# WV Surplus Shares Important Updates on Federal Program for Veteran-Owned Small Businesses



Since the U.S. government enacted the Veterans Small Business Enhancement Act of 2018 on January 3, 2019, the National Association of State Agencies for Surplus Property (NASASP) has been working with the U.S. Small Business Administration and U.S. General Services Administration to finalize program operations and requirements. While this program has not yet been made available to veteran-owned small businesses, progress has been made and WV Surplus is pleased to share information on the program. Additional details will be provided upon implementation.

Please see VETERANS, Page 4

#### In Other News...

- Manager's Perspective:
  WV Surplus Reviews 2020
  Success While Developing
  Plans for Future Outreach
  Events
- Planning Underway for 2021 Events at WV Surplus
- Annual WV Purchasing
   Division Survey Finds
   Satisfaction in the Services
   of WV Surplus

# New Webpage on Federal Property Now Available Online

WV Surplus is pleased to announce an update to its website with a new page featuring information on the federal surplus property program. This is the first update in what will be a long-term project of revamping the WV Surplus website at *WVSurplus.gov*.

"We want to make sure that more eligible organizations are aware of the federal property program and utilize this great resource," shared WV Surplus Manager Elizabeth Cooper. "Having information online about this program will help raise awareness and provide a guide on how to screen for and obtain property."

WV Surplus is given authority by the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, to administer the transfer of donated federal surplus property through the U.S. General Services Ad-

Please see FEDERAL PROPERTY, Page 3

# WV Surplus Reviews 2020 Success While Developing Plans for Future Outreach Events

From Thanksgiving to New Year's, we have had a busy few months and are so thankful for our loyal customers who have not let our COVID-19 hours or less than ideal weather keep them from visiting.

WV Surplus began its new fiscal year in July and spent the early part of fall reviewing its efforts. At the end of each fiscal year, the Purchasing Division, under which the WV Surplus program is administered, publishes an annual report to provide statistical information to the general public and share its accomplishments.

Within the Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Report, WV Surplus was recognized for the following accomplishments:

• Made 250 vehicles available to

various organizations;

- Sold approximately 229 items available through our online auction site GovDeals;
- Helped the Division of Forestry obtain a semi-truck;
- Provided tulip bulbs to six eligible organizations;
- Hosted two online outreach events focusing on eligible organizations: and,
- Conducted our annual fixed assets training program virtually following the stay-at-home order.

A copy of the Purchasing Division's Annual Report is available online at www.state.wv.us/admin/purchase/Annualreport/Annual20.pdf.

While WV Surplus is well into our current fiscal year, we still

## THE MANAGER'S PERSPECTIVE

ELIZABETH COOPER



have a lot of exciting events and new oppor-

tunities planned for our customers in 2021. From the launch of the veterans federal property program (see page one) to our scheduled upcoming events (see below) we hope that you will be able to join us.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to any of the WV Surplus staff and share how we can continue to support you.

### Planning Underway for 2021 Events at WV Surplus

WV Surplus is pleased to share that planning is already underway for several events to be held in 2021. This includes a webinar for veterans with small businesses who are interested in learning about acquiring federal property, a special webinar for eligible organizations, and its 2021 Customer Appreciation Day.

On March 10, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., WV Surplus invites veterans who own small businesses to learn how they can benefit from the Veterans Small Business Enhancement Act of 2018 (see page 1). While this event is free, registration is required. To learn more or register, please visit *eventbrite*. *com/e/136450435927*.

On April 13, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., WV Surplus invites eligible organizations (e.g. municipalities, churches, schools, nonprofits, etc.) to participate in a free webinar on WV Surplus services for eligible organizations. This event will include information on how to register with WV Surplus, the benefits of being registered, how to access federal property, and more.

Lastly, on June 17, 2021, members of the general public are invited to WV Surplus' Customer Appreciation Day which will include a reception. While this event is scheduled, state and federal COVID-19 guidelines will be reviewed prior to the event to

### SAVE THE DATE

Webinar for Veteran-Owned
Business Owners

March 10, 2021 | 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Eligible Organizations Webinar April 13, 2021 | 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

**Customer Appreciation Day Reception** 

June 17, 2021 | 4:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.

ensure it can be hosted safely.

Questions regarding these events can be sent to *Jessica.L.Chambers@wv.gov*.

# Annual WV Purchasing Division Survey Finds Satisfaction in the Offerings and Services of WV Surplus

The West Virginia Purchasing Division, which oversees WV Surplus, conducted a survey in late 2020 of state agency procurement officers about its services. As part of this assessment, the Purchasing Division asked state agencies, who qualify as one of WV Surplus' eligible organizations, to review the programs and services offered by WV Surplus.

