



United States Department of Agriculture  
Rural Development  
Pennsylvania State Office  
[www.rurdev.usda.gov/pa](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/pa)

**PA AN No. 1238 (1942-A)**  
February 9, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Rural Area Policy for Pennsylvania  
Community Facilities Program

**TO:** Area Directors and Loan Specialists  
Rural Development, Pennsylvania

**PURPOSE/INTENDED OUTCOME:**

This PA AN is intended to clarify the interpretation of the Rural Area definition in RD Instruction 1942-A as it relates to the municipal structure of Pennsylvania.

**COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS AN:**

This will update and revise PA AN 1221, dated January 3, 2008. It deletes all references to Rural Utilities Service programs, as the Census Designated Place requirement does not apply to that program.

**IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITIES:**

The definition of Rural Area is shown in RD Instruction 1942-A as "...will not include any area in a city or town with a population in excess of 20,000..." In consultation with the National Office, we have determined that areas in townships should not be considered as being "in a city or town." Therefore all townships in Pennsylvania should be considered as rural areas regardless of the population of the township.

RD AN 4245 states "For Community Facilities direct loans, guaranteed loans, and grants, section 343(a)(13) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a)(13)) defines "rural" and "rural area" as a "city, town, or unincorporated area that has a population of not more than 20,000 inhabitants. The boundaries for unincorporated areas in determining populations will be based on the Census Designated Place(s). Data from the most recent decennial census of the United States will be used."

**EXPIRATION DATE:**  
January 31, 2010

**FILING INSTRUCTIONS:**  
Preceding RD Instruction 1942-A

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A list of Pennsylvania CDP's over 20,000 population is attached. These places are clustered around the metro areas of Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Scranton/Wilkes-Barre. Maps of these metro areas showing the ineligible CDP's were sent to all field offices previously and are now available on the State Office shared drive.

These interpretations should be applied to all eligibility determinations for Community Facilities applicants only. All areas within the legal boundaries of cities, boroughs, towns or CDP's will be considered as being "in a city or town" and as such the municipality must meet the population requirements for eligibility.

*/s/ Trudy S. Moore*

TRUDY S. MOORE  
Acting State Director

Attachment

**Census Designated Places  
Over 20,000 Population  
Pennsylvania**

**Scranton Wilkes-Barre Area**

**Luzerne County**

Dallas Township

Jackson Township

Kingston Township

Lake Township

Lehman Township

**Philadelphia Area**

**Bucks County**

Bristol Borough – Levittown portion

Falls Township – Levittown portion

Middletown Township – Levittown portion

**Delaware County**

Radnor Township

Springfield Township

Upper Darby Township – Drexel Hill portions

**Pittsburgh Area**

**Allegheny County**

McCandless Township

PennHills Township

Ross Township

Shaler Township

Upper St. Clair Township