

NOTICE OF POTENTIAL CHANGES TO ELIGIBLE AREA MAPS FOR USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT HOUSING PROGRAMS

USDA Rural Development is conducting a review of all areas under its jurisdiction to identify areas that no longer qualify as rural for housing programs. The last rural area reviews were performed in 2017-2018 using 2015 American Community Survey (ACS) data. Rural area designations are reviewed every five years. This review will utilize the 2020 United States decennial census data.

Based on the 2020 US census data and rural area guidance located in Handbook [HB-1-3550](#), [Chapter 5](#), the rural eligibility designation is under review for the following areas in Arkansas:

Currently eligible communities under review (population):

- Benton County – Bella Vista
- Benton County – Centerton
- Benton County – Siloam Springs
- Clark County – Arkadelphia
- Crawford County – Van Buren
- Crittenden County – Marion
- Crittenden County – West Memphis
- Greene County - Paragould
- Lonoke County – Cabot
- Miller County – Texarkana
- Pope County - Russellville
- Pulaski County – Jacksonville
- Pulaski County – Sherwood
- Saline County - Bryant
- Saline County – Benton
- Union County – El Dorado
- White County - Searcy

Currently eligible communities under review (rural in character):

- Benton County - Siloam Springs
- Benton County – Centerton
- Crawford County – Van Buren
- Lonoke County – Cabot
- Pope County – Russellville
- Pulaski County – Jacksonville
- Pulaski County – Sherwood
- Pulaski County – Maumelle
- Saline County – Bryant
- Saline County - Benton
- White County – Searcy

Ineligible communities under review (expansion of ineligible areas):

Benton County - Bentonville
Benton County – Rogers
Benton County – Springdale
Craighead County – Jonesboro
Garland County – Hot Springs
Jefferson County – Pine Bluff
Miller County - Texarkana
Pulaski County – North Little Rock
Pulaski County – Little Rock
Sebastian County – Fort Smith
Washington County – Springdale
Washington County – Fayetteville

Ineligible communities under review (reconsideration of eligibility):

N/A

The public shall have 90 days from the date of this public notice to submit comments regarding the potential loss of eligibility for Rural Development housing programs. Comments should be sent to RA.RD.ARLIT.DirSubm@usda.gov. For details, or questions about specific changes, please contact the Arkansas Rural Development Housing Program staff at (501) 301-3235.

March 7, 2023