

STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

USDA Seeks Applications to Help Build and Repair Household Water Systems in Rural Communities

WASHINGTON, June 21, 2022 – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Under Secretary for Rural Development Xochitl Torres Small today announced that USDA is seeking applications for grants from qualified nonprofit organizations to create revolving loan funds and provide sub-grants to help rural homeowners finance individually-owned household water well and wastewater systems.

USDA is making the funds available under the <u>Rural Decentralized Water Systems Grant program</u>. Through this program, USDA awards grants to qualified nonprofit organizations or Tribal lending institutions to provide affordable loans or sub-grants to low-income homeowners who need assistance constructing, refurbishing, or servicing household water well or wastewater systems. The loans made to the homeowner include a maximum 20-year term with a one-percent interest rate.

USDA is offering priority points to projects that advance key priorities under the Biden-Harris Administration to help communities recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, advance equity, and combat climate change. These extra points will increase the likelihood of funding for projects that will advance these key priorities in rural America.

Applications must be submitted electronically using <u>Grants.gov</u> no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on July 31, 2022.

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