

Disability Rights of West Virginia (DRWV) is the federally mandated protection and advocacy system for people with disabilities in West Virginia. One of DRWV's grants is Protection and Advocacy for Voting Access (PAVA). The PAVA grant program allows DRWV to ensure that individuals with disabilities can access full participation in the election process.

Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires state and local governments (public entities) to ensure that people with disabilities have a full and equal opportunity to vote. The ADA's provisions apply to all aspects of voting, including polling places. People with disabilities must have the opportunity to be full participants in an integrated civic event.

On December 14, 2021, we completed exterior accessibility monitoring of all precincts in Morgan County. The majority of the polling sites in your county are accessible or can easily be made temporarily accessible by designating accessible parking, hanging appropriate signage, and/or keeping doors opened. As such, the following ADA codes have been referenced below.

206.2.1 Site Arrival Points. At least one accessible route shall be provided within the site from accessible parking spaces and accessible passenger loading zones; public streets and sidewalks; and public transportation stops to the accessible building or facility entrance they serve.

216.6 Where not all entrances comply with 404 (Doors, Doorways, and Gates), entrances complying with 404 shall be identified by the International Symbol of Accessibility

complying with 703.7.2.1. Directional signs complying with 703.5 that indicate the location of the nearest entrance complying with 404 shall be provided at entrances that do not comply with 404.

309.4 Operable parts shall be operable with one hand and shall not require tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist. The force required to activate operable parts shall be 5 pounds (22.2 N) maximum.

502.2 Vehicle Spaces. Car parking spaces shall be 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum and van parking spaces shall be 132 inches (3350 mm) wide minimum, shall be marked to define the width, and shall have an adjacent access aisle complying with 502.3. EXCEPTION: Van parking spaces shall be permitted to be 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum where the access aisle is 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum.

502.6 Identification. Parking space identification signs shall include the International Symbol of Accessibility complying with 703.7.2.1. Signs identifying van parking spaces shall contain the designation "van accessible." Signs shall be 60 inches (1525 mm) minimum above the finish floor or ground surface measured to the bottom of the sign.

The **2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Designs** referenced in this report can be found online at:

https://www.ada.gov/regs2010/2010ADAStandards/2010ADAStandards_prt.pdf

Before further review, please take time to browse the Standards to gain a better understanding of the issues addressed. The tables on the following pages list the ADA Standards and ADA Title II regulations, if applicable, for each area we monitored, the issues noted at each site, if any, and suggestions for meeting ADA compliance on election days.

Warm Springs Middle School	
Issue(s)	No accessible parking signage displayed.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	502.6 Identification. Parking space identification signs shall include the International Symbol of Accessibility complying with 703.7.2.1. Signs identifying van parking spaces shall contain the designation "van accessible." Signs shall be 60 inches minimum above the finish floor or ground surface measured to the bottom of the sign.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Install accessible parking signage to the required height that complies with the ADA regulation.

Widmyer Elementary School	
Issue(s)	Accessible parking signage is not displayed at proper height.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	502.6 Identification. Parking space identification signs shall include the International Symbol of Accessibility complying with 703.7.2.1. Signs identifying van parking spaces shall contain the designation "van accessible." Signs shall be 60 inches minimum above the finish floor or ground surface measured to the bottom of the sign.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Remount accessible parking signage to the required height that complies with the ADA regulation.

Berkeley Springs High School	
Issue(s)	No accessible parking area. No marked accessible parking spaces. No accessible parking signage displayed. No handrail extensions.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	<p>208.2 Minimum Number. Parking spaces complying with 502 shall be provided in accordance with Table 208.2 except as required by 208.2.1, 208.2.2, and 208.2.3. Where more than one parking facility is provided on a site, the number of accessible spaces provided on the site shall be calculated according to the number of spaces required for each parking facility.</p> <p>208.2.4 Van Parking Spaces. For every six or fraction of six parking spaces required by 208.2 to comply with 502, at least one shall be a van parking space complying with 502.</p> <p>505.10.1 Top and Bottom Extension at Ramps. Ramp handrails shall extend horizontally above the landing for 12 inches (305 mm) minimum beyond the top and bottom of ramp runs. Extensions shall return to a wall, guard, or the landing surface, or shall be continuous to the handrail of an adjacent ramp run.</p> <p>502.6 Identification. Parking space identification signs shall include the International Symbol of Accessibility complying with 703.7.2.1. Signs identifying van parking spaces shall contain the designation "van accessible." Signs shall be 60 inches minimum above the finish floor or ground surface measured to the bottom of the sign.</p>

Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Install accessible parking striping. Install accessible parking signage to the required height that complies with the ADA regulation. Install handrail extensions.
---------------------------------------	--

Morgan County Board of Education	
Issue(s)	Accessible parking signage is not displayed at proper height.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	502.6 Identification. Parking space identification signs shall include the International Symbol of Accessibility complying with 703.7.2.1. Signs identifying van parking spaces shall contain the designation “van accessible.” Signs shall be 60 inches minimum above the finish floor or ground surface measured to the bottom of the sign.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Remount accessible parking signage to the required height that complies with the ADA regulation.

Great Cacapon Elementary School	
Issue(s)	No paved accessible parking area. No marked accessible parking spaces. No accessible parking signage displayed.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	206.2.2 Within a Site. At least one accessible route shall connect accessible buildings, accessible facilities, accessible elements, and accessible spaces that are on the same site. 208.2 Minimum Number. Parking spaces complying with 502 shall be provided in accordance with Table 208.2 except as required by 208.2.1, 208.2.2, and 208.2.3. Where more than one parking facility is provided on a site, the number of accessible spaces provided on the site shall be calculated according to the number of spaces required for each parking facility. 208.2.4 Van Parking Spaces. For every six or fraction of six parking spaces required by 208.2 to comply with 502, at least one shall be a van parking space complying with 502. 302.1 Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302. Access aisles shall be at the same level as the parking spaces they serve. Changes in level are not permitted. EXCEPTION: Slopes not steeper than 1:48 shall be permitted. 502.6 Identification. Parking space identification signs shall include the International Symbol of Accessibility complying with 703.7.2.1. Signs identifying van parking spaces shall contain the designation “van accessible.” Signs shall be 60 inches minimum above the finish floor or ground surface measured to the bottom of the sign.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Pave parking area. Install accessible parking striping. Install accessible parking signage to the required height that complies with the ADA regulation.

Paw Paw Elementary School

Issue(s)	Existing accessible parking area is not accessible due to curb and grassy area on driver's side. No van accessible parking area.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	<p>208.2.4 Van Parking Spaces. For every six or fraction of six parking spaces required by 208.2 to comply with 502, at least one shall be a van parking space complying with 502.</p> <p>302.1 Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302. Access aisles shall be at the same level as the parking spaces they serve. Changes in level are not permitted. EXCEPTION: Slopes not steeper than 1:48 shall be permitted.</p> <p>502.2 Car parking spaces shall be 96 inches wide minimum and van parking spaces shall be 132 inches wide minimum, shall be marked to define the width, and shall have an adjacent access aisle complying with 502.3.</p> <p>Advisory 502.4 Floor or Ground Surfaces. Access aisles are required to be nearly level in all directions to provide a surface for wheelchair transfer to and from vehicles. The exception allows sufficient slope for drainage. Built-up curb ramps are not permitted to project into access aisles and parking spaces because they would create slopes greater than 1:48.</p>
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Relocate accessible parking area to the angled parking spots closest to the main entrance doors. Add accessible parking striping. Ensure that there is van parking space with access aisle. A van accessible parking space is either at least 11 feet wide with an access aisle at least 5 feet wide or at least 8 feet wide with an access aisle at least 8 feet wide? Relocate and remount accessible parking signage to the required height that complies with the ADA regulation.

Love Assembly of God	
Issue(s)	No paved accessible parking area. No marked accessible parking spaces. Accessible parking signage is not displayed properly. Entry ramp is too steep. No handrails with handrail extensions or paved sidewalk.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	<p>206.2.2 Within a Site. At least one accessible route shall connect accessible buildings, accessible facilities, accessible elements, and accessible spaces that are on the same site.</p> <p>208.2 Minimum Number. Parking spaces complying with 502 shall be provided in accordance with Table 208.2 except as required by 208.2.1, 208.2.2, and 208.2.3. Where more than one parking facility is provided on a site, the number of accessible spaces provided on the site shall be calculated according to the number of spaces required for each parking facility.</p> <p>208.2.4 Van Parking Spaces. For every six or fraction of six parking spaces required by 208.2 to comply with 502, at least one shall be a van parking space complying with 502.</p>

