



NJ Water Association USDA Rural Development Program Overview

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USDA Rural Development

Mission Area

- Rural Business / Cooperative Service
- Rural Housing Service
- Rural Utilities Service

We deliver financial assistance to rural communities for
Community and Economic Development

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USDA Rural Development

Jane Asselta, State Director

Appointed March 14, 2022
 Vice President of the Southern New Jersey
 Development Council (SNJDC) over 10 years
 Prior to joining SNJDC, operated a boutique
 fundraising consulting firm in Chicago, for
 candidates for public office
 Native of Vineland growing up a few miles
 from the family's produce farm when "farm to
 table" was a way of life
 Graduate of Douglass College, Rutgers
 University and Vineland High School



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USDA Rural Development

Christine Schmelzle Community Programs Director

15+ years experience in Community
 Facilities & Water and Environmental
 lending
 Masters of Professional Studies in
 Community Economic Development
 Manages a \$232 million loan portfolio



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USDA Rural Development

Deborah S. Tort Area Specialist

25+ years experience in Rural Development
5+ years Community Facilities & Water and
Environmental lending

Vineland Area Office contact for processing
and servicing Southern New Jersey
counties in both programs



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Community Programs

Grants and Loans for Essential Services

Eligible applicants:

- Public Bodies
- Non-Profits

Purposes:

- Equipment
- Real Estate Acquisition and
Improvements



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Applicants = Public Bodies or Non-profits<input type="checkbox"/> Rural = Communities < 20,000<input type="checkbox"/> Term up to 40 years<input type="checkbox"/> Interest Rates adjusted quarterly<input type="checkbox"/> No prepayment penalties	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Community Programs Direct Loans</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">24</p>
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Community Facilities Direct Loan Program



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Community Facilities Grant Program Equipment and vehicle projects

Examples

- Equipment to control algae blooms,
- Electric vehicle charging stations
- Streetsweepers
- Trash receptacles
- Streetscaping/lighting
- Rainwater harvesting systems



Note

4 levels of grant based on Median Household Income & Population

Financial Need – matching can come from other sources or loan/grant combination

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Rural Utility Service

Water and Environmental Programs - For Public bodies & Non-Profits

Direct Loans
Grants
Guaranteed Loans

Telecommunications Programs - For Public Bodies, Non-Profits, & Businesses

Distance Learning and Telemedicine
Grants
ReConnect Loan and Grant Program

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Water and Environmental Programs

- Water and Waste Disposal Loans and Grants
- SEARCH Grants
- Pre-development Planning Grants
- Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants
- Technical Assistance Training Grants

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Water & Waste Disposal Loans & Grants

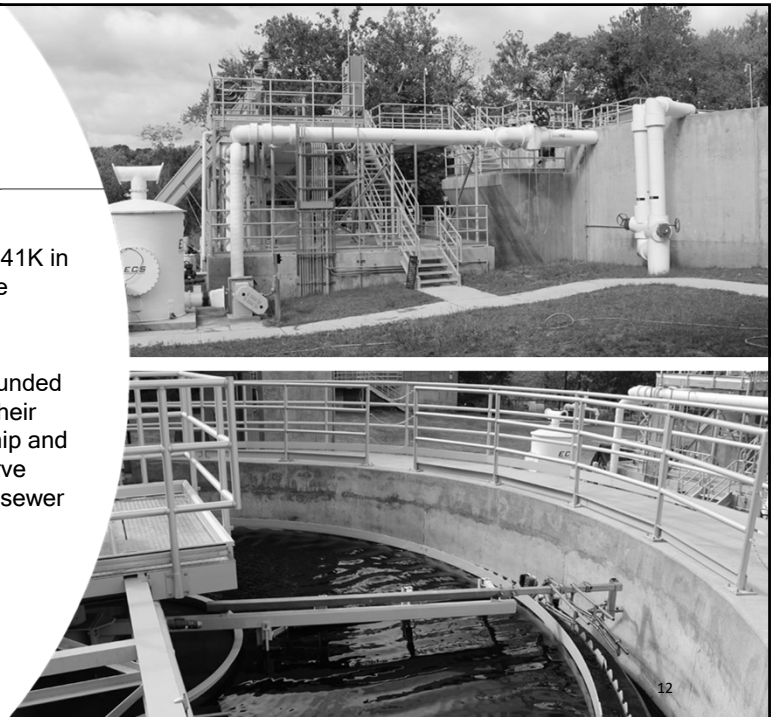
Eligible Project Purposes

Paulsboro Borough funded \$2.8M in loan & 941K in grant for their Water Treatment Plant upgrade project.

Carneys Point Township Sewerage Authority funded \$6M in loan \$276k in grant to install/expand their sanitary sewer force main across the Township and upgrade a sanitary sewer pump station to serve new properties and accommodate increased sewer flows.

