million and minimum loan \$50,000  
Call the JCDA today @ 304-372-1151 for more information





## Jackson County Development Authority

167 SENECA DRIVE  
RIPLEY, WV 25271

The Development Authority provides technical assistance, business expertise and works to provide financing to entrepreneurs and business start-ups. Whatever your needs are, we can support you and demonstrate the many facets that make Jackson County a great place to live and grow your business. If you would like additional information on the Jackson County area, contact our economic development department and we will be delighted to provide you with specific location information. Contact us at 304.372.1151 or by email at [meghan.parsons@jcda.org](mailto:meghan.parsons@jcda.org)

