



**United States Department of Agriculture**

Water Conservation Program  
Community Water Assistance Program

# Community Programs

- Community Facilities (town halls, fire halls, DPW buildings, fire trucks, police cars, libraries, etc.)
- Water & Waste (water & sewer projects)

USDA Water & Sewer website -

[http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/UWEP\\_HomePage.html](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/UWEP_HomePage.html)

USDA Community Facilities website -

[http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/HCF\\_CF.html](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/HCF_CF.html)

# Community Programs

- Community Facilities: eligible applicants include:
  - Public bodies, non-profits, & tribes located in communities or a service area less than 20,000 population.
- Water & Waste: eligible applicants include:
  - Public bodies, tribes, non-profits located in communities or a service area less than 10,000 population.

# Community Programs

- Community Facilities Programs:

- Direct loan program

- 20,000 population limit

- 3.3750% fixed interest rate, updated quarterly

- Loan terms up to 40 years, dependent upon useful life of facility

- No prepayment penalties

- Loan amounts dictated by repayment ability

# Community Programs

- Community Facilities Programs:
  - **Guarantee Loans**

Same eligibility parameters as the direct loan and grant program

90% guarantee

1% commitment fee

Can leverage with lender's direct loan or the CF direct loan program

# Community Programs

- Water/Sewer Programs (WEP):

- **Direct Loans and Grants**

Funds may be used for new systems, rehabilitation of existing systems, and storm sewer separation.

10,000 population limit

Grant funds are used to keep user rates at an affordable level based upon 1.5% of the MHI of the service area.

3 tiers of interest rates, which change on a quarterly basis

No prepayment penalties or call periods

Up to 40 year term

# WEP Interest Rates

Updated on a quarterly basis

Current interest rates – 1/1/2017 – 3/31/2017

- **Poverty Interest Rate**
  - MHI of less than \$41,678 with a third-party documented violation of a health or sanitary standard 2.000%
- **Intermediate**
  - MHI between \$41,678 - \$52,097 2.750%
- **Market**
  - MHI over \$52,097 3.375%

# Community Programs

- Water/Sewer Programs:
  - Predevelopment Planning Grants (PPG)

Funding Limit - \$25,000 or 75% of the project cost, whichever is less.

Available to communities under population of 10,000

Restricted to communities with MHI below 80% of SNMHI or \$41,678

Grant pays for the costs associated with developing a complete application

Applicants must prove that they are unable to pay these development costs on their own.

PPG funds cannot be used to pay for work already completed.

Costs incurred prior to grant approval will not be considered eligible.



# Community Programs

- Water/Sewer Programs:
  - Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Communities and Households (SEARCH)

Same grant eligibility parameters as PPG

Funding Limit - \$30,000 or 100% of the project cost, whichever is less.

Available to communities under population of 2,500

# Community Programs

- Water/Sewer Programs:
  - Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants (ECWAG)

To assist rural communities that have experienced a significant decline in quantity or quality of drinking water due to an emergency, or in which such decline is considered imminent, to obtain or maintain adequate quantities of water that meets the standards set by the Safe Drinking Water Act. This emergency is considered an occurrence of an incident such as, but not limited to, a drought; earthquake; flood; tornado; hurricane; disease outbreak; or chemical spill, leakage, or seepage.

Two levels of funding limits

- \$150,000 limit for distribution waterline work
- \$500,000 limit for water source and treatment plant

MHI of service area must be below the SNMHI of \$52,097

Population of service area must be below 10,000

# Community Programs

- Water/Sewer Programs:
  - Section 306C Water and Waste Disposal Grants

These funds have been set aside for eligible projects that benefit members of Federally Recognized Native American Tribes. Residents of the rural area to be served must face significant health risks due to the fact that a significant proportion of the community residents do not have access to, or are not served by, adequate, affordable, water and/or waste disposal systems. Documentation to support the poor sanitary waste disposal and health risks should be provided to USDA. Water and waste disposal systems can obtain up to 100 percent grants to construct basic drinking water, sanitary sewer, solid waste disposal and storm drainage. Also, under this program, the systems can obtain funds to provide grant assistance directly to individuals to install necessary indoor plumbing like bathrooms and pay other costs of connecting to the system.