Storm Sewer (storm water collection)

Solid Waste System Improvements



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Applicants = Public Bodies or Non-profits

- Rural = Communities < 10,000
- Grant possible Median Household Income < \$91,354
- Term up to 40 years (useful life, LFB restrictions)
- Interest Rates- Poverty, Intermediate, Market

- Rates change quarterly 10/1, 1/1, 4/1, 7/1

Population for FY 23 will continue with 2010 Census
 Implementation of 2020 Census Data for Rural Development
 Programs for 2020 Census will being FY 24 (10/1/23)

Water and Environmental Programs

2.125%	Poverty
2.750%	Intermediate
3.500%	Market

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EMERGENCY COMMUNITY WATER ASSISTANCE GRANT (ECWAG)

- Assist Rural Communities that have a decline in quantity/quality of drinking water due to an emergency
 - Brooklawn \$1 million
 - Woodbine \$1 million
 - National Park \$1 million
- <10,000 in population, MHI <\$91,354
- Demonstrate financial need
- Grants may be 100% of total project cost
- Max Grant \$1 million for water source up to Treatment or up to \$150K distribution water lines



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SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT GRANTS

- Evaluate current landfill conditions to identify threats to water resources.
- Provide technical assistance/training to enhance operation and maintenance of active landfills.
- Provide technical assistance/training to help communities reduce amount of solid waste coming into a landfill.
- Provide technical assistance/training to prepare for closure and future use of a landfill site.



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Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Communities and Households (SEARCH) Predevelopment Planning Grants (PPG)

SEARCH	PPG
Pay for feasibility studies, preliminary design assistance, TA for financially distressed communities	Pay for Preliminary Engineering Report & Environmental Report or other costs associated with developing a complete application
To find solutions to water, sewer, storm water, and solid waste management.	To implement solutions to water, sewer, storm water, and solid waste management.
Proposed service area has MHI < \$73,083 and population < 2,500	Proposed service area has MHI < \$73,083 and population < 10,000
Maximum Grant - \$30,000	Maximum Grant - \$30,000 or 75% of eligible costs whichever is less
No required match – 100% of TPC	Grant Repayment – only if additional funds are approved for the project

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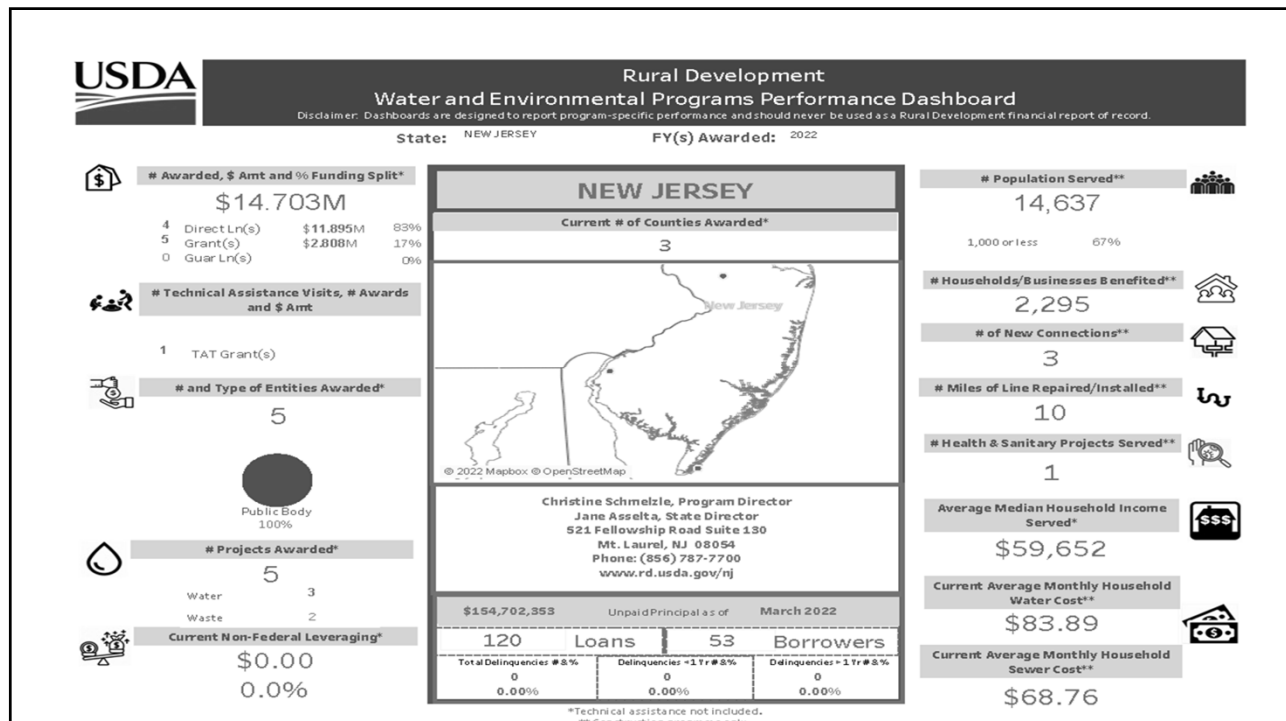
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USDA Rural Development FY2022-23 Funding Priorities

- ✓ Addressing Climate Change
- ✓ Advancing Racial Justice, Equity and Opportunity
- ✓ Creating More and Better Market Opportunities

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USDA Rural Development 2/3/23 (BABA) Build America / Buy America Waiver Expires

(OMB) Office of Management and Budget approved Rural Development's request for a public interest waiver for a six-month period to implement the provisions of the Build America, Buy America Act (BABAA) which issues new standards that will strengthen domestic preferences on infrastructure projects funded by RD programs.

The six-month adjustment period expires on February 3, 2023.

American Iron and Steel remain in effect.

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USDA Rural Development NJ Contacts

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Deborah S. Tort (South Jersey: Serving Ocean, Atlantic,
Area Specialist Cumberland, Cape May, Gloucester,
Deborah.Tort@usda.gov Camden, Salem Counties)
856-285-7653

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USDA Rural Development Social Media



rd.usda.gov/nj



rd.usda.gov/coronavirus



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