

Council Members

Weidner Abernethy, Mayor  
Kelly Melang, Vice Mayor  
Art Beckmann  
M.W. Stanford  
Alan Villanova



Town Manager

Bob Pudney

Town Attorney

Stacy C. Eggers IV

December 16, 2024

Dear Property Owner:

The Town of Beech Mountain will be expanding Lake Coffey to serve as a secondary municipal water source. Construction is expected to begin in late 2025 or early 2026 and be completed in 2027. Preliminary work is underway, including an assessment of the project's environmental impact. We are contacting you because you own one or more properties within the environmental study zone for the Lake Coffey Drought Mitigation Project. We are informing you of an upcoming study that will take place.

Because several Federally protected species of bats reside in this area, the Town has hired Ecosystem Planning and Restoration, LLC (EPR) to study the area within half a mile of Lake Coffey, Pond Creek, and Buckeye Lake. This Bat Roost Survey will provide the data needed to ensure adequate accommodations for wildlife affected by the lake expansion.

The study includes field reconnaissance. The Town will provide a letter for each researcher to carry with them, to identify them as part of the study team. Field work will begin at the end of December and conclude in mid-March. We appreciate your support as we work to protect our natural environment.

If you have questions about this project or wish to verify the presence of field researchers in your area, please contact Daniel Davis, Director of Utilities, [dmus@townofbeechmountain.com](mailto:dmus@townofbeechmountain.com) 828-387-9282, or Bob Pudney, Town Manager, [rpudney@townofbeechmountain.com](mailto:rpudney@townofbeechmountain.com) 828-387-4236.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bob Pudney", is written over a horizontal line.

Bob Pudney, Town Manager  
Town of Beech Mountain