In regard to WV Surplus' COVID-19 response, state agencies provided the following feedback:

- **67**% of respondents rated WV Surplus' temporary hours for public sales as Good or Excellent;
- **82**% of respondents rated WV Surplus' acceptance of property during this time as Good or Excellent;

Here are additional findings from this survey regarding WV Surplus' standard operations:

- **89**% of respondents rated WV Surplus' professionalism as Good or Excellent;
- 89% of respondents rated the accuracy of information provided by WV Surplus as Good or Excellent;
- 83% of respondents rated the knowledge of the WV Surplus staff as Good or Excellent;
- 83% of respondents rated WV Surplus' understanding of customer needs as Good or Excellent;
- 83% of respondents rated the timeliness of services provided by WV Surplus as Good or Excellent; and
- 97% of respondents said their satisfaction with the WV Surplus program increased or remained the same.

Local governments were also invited to complete a separate survey regarding the Purchasing Division's services. Several of the responding local governments were able to visit WV Surplus in the last year and ob-

# WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE TO BE THE MOST BENEFICIAL SERVICE PROVIDED BY WV SURPLUS?

"Increasing the lifespan of quality equipment/computers/furniture."

"Disposal of an agency's assets that are no longer needed by the agency but have not reached the end of life."

"Re-sell surplus goods to public."

"Fair pricing of used office furniture."

"The staff at the Dunbar facility is awesome!"

"The large amount of office furniture available if in need ASAP."

"Good response and follow-up."

tained office furniture and tulip bulbs.

WV Surplus is pleased with the feedback received through this recent survey. If you have feedback regarding WV Surplus, please contact *Purchasing.Division@wv.gov*.

#### **FEDERAL PROPERTY**

Continued from Page 1

ministration at a low service charge to state and local public entities and nonprofit organizations. Items accessible through this program include vehicles, boats, industrial kitchen appliances, and much more.

In addition to this new webpage, WV Surplus will also make available a detailed video on the federal surplus property program that includes a practical demonstration on how to screen for property. This video will be available in early 2021.

The new federal property page can be found at WVSurplus.gov or directly at www.state.wv.us/admin/purchase/surplus/federal.html.

Questions regarding the federal surplus program should be directed to WV Surplus Federal Property Coordinator Doug Elkins at *Doug.J.Elkins@wv.gov*.

#### **VETERANS**

Continued from Page 1

### What is the Veteran's Small Business Enhancement Act of 2018?

This Act provides veteran-owned small businesses access to federal surplus personal property.

#### Who is eligible?

Veteran-owned small businesses who are registered with and verified through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs are eligible to receive surplus property through the federal government. To apply for verification, veterans should have their DUNS Number available and then visit <a href="https://vip.vetbiz.va.gov/dunssearch">https://vip.vetbiz.va.gov/dunssearch</a> to start the verification process.

If a veteran is not sure of his or her eligibility, he or she can take the Verification Pre-Qualification Quiz online at *https://vip.vetbiz.va.gov/prequal-quiz* or call 866-584-2344.

#### How can a veteran screen for federal property?

Eligible veteran-owned small businesses will need to contact the West Virginia State Agency for Surplus Property (WV Surplus) at 304.766.2626 or toll free at 800.576.7587 to obtain a unique user ID and login for the U.S. General Services Administration's surplus website, *https://gsaxcess.gov*. Upon logging in, vendors may search for property using a variety of factors, including the type of property, the state in which the property resides, keywords, and more.

Once a veteran has identified property he or she is interested in, the veteran must contact WV Surplus to request the property.

#### Is there a charge to obtain federal surplus property?

WV Surplus will charge a service fee to cover the administrative expenses required to secure the property, as well as transportation and warehousing costs, when applicable.



Individuals who are unsure if their veteran status qualifies them for this program can complete a pre-qualification quiz online at https://vip.vetbiz.va.gov/prequal-quiz.

What compliance requirements should veterans be aware of if they opt to request and obtain federal surplus property?

Federal surplus property with an acquisition cost of less than \$5,000 must be put into use within one year of acquisition and used for a minimum of one year. Property with an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more, as well as all passenger motor vehicles, must be used for at least 18 months. Title to the property remains with the federal government until the compliance period is over. Personal use of this property is strictly prohibited during the compliance period, and compliance audits or reports may be required.

#### Who can I contact if I have questions?

While more details regarding this program are forthcoming, all questions should be directed to Doug Elkins at 304.356.2428 or *Doug.J.Elkins@wv.gov.* 

### We Want to Hear From You!

What are some of your success stories with using items acquired through the West Virginia State Agency for Surplus Property? Please email *Samantha.S.Knapp@wv.gov* so we can know how our program has benefited your agency. In a future issue of *The Property Connection*, we may highlight YOUR organization!

