

STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

USDA Seeks Applications for Grants to Build and Improve Rural Water Infrastructure

WASHINGTON, June 3, 2021 – The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced that it is accepting Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 applications for grants to create revolving loan funds to build and improve water and wastewater disposal systems in rural areas.

USDA is making funds available through the Water and Wastewater Projects Revolving Funds Program. This program helps qualified nonprofit organizations create loans to finance water and wastewater projects. The funds may be used for pre-development costs for water and wastewater treatment projects. They may also be used to finance short-term and small capital improvement projects that are not part of regular operation and maintenance costs. Within approved guidelines, program recipients set the loan terms for the individual communities they serve.

In FY 2021, USDA has increased the maximum loan amount to \$200,000. The previous loan limit was \$100,000. This change will help expand access to safe, reliable drinking water, and sanitary sewage treatment for households and businesses in rural communities.

Applications must be submitted electronically using <u>Grants.gov</u> no later than midnight Eastern Time on July 16, 2021. Additional information is available on <u>Grants.gov</u>.

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