



DRY AREAS

The Market Zones represent the market areas within the State in which successful 2020 bidders and purchasers may locate their retail liquor outlets for off-premises sales of alcoholic liquors (liquor and wine).

In certain areas of the State, however, there are “DRY” areas in which the retail sale of liquor and wine are prohibited by local municipality or county ordinance.

The Market Zones established by the Retail Liquor Licensing Board encompass the dry areas. As a result, it is important that interested bidders, purchasers or Class B wine carry-outs be familiar with the “Dry Areas” in the Market Zones which are affected by local and/or county ordinances.

Per HB 4524, passed during the 2020 Regular Legislative Session, as of July 1, 2020, only 2 areas in the state have met the requirements set forth in the bill to vote, and certify the results of the vote, affirming its status as a “dry” area (See HB 4524 - <https://abca.wv.gov/Documents/Leg2020/HB.4524.pdf>).

A list of the “DRY” market areas of the State of West Virginia are presented below.

COUNTY “DRY” MARKET AREAS

Preston	Only the Town of Brandonville is dry
Calhoun	Entire county is dry

If any of these “DRY” market areas are of interest for bidding and/or purchasing a retail liquor outlet, or wine carryout, please be advised to verify the boundaries of the “DRY” versus “WET” status (i.e. permits the lawful off-premises retail sale of liquor and wine) of the area with local government officials as well as the procedures necessary to convert a “DRY” area to a “WET” area.