

Water and Waste Disposal Loans and Grants Program

What does this program do?

This program provides funding to help rural communities extend and improve water and waste disposal facilities. It provides funding for clean and reliable drinking water, sanitary sewage disposal, sanitary solid waste disposal, and storm water drainage systems to households and businesses in eligible rural areas.

Who can apply?

Eligible applicants include:

- **State and local governments**
- **Non-profits**
- **Federally recognized Tribes**



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What is an eligible area?

- Rural areas and towns with populations of 10,000 or less, including Tribal lands and colonias in rural areas.

To see if your area is eligible visit this website:

tinyurl.com/WEPRuraleligibility

What kinds of funding are available?

Long-term, low-interest loans. If funds are available, a grant may be combined with a loan to maintain affordable rates.

What are the loan terms?

This is a fixed-rate loan with a repayment period up to 40 years. The interest rate is based on the need for the project and the median household income of the area to be served.

How can the funds be used?

Funds may be used to purchase, construct or improve:

- Drinking water sources, treatment, storage and distribution systems
- Storm water transmission, treatment and disposal
- Sewer collection, transmission and disposal
- Solid waste collection and disposal

In some cases, funding may also be available for related activities such as:

- Legal and engineering fees
- Land purchases
- Water and land right acquisition
- Permits and equipment

For a complete list of how funds may be used see 7 CFR Part 1780.7 and 1780.9 available at this website: tinyurl.com/CFR1780.

How do we get started?

Contact your local state office. A list is available at this website: tinyurl.com/RDStateOffices.

Applications are accepted year round using RD Apply at this link: rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rd-apply.

What governs this program?

- Basic Program – 7 CFR, Part 1780, available at this website: tinyurl.com/CFR1780
- Loan Servicing – 7 CFR, Part 1782, available at this website: tinyurl.com/CFR1782
- Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, available at this website: tinyurl.com/FarmandRDAct

NOTE: Because information changes, always consult official program instructions or contact your local USDA Rural Development office for help. A list is available at this link: tinyurl.com/RDStateOffices. You will find additional RD program resources at rd.usda.gov. Information about other USDA programs and services is available at this link: ask.usda.gov/s/. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

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