Funding Limit - \$1,000,000 per project

# Community Programs

- Water/Sewer Programs:

- Section 306E Household Water Well Systems Grants

The Household Water Well System (HWWS) Grant Program provides grants to qualified private non-profit organizations to establish lending programs for household water wells in rural areas. Homeowners or eligible individuals may borrow money from an organization receiving a HWWS grant so they may construct or upgrade their private well systems.

Rural areas are defined as locations other than cities or towns of more than 50,000 people and the contiguous and adjacent urbanized area of such towns and cities.

An individual cannot receive a HWWS grant. An individual may receive a loan from an organization receiving a grant award. An individual must apply for loans through non-profit organizations that USDA Rural Development has approved to receive grant funds. The loan limit is \$11,000 at 1 percent for 20 years.

# Community Programs

- Water/Sewer Programs:
  - Section 306E Household Water Well Systems Grants (continued)

Funds may be used to create a revolving loan fund to provide low-interest loans to eligible individuals to construct, refurbish, and service individually-owned household water well systems. Loans may not be provided for home sewer or septic system projects. Eligible individuals must occupy and own or will own an existing home whose well system will be improved with the proceeds of the HWWS loan.

The non-profit organizations applying for the grant funds must contribute at least 10 percent of the HWWS grant to capitalize the revolving loan fund. The cost-sharing funds may be contributed from an applicant own resources or third-party resources sources other than the proceeds of the HWWS grants. In-kind contributions will not be considered.

# Community Programs

- Water/Sewer Programs:
  - Solid Waste Management Program (SWM)

To evaluate current landfill conditions to determine threats to water resources. Provide technical assistance and/or training to enhance operator skills in the operation and maintenance of active landfills. Provide technical assistance and/or training to help communities reduce the solid waste stream. Provide technical assistance and/or training for 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.

Eligible applicants include non-profit organizations, public bodies, tribes, and academic institutions.

Grant awards have averaged \$100,000 or less.

# Miscellaneous Items

- Rural Development accepts applications year round and can fund projects any time, subject to funding availability and approval of funding allocations.
- If project is not selected for funding, the project remains on our application list until withdrawn by the applicant.
- For those pending applications, it is strongly suggested that either the applicant or the engineer keep us informed on any changes of project scope and amount of funds needed.
- Rural Development projects funded with our regular allocation are not required to comply with Davis Bacon.



- City of Potterville
- Sewer - \$3,515,000
- Water - \$2,067,000
- Streets (CF) - \$1,434,000

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United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

