



Getting A Plan Together
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(Charleston) Where should you go in an emergency?

That's a question an Upshur County company is now trying to answer for Kanawha County and the City of Charleston. JH Consulting out of Buckhannon is now leading a study on ways to evacuate 190,000 people in the event of an emergency.

Jeff Harvey says they're going to be moving relatively quickly, using a \$50,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

"It is grant funded, so we have some timelines to deal with there, but I would really look to see something being put together, kind of rolled out, in the first quarter or so of the next calendar year," Harvey said on a recent edition of 58-LIVE.

Harvey will be considering a number of possible emergency scenarios, including flooding from heavy rain, chemical releases or a sudden release of water from the Bluestone Dame.

"What may be an evacuation route for one hazard may not be an evacuation route for another hazard," Harvey says.

"Our ultimate goal is to be able to build flexibility into this plan, so that emergency responders can assess the situation at hand and make a judgment call based on what they're actually facing."

He says a lot of different groups will be part of the emergency evacuation plan.