

Clean Water State Revolving Fund/ Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Updates

&

A Discussion of how States Can Take Advantage of Water Technical Assistance Opportunities



Clean Water
State Revolving Fund

Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Update