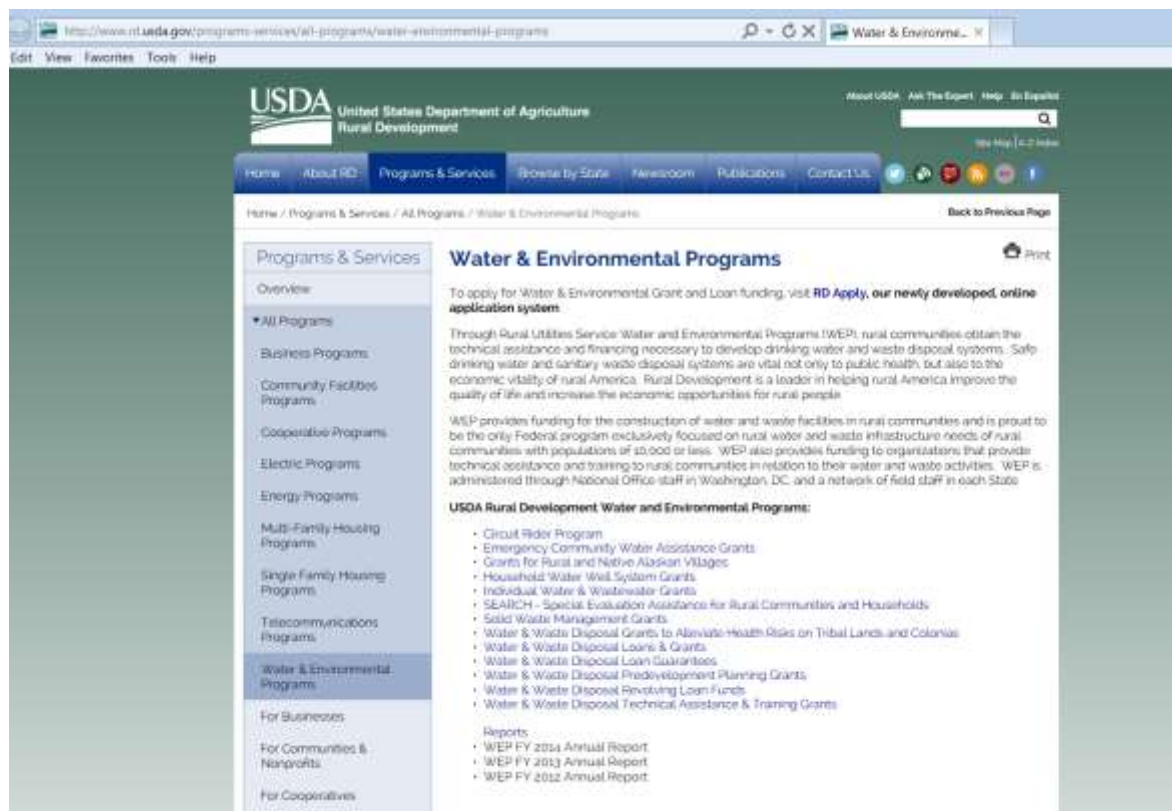
# Rural Development



## Introduction to RD Apply *Water and Environmental Programs*

# RDApply – Public Webpage

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/all-programs/water-environmental-programs>



The screenshot shows the USDA Rural Development website page for Water & Environmental Programs. The page features a navigation menu with options like 'Home', 'About RD', 'Programs & Services', 'Browse by State', 'Newsroom', 'Publications', and 'Contact Us'. The main content area is titled 'Water & Environmental Programs' and includes a 'Print' button. The page provides information on how to apply for grants and loans, mentioning the 'RD Apply' online application system. It also lists various programs such as the Circuit Rider Program, Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants, and grants for rural and Native Alaskan villages. A list of reports is provided at the bottom, including the WEP FY 2014, 2013, and 2012 Annual Reports.

**Programs & Services**

Overview

- All Programs
- Business Programs
- Community Facilities Programs
- Cooperative Programs
- Electric Programs
- Energy Programs
- Multi-Family Housing Programs
- Single Family Housing Programs
- Telecommunications Programs
- Water & Environmental Programs**
- For Businesses
- For Communities & Nonprofits
- For Cooperatives

**Water & Environmental Programs**

To apply for Water & Environmental Grant and Loan funding, visit **RD Apply**, our newly developed, online application system.

Through Rural Utilities Service Water and Environmental Programs (WEP), rural communities obtain the technical assistance and financing necessary to develop drinking water and waste disposal systems. Safe drinking water and sanitary waste disposal systems are vital not only to public health, but also to the economic vitality of rural America. Rural Development is a leader in helping rural America improve the quality of life and increase the economic opportunities for rural people.

WEP provides funding for the construction of water and waste facilities in rural communities and is proud to be the only Federal program exclusively focused on rural water and waste infrastructure needs of rural communities with populations of 10,000 or less. WEP also provides funding to organizations that provide technical assistance and training to rural communities in relation to their water and waste activities. WEP is administered through National Office staff in Washington, DC, and a network of field staff in each State.

