

## STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

### USDA Seeks Applications to Improve Solid Waste Management for People in Rural Areas

**WASHINGTON, Oct. 3, 2022** – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Under Secretary Xochitl Torres Small today announced that the department is accepting grant applications to reduce water pollution in rural areas through improvements to solid waste management.

Applications are being accepted under the [Solid Waste Management Grants program](#). USDA provides these grants to organizations that offer technical assistance or training to help rural communities manage solid waste sites and eliminate water pollution. The program is one of the many ways USDA promotes a healthy community and environment with loans and grants that ensure people, children and families have clean water and safe sewer systems to prevent runoff and pollution.

Eligible applicants include public bodies, nonprofit organizations, federally recognized tribes and academic institutions in rural areas and towns with 10,000 or fewer residents. Special consideration may be given to projects serving areas with fewer than 5,500 or 2,500 people, multiple states or lower-income populations.

USDA expects to make approximately \$4 million available through the program.

Funds may be used to:

- Evaluate current landfill conditions to identify threats to water resources.
- Provide technical assistance or training to enhance the operation and maintenance of active landfills.
- Provide technical assistance or training to help communities reduce the amount of solid waste coming into a landfill.
- Provide technical assistance or training to prepare for the closure and future use of a landfill site.

Projects must be completed within 12 months.

Applications must be submitted through [Grants.gov](#) by 11:59 p.m. ET on Dec. 31, 2022.

USDA is offering priority points to projects that advance key priorities under the Biden-Harris Administration to help communities create more and better market opportunities, advance equity and combat climate change. These extra points will increase the likelihood of funding. For more information, visit <https://www.rd.usda.gov/priority-points>.

Additional information is available on [Grants.gov](#).

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