



NEWS RELEASE

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Applications Being Accepted to Assist Rural Areas with Water & Waste Issues

LINCOLN, NEB., Sept. 17, 2008— USDA Rural Development will be accepting applications beginning Oct. 1, 2008 for monies available to help private non-profit organizations and public bodies, including local governmental-based jurisdictional organizations, assist rural Nebraska in areas of water, wastewater, and solid waste. Application deadline is December 31, 2008.

Technical assistance and training grants are available to private non-profit organizations that have the proven ability, background, experience, legal authority, and actual capacity to provide technical assistance and/or training on a regional basis to associations.

Technical assistance and training grants are used to:

- Identify and evaluate solutions to water problems of associations in rural areas relating to source, storage, treatment and distribution;
- Identify and evaluate solutions to waste problems of associations in rural areas relating to collection, treatment and disposal;
- Assist associations with Rural Development water and/or wastewater loan and/or grant applications;
- Provide training to association personnel that will improve the management, operation and maintenance of water and waste disposal facilities; and
- Pay expenses associated with providing technical assistance and/or training.

Solid waste management grants are available to private non-profit organizations and public bodies, including local governmental-based jurisdictional organizations. Applicants must have the proven ability, background, experience, legal authority, and actual capacity to provide technical assistance and/or training on a regional basis to associations. The objectives of solid waste management grants are to reduce or eliminate pollution of water resources and to improve the planning and management of solid waste sites in rural areas.

Solid waste management grants are used to:

- Evaluate current landfill conditions to reduce or eliminate pollution of water resources in rural areas.
- Provide technical assistance and/or training to:
 1. Enhance operator skills in the operation and maintenance of active landfills;
 2. Help communities reduce the solid waste stream;

Committed to the future of rural communities.

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To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights,
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410,
or call (800) 795-3272 (voice), or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).

3. Assist operators of landfills which are closed or will be closed in the near future with the development and implementation of closure plans, future land use plans, safety and maintenance planning, and closure scheduling within permit requirements.

Visit: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/SWVG.htm> for Solid Waste Management Grants and <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/tatg.htm> for Technical Assistance and Training Grants. Contact Troy Gagner at USDA Rural Development, (402) 437-5556 for obtaining an application and for program information.

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