**USDA Rural Development Water and Environmental Programs:**

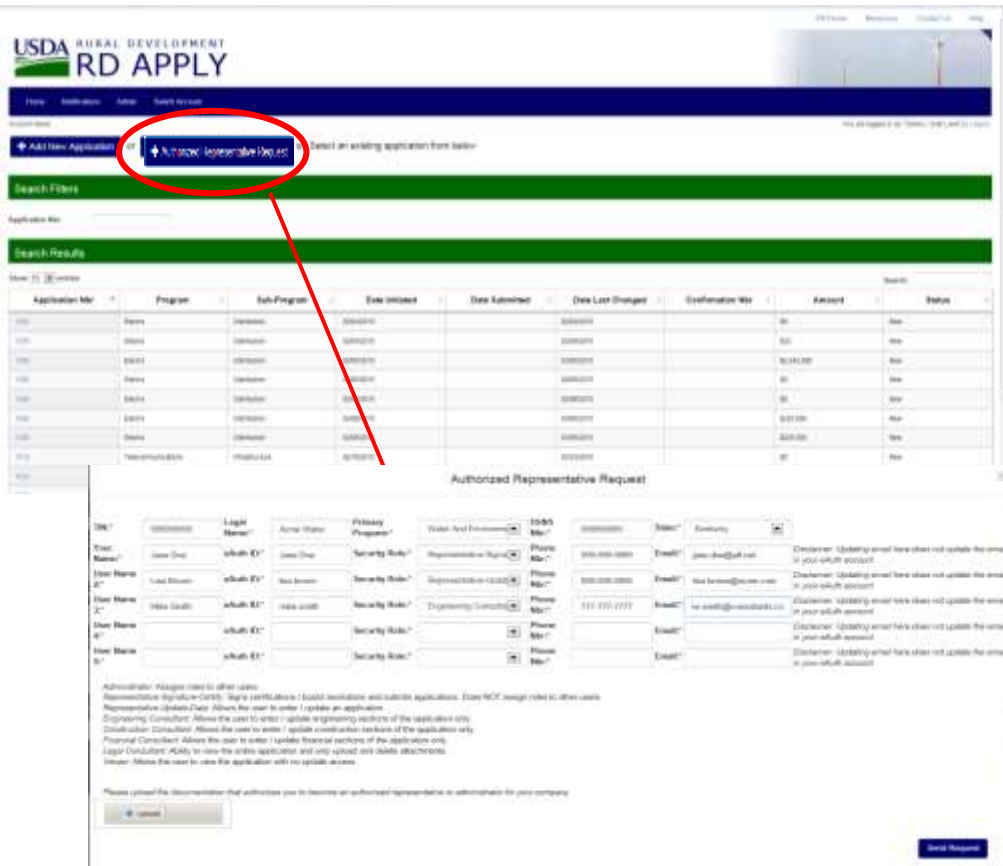
- Circuit Rider Program
- Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants
- Grants for Rural and Native Alaskan Villages
- Household Water Well System Grants
- Individual Water & Wastewater Grants
- SEARHC – Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Communities and Households
- Solid Waste Management Grants
- Water & Waste Disposal Grants to Alleviate Health Risks on Tribal Lands and Colonias
- Water & Waste Disposal Loans & Grants
- Water & Waste Disposal Loan Guarantees
- Water & Waste Disposal Predevelopment Planning Grants
- Water & Waste Disposal Revolving Loan Funds
- Water & Waste Disposal Technical Assistance & Training Grants

**Reports**

- WEP FY 2014 Annual Report
- WEP FY 2013 Annual Report
- WEP FY 2012 Annual Report

# Who Uses RD Apply?

- Applicant's official with signature authority
- Other persons authorized by this official
  - Other applicant reps (City Clerk, System Manager, Board Chair, etc.)
  - Engineer
  - Accountant
- All users obtain e-authentication which verifies personal identity



USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT RD APPLY

Home Applications Info Tools & Forms

ADD NEW APPLICATION **Authorized Representative Request** Select an existing application here below.

