<http://www.wvcoal.com/education/post-mine-land-use/>

PDF at the top of the page

Excerpt is from page 2 of the PDF

\*This text has been edited from the original source for clarity of meaning.

Residential and Recreational Developments

Coalfield Region

Former surface mining areas provide excellent locations for housing developments and for recreational facilities, such as parks, fairgrounds, hunting clubs, and ATV systems. Many of our communities are located on 20-year floodplain river bottoms. This creates a situation in which we are often confronted by devastating flooding. Developing former mountaintop surface mine sites provides an attractive alternative to this problem. These planned developments can improve our region’s standard of living by providing modern utilities. These utilities could include water, sewer, and underground utilities that improve the reliability of the electrical grid in the region. As you can see in the photos above, the potential is limitless for incorporating these former surface mine sites into the overall economic and community development efforts of the region. Some think developing former mine sites is not good for area development. However, if the development is properly planned and part of a county master land-use plan, surface mining can be an invaluable partner in the effort to improve the lives our people.