



Circuit Rider Program Technical Assistance for Rural Water Systems

What does this program do?

This program provides technical assistance to rural water systems that are experiencing day-to-day operational, financial or managerial issues. Rural water system officials may request assistance from the Rural Utilities Service, or Rural Utilities Service staff may request assistance on behalf of the system.

Who are the Circuit Riders?

- Rural Utilities Service has consultants contracted with the **National Rural Water Association** who are experienced in managing issues that may arise in the day-to-day operations of rural water systems.
- **NRWA State Affiliates** provide the technical assistance in their states.

What is an eligible project area?

- Check **eligible addresses**

Who may apply for this program?

Assistance may be requested by officials of rural water systems or Rural Utilities Service staff.

On what topics can the Circuit Rider assist?

- Day-to-day operational issues
- Financial issues
- Management issues
- Energy Audits

Is there a time limit on assistance?

- Assistance is provided on an as-needed basis.

How do we get started?

Contact your **local RD office** for details on circuit rider assistance.

Who can answer questions?

- Help is always available through your **local RD office**.

How can I become a Circuit Rider?

You may visit **www.nrwa.org** for more information.

- Circuit Riders provide service in each State and U.S. Territory. A list of the **State Affiliates** is available online. Visit a State's website to contact the Circuit Riders in that state.

What governs this program?

- A contract between the Rural Utilities Service and the National Rural Water Association
- Section 306(a)(22)(B) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)(22)(B)), as amended

Why does USDA Rural Development do this?

The program helps the Rural Utilities Service better meet statutory and regulatory oversight requirements for loans, loan guarantees and grants to rural water systems in need of short-term technical assistance.

NOTE: Because citations and other information may be subject to change please always consult the program instructions listed in the section above titled "What Governs this Program?" You may also contact your **local RD office** for assistance. You will find additional forms, resources, and program information at **www.rd.usda.gov**. *USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.*