Search Filters

Application No.

Search Results

Application No.	Program	Sub-Program	Date Initiated	Date Submitted	Date Last Changed	Confirmation No.	Amount	Status
1001	Water	Water	1/1/2010	1/1/2010	1/1/2010	10	10	App
1002	Water	Water	1/1/2010	1/1/2010	1/1/2010	50	50	App
1003	Water	Water	1/1/2010	1/1/2010	1/1/2010	10,000,000	10,000,000	App
1004	Water	Water	1/1/2010	1/1/2010	1/1/2010	10	10	App
1005	Water	Water	1/1/2010	1/1/2010	1/1/2010	10	10	App
1006	Water	Water	1/1/2010	1/1/2010	1/1/2010	100,000,000	100,000,000	App
1007	Water	Water	1/1/2010	1/1/2010	1/1/2010	100,000	100,000	App
1008	Water	Water	1/1/2010	1/1/2010	1/1/2010	10	10	App

Authorized Representative Request

User Name: John Doe Legal Status: Adult (E) Access Status: None Priority Program: None Water Aid Program: 10-55 Phone No.: 555-555-5555 Email: john.doe@usda.gov

User Name: Jane Smith Legal Status: Adult (E) Access Status: None Priority Program: None Phone No.: 555-555-5555 Email: jane.smith@usda.gov

User Name: Bob Brown Legal Status: Adult (E) Access Status: None Priority Program: None Phone No.: 555-555-5555 Email: bob.brown@usda.gov

User Name: Alice Green Legal Status: Adult (E) Access Status: None Priority Program: None Phone No.: 555-555-5555 Email: alice.green@usda.gov

User Name: Charlie White Legal Status: Adult (E) Access Status: None Priority Program: None Phone No.: 555-555-5555 Email: charlie.white@usda.gov

User Name: Diana Black Legal Status: Adult (E) Access Status: None Priority Program: None Phone No.: 555-555-5555 Email: diana.black@usda.gov

Administrator: Allows user to enter users.  
 Representative (Sign-off-CERT): Sign a certificate to loan beneficiaries and submit applications. Does NOT assign roles to other users.  
 Representative Update Only: Allows the user to enter / update an application.  
 Engineering Consultant: Allows the user to enter / update engineering sections of the application only.  
 Financial Consultant: Allows the user to enter / update financial sections of the application only.  
 Legal Consultant: Allow to view the entire application and only upload and delete attachments.  
 Review: Allows the user to view the application with no update access.

