



**Rural Development**

Rural Utilities Service

1400 Independence  
Ave SW, Room 4121-  
S Stop 1510  
Washington, DC  
20250-1510

Dear Customer,

**Why We Are Writing:**

The destruction caused by recent hurricanes greatly affected areas of several states. This letter is being issued as a reminder of the availability of USDA Rural Utilities Service, Water and Environmental Programs (WEP), support within Presidentially Declared Disaster areas.

**What Is Available To You If You Have Been Impacted:**

Technical Assistance Providers: Local technical assistance providers are available to assist with a wide variety of actions, including system troubleshooting, training, funding application assistance, and much more. For more information, please contact the Rural Community Assistance Partnership (RCAP) at (202) 408-1273 or visit <http://rcap.org>, or the National Rural Water Association (NRWA) at (580) 252-0629 or visit <http://nrwa.org>.

Payment Support Options: There are several tools, such as a principal and interest payment deferrals, that may provide temporary relief during recovery.

Project Construction Timeline Extensions: Extensions to the project completion timeline may be considered for any projects that have been disrupted by a disaster event.

Funding Resources: WEP's Emergency and Imminent Community Water Assistance Grants (ECWAG) program is available for water systems that are experiencing a decline in quality or quantity of drinking water. Loans and Grants from WEP can be used as a local cost-share match for awards from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Thank you for your commitment to providing service to your community. For additional information on any of the options listed above, please do not hesitate to reach out to your USDA Rural Development State Office. Your State Office contacts can be found by visiting <https://www.rd.usda.gov/browse-state>, or you may use the USDA Rural Development Area Office Locator at <https://www.rd.usda.gov/find-your-local-area-office?state=>.

Sincerely,

The Water and Environmental Programs Team