	<p>302.1 Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302. Access aisles shall be at the same level as the parking spaces they serve. Changes in level are not permitted. EXCEPTION: Slopes not steeper than 1:48 shall be permitted.</p> <p>Advisory 502.4 Floor or Ground Surfaces. Access aisles are required to be nearly level in all directions to provide a surface for wheelchair transfer to and from vehicles. The exception allows sufficient slope for drainage. Built-up curb ramps are not permitted to project into access aisles and parking spaces because they would create slopes greater than 1:48.</p> <p>405.2 Slope. Ramp runs shall have a running slope not steeper than 1:12 (8.3%).</p> <p>405.8 Handrails. Ramp runs with a rise greater than 6 inches (150 mm) shall have handrails complying with 505.</p> <p>505.10.1 Top and Bottom Extension at Ramps. Ramp handrails shall extend horizontally above the landing for 12 inches (305 mm) minimum beyond the top and bottom of ramp runs. Extensions shall return to a wall, guard, or the landing surface, or shall be continuous to the handrail of an adjacent ramp run.</p> <p>502.6 Identification. Parking space identification signs shall include the International Symbol of Accessibility complying with 703.7.2.1. Signs identifying van parking spaces shall contain the designation “van accessible.” Signs shall be 60 inches minimum above the finish floor or ground surface measured to the bottom of the sign.</p>
<p>Suggestions for ADA Compliance</p>	<p>Pave parking area. Install accessible parking spaces with striping. Remount accessible parking signage to the required height that complies with the ADA regulation. Install handrails with handrail extensions. Regrade ramp to enter building and ensure the slope is less than 8.3%.</p>

<p>Pleasant View Elementary School</p>	
<p>Issue(s)</p>	<p>No marked accessible parking area. No accessible parking signage displayed.</p>
<p>2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements</p>	<p>208.2 Minimum Number. Parking spaces complying with 502 shall be provided in accordance with Table 208.2 except as required by 208.2.1, 208.2.2, and 208.2.3. Where more than one parking facility is provided on a site, the number of accessible spaces provided on the site shall be calculated according to the number of spaces required for each parking facility.</p> <p>208.2.4 Van Parking Spaces. For every six or fraction of six parking spaces required by 208.2 to comply with 502, at least one shall be a van parking space complying with 502.</p> <p>502.6 Identification. Parking space identification signs shall include the International Symbol of Accessibility complying with 703.7.2.1. Signs identifying van parking spaces shall contain the designation</p>

	“van accessible.” Signs shall be 60 inches minimum above the finish floor or ground surface measured to the bottom of the sign.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Install accessible parking striping. Install accessible parking signage to the required height that complies with the ADA regulation.

South Morgan Fire Department	
Issue(s)	No accessible parking signage displayed.
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Requirements	502.6 Identification. Parking space identification signs shall include the International Symbol of Accessibility complying with 703.7.2.1. Signs identifying van parking spaces shall contain the designation “van accessible.” Signs shall be 60 inches minimum above the finish floor or ground surface measured to the bottom of the sign.
Suggestions for ADA Compliance	Install accessible parking signage to the required height that complies with the ADA regulation.

Several temporary solutions have been offered for making polling sites across Morgan County accessible, and many of these solutions can easily be found online or at your local hardware store. An additional resource is West Virginia University’s Center for Excellence in Disabilities West Virginia Assistive Technology System (WVATS) program. This program has portable ramps to loan for free, although pick-up and drop-off of the ramps are required. Enclosed is a brochure with information for contacting WVATS.

The **2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Designs** referenced in this report can be found online at:

https://www.ada.gov/regs2010/2010ADAStandards/2010ADAStandards_prt.pdf

The following valuable resources have been included for your reference:

- ADA Checklist for Polling Places <https://www.ada.gov/votingck.htm>
- The Americans with Disabilities Act and Other Federal Laws Protecting the Rights of Voters with Disabilities https://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/ada_voting_ta.htm
- Solutions for Five Common ADA Access Problems at Polling Places https://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/voting_solutions_ta/polling_place_solutions.htm
- ADA Quick Tips Tax Incentives <https://adata.org/factsheet/quicktips-tax>

The ADA requires that public entities ensure that people with disabilities can access and use all voting facilities. Because a mix of public and private facilities are used as polling places, public entities may ensure Election Day accessibility of a polling place by using low-cost, temporary measures, such as portable ramps or door stops, rather than making permanent modifications to a building. If temporary measures will not fix a barrier, and public entities are unable to make a permanent modification to fix the barrier, then the public entity must look for an alternative, accessible polling place.