



Committed to the future of rural communities.

Connecticut—Rural Utilities Service

Community Building

USDA Helps Historic Town Protect Habitat & Improve Wastewater Management Practices

Outline of Need:

The Town of Pomfret, incorporated in 1713, is one of the oldest communities in Connecticut. Situated in the state's Northeastern "quiet corner," Pomfret was a rural agricultural town that has evolved into a rural residential one with some light industry; the town is bounded by numerous lakes, ponds, and streams. Community assets include Mashamoquet Brook State Park – 900 acres used for hiking, camping and fishing – and several historic buildings and landmarks. The town's water and sewer infrastructure is aging, and in recent years, two private schools and one local manufacturing business have experienced sanitation issues. Wastewater discharge can seriously affect groundwater and surface water quality, and in turn, wildlife habitat. All three properties need wastewater treatment improvements to ensure their uninterrupted operation.

How Rural Development Helped:

Rural Development financed a sewer extension project through a combination loan-grant totaling \$5.8 Million. The project consists of three pumping stations and the installation of 31,000 linear feet of 4" force-main running



Historic Town of Pomfret is one of the oldest communities in Connecticut.

along CT Routes 169 and 101 to a connection point with an existing main that runs to the treatment plant. The Town of Pomfret does not operate any public water or sewer treatment facilities. As such, the project ties into the neighboring Town of Killingly's Wastewater Treatment Facility, which is currently treating – on average - 3.6 million gallons per day (mgd) of an 8 mgd maximum flow, or 45 percent of capacity.

The Results:

When this project is complete, the Town of Pomfret will have addressed serious sanitary issues at three important sites: the two private schools and the manufacturing business. None of the three institutions comply with current state standards for water quality of effluent discharges to the ground or the surface waters in the State of Connecticut. Thus, the organizations could face challenges to renewing the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection permits necessary to continue service. Completion of the project will address those issues and bring the three institutions into compliance. Under the supervision of the Pomfret Water Pollution Control Authority, this project will enable the Town to monitor discharge and treatment from these three high volume users. Doing so can minimize potential groundwater contamination, and reduce or eliminate negative impacts on wetlands and wildlife habitat.

Fast Facts

Program:	Water and Environment
Investment:	\$4,425,000 loan \$1,475,000 grant
Congressional:	CT-2nd
Demographics:	Population of service area is 3,798
Impact:	The assistance provided will protect natural resources and ensure continual operation of key community institutions.

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