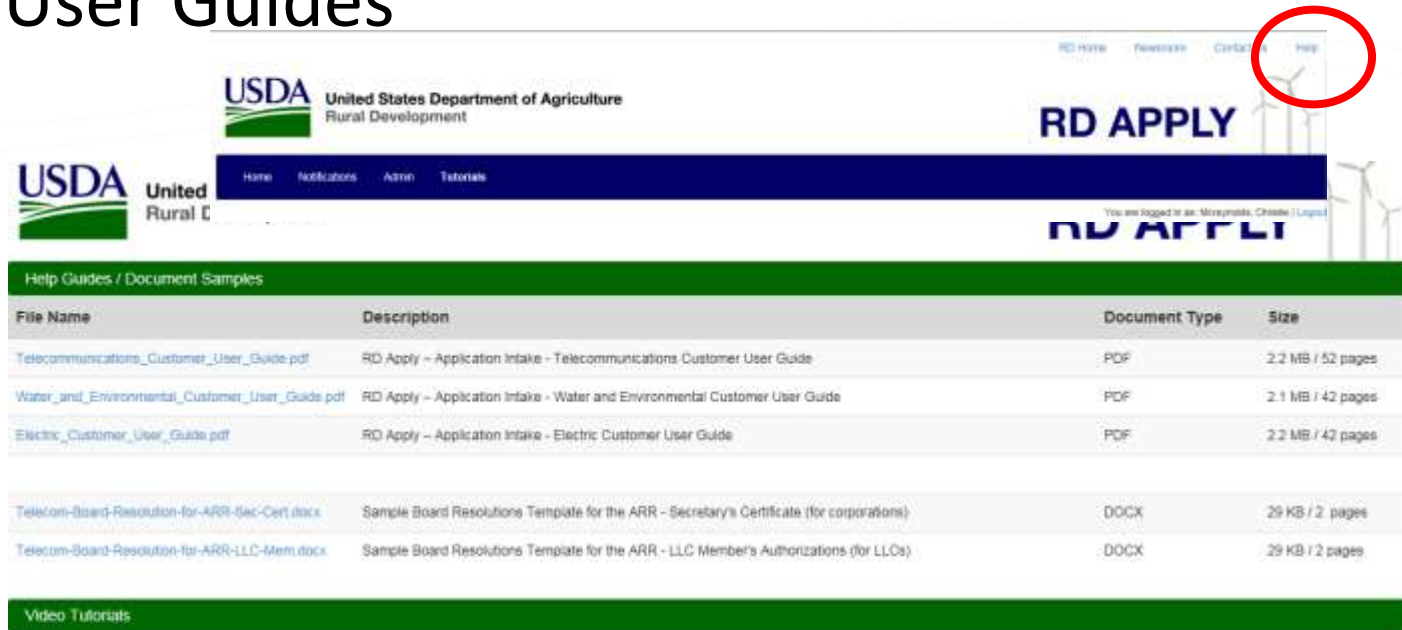
Please upload the documentation that authorizes you to become an authorized representative to administer the loan company.

Send Request

Customers can request to be an authorized representative for their company and can be granted Administrator privileges, which will allow them to grant other people access to their application. Different roles can be assigned including signing/certifying, update, update certain areas only or viewing only.

# Helpful Info: User Guides


- Documents and videos to guide you through the application process.
- The guides are updated regularly to incorporate changes and updates.



The screenshot shows the USDA RD APPLY website. The top navigation bar includes links for 'RD Home', 'Features', 'Contact', and 'Help' (circled in red). The main content area is titled 'Help Guides / Document Samples' and contains a table with the following data:

File Name	Description	Document Type	Size
<a href="#">Telecommunications_Customer_User_Guide.pdf</a>	RD Apply – Application Intake – Telecommunications Customer User Guide	PDF	2.2 MB / 52 pages
<a href="#">Water_and_Environmental_Customer_User_Guide.pdf</a>	RD Apply – Application Intake – Water and Environmental Customer User Guide	PDF	2.1 MB / 42 pages
<a href="#">Electric_Customer_User_Guide.pdf</a>	RD Apply – Application Intake – Electric Customer User Guide	PDF	2.2 MB / 47 pages
<a href="#">Telecom-Board-Resolution-for-ARR-Sec-Cert.docx</a>	Sample Board Resolutions Template for the ARR – Secretary's Certificate (for corporations)	DOCX	29 KB / 2 pages
<a href="#">Telecom-Board-Resolution-for-ARR-LLC-Mem.docx</a>	Sample Board Resolutions Template for the ARR – LLC Member's Authorizations (for LLCs)	DOCX	29 KB / 2 pages

Below the table is a section for 'Video Tutorials'.

Below is a playlist of video tutorials for RD Apply. To navigate to a particular video, click the triple bar icon  in the upper left hand corner of the player. You can also [click here](#) to open the video tutorials on YouTube.





## RDApply – eAuth

- Applicants can access via the RDApply Program Page by clicking Register (<http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rd-apply>)
- or by going directly to RDApply at <https://rdapply.sc.egov.usda.gov>
- Once the Account is created, the Applicant will receive an Email to Enable the Account. Once Account is activated and enabled Applicant will be asked to “Update their profile”.
- After updating their eAuth Profile and logging back into RDApply the system will automatically take the applicant through the Online-Identity Proofing process to complete their eAuth Level 2 verification.

# Contact

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