

Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Program

Success Story: Bringing 21st-Century Waste Management to Lindale Mobile Home Park in Middlebury, VT

\$1.08 Million

Project Funding from
USDA RD

\$876,000

Water & Waste Disposal
grant funding

\$203,000

Water & Waste Disposal
loan funding

1.75%

30-year loan
interest rate

8496

Middlebury-area residents
positively impacted

\$1.26 Million

Additional funding from
partners and ACCT

Aging Infrastructure Defines an ESSENTIAL NEED

More than half of the lots in the Lindale Mobile Home Park (MHP) in Middlebury, Vermont have been there since the 60s, and their septic systems have not been updated since. Symptoms of outdated systems impacted residents via backed up toilets, sinks and appliances, and some people had to pump their tanks every other week. Leaders at the Addison County Community Trust (ACCT), which owns the property, knew that measures had to be taken, so they turned to trusted partners.

A Path Forward through SMART PLANNING

In 2017, the Vermont Housing Conservation Board (VHCB) funded a hydrology feasibility study on behalf of Lindale MHP. The soils in the area are poor for septic work, and the expert evaluation came back with a pointed recommendation: Build a communitywide system to lessen the cost and construction time of addressing individual lots. A leach field on 25 acres of recently purchased land would make it possible, and ACCT refinanced the MHP to start funding the project in earnest.

Reaping the Benefits of TRANSFORMATIVE FUNDING

With a sound strategy in place, the ACCT turned to state and federal resources for the bulk of financing. A Vermont Community Development Block Grant for \$450K and a USDA Rural Development Water & Waste Disposal loan and grant package for \$1.08M, packed a big one-two investment punch. This project will significantly reduce maintenance and operation costs, offer homeowners a safer, sanitary place to live and raise families, and keep the MHP attractive and inviting to new residents.

For program regulations and requirements, please go to the [USDA RD fact sheet](#)

