

August 31, 2023

**PUBLIC NOTICE:**

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

USDA Rural Development has completed its 2020 decennial United States census review for all areas under its jurisdiction to identify areas that no longer qualify as rural for USDA Rural Housing programs. Based on the review of the areas within the state of Florida, using 2020 US census data, and rural area guidance located in Handbook [HB-1-3550, Chapter 5](#), the rural eligibility designation has changed for the following areas:

**Areas whose rural eligibility designations is changing from eligible to ineligible** (these areas no longer qualify as rural for USDA Housing Programs):

**Hillsborough County**

1. Plant City: Expansion to ineligible areas to include all areas annexed by the city

**Indian River County**

2. Vero Beach South: Expansion to ineligible areas to include all areas annexed by the city

**Lake County**

3. Clermont: Already ineligible; expansion to ineligible areas around the city limits to include all annexed areas since 1990
4. Four Corners: Will become ineligible due to population being greater than 35,000 because of the 2020 Census Data
5. Lady Lake Town – North of County Road 466/Lake Griffin Road: Will become completely ineligible; expansion of the ineligible area

**Marion County**

6. Ocala: Already ineligible; expansion to ineligible areas around the city limits to include all annexed areas since 1990
7. Silver Springs Shores: Will become ineligible due to population density being above 1,000 persons per square mile
8. Liberty Triangle CDP: Will become ineligible due to population density being above 1,000 persons per square mile

**Orange County**

9. Apopka: Already ineligible; expansion to ineligible areas around the city limits to include all annexed areas since 1990
10. Four Corners: Will become ineligible due to population being greater than 35,000 because of the 2020 Census Data

**Osceola County**

11. Celebration: Will become ineligible due to population density being over 1,000 persons per square mile
12. Four Corners: Will become ineligible due to population being greater than 35,000 because of the 2020 Census Data

### **Palm Beach County**

13. Belle Glade: Already ineligible; expansion to ineligible areas outside of city limits due to population being over 1,000 persons per square mile

### **Polk County:**

14. Four Corners: Will become ineligible due to population being greater than 35,000 because of the 2020 Census Data
15. Fuller Heights: Will become ineligible due to population density
16. Highland City: Will become ineligible due to population density being over 1,000 persons per square mile

### **Sarasota County:**

17. Venice: Already ineligible; expansion to ineligible areas around the city limits to include all annexed areas since 1990 and due to population density being greater than 1,000 persons per square

### **Changes become effective October 1, 2023.**

The updated rural area map can now be viewed on our [eligibility website](#). Users will need to click on the program, for example: “Single Family Housing Direct”, and then click on “Proposed Eligibility Areas” from the menu options.

For a full list of changes, additional details, or questions about specific changes, please contact the Rural Development, Florida State Office, Housing Program staff at 352-338-3435.

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