### **Holiday Gift Guide Back at WV Surplus**

During December, WV Surplus presented its fifth annual Holiday Gift Guide on its Facebook page. Throughout the month, WV Surplus shared a number of unique items from the warehouse that were available.

To see all of the items posted as part of the 2020 Holiday Gift Guide, visit the WV Surplus Facebook page at *www.facebook.com/wvSurplus*. While the holidays may be over, the Facebook page is a great way to keep up with unique inventory and special deals at WV Surplus. "Like" our page to stay up-to-date with our current events and sale offerings.



#### **West Virginia State Agency for Surplus Property**

Special Hours Due to COVID-19: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday

#### Specializing in:

- Office furniture and equipment
- Shop equipment
- Electronic equipment
- Tires, engines, and vehicle parts
- Rolling stock and heavy equipment
- Plus many more items

**Information:** For property information and availability, contact the Federal or State Warehouse Supervisors at 304.766.2626 or call toll free at 800.576.7587.

**Terms:** All organizations must pay by check or credit card. No cash transactions permitted.

# The Property Connection

This online publication is made available to all eligible participants of the West Virginia State Agency for Surplus Property on a quarterly basis.

For additional information on becoming an eligible organization, please call 304.766.2626 or complete an *Application for Eligibility* at:

WVSurplus.gov

**Jim Justice**Governor
State of West Virginia

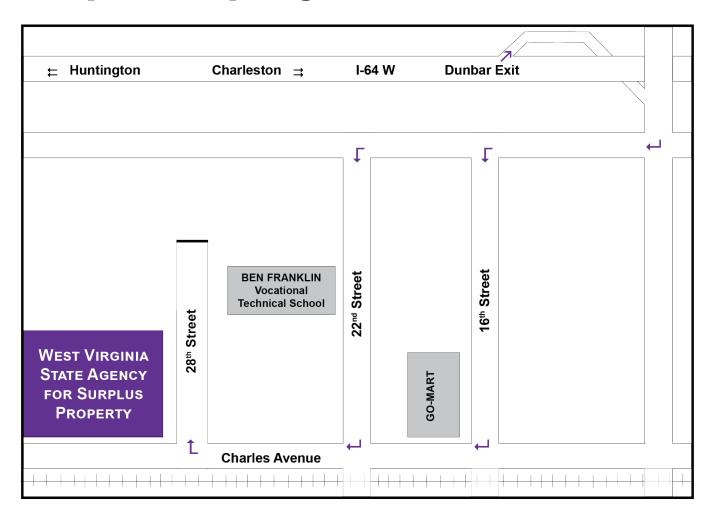
Mike Sheets
Director
Purchasing Division

**Elizabeth Cooper**Surplus Property Manager

Samantha Knapp Courtney Johnson Editors

Jessica Chambers Writer

### **Surplus Property Warehouse Location**



**DIRECTIONS:** Exit I-64 at Dunbar/Roxalana Road, turn right on Roxalana Road then turn onto WV-25 West. At 16th Street, turn left. Go to intersection with Charles Avenue -- if you miss 16th Street, go to 22nd Street which is also a throughway. Turn right onto Charles Avenue, continue to 28th Street and turn right. The West Virginia State Agency for Surplus Property is on that corner inside the cyclone fence.

#### **Terms and Conditions of Sale**

**FEDERAL AND STATE REGULATIONS:** Acceptance of Federal equipment and supplies by users who have established eligibility to participate in WV Surplus is subject to certifications and agreements identified on the reverse side of the Distribution Document. **1:** Federal equipment and supplies are restricted to institutional use only, not personal use, and are to be used for a minimum of one year; **2:** All vehicles and items with an acquisition cost of \$5,000.00 or more shall be used for the purpose(s) for which acquired within one year from the date the property was invoiced and used for 18 months thereafter. **3:** During the restriction period, the property shall not be sold, traded, leased, lent, bailed, cannibalized, encumbered or otherwise disposed of or removed from the State of West Virginia without the express approval of WV Surplus. The recipients of Federal property are urged to contact WV Surplus prior to taking any actions which might be interpreted as modifying any of the certifications and agreements stated on the reverse side of the Distribution Document.

**TERMS:** Payment required upon receipt unless previous arrangements have been made. Payment must be by check or credit card issued against an eligible organization. No personal checks, money orders or cash transactions are permitted.

**SHIPPING:** All service charges are FOB Dunbar Warehouse unless expressly indicated. Out-shipping can be arranged by calling 304.766.2626. Delivery charges will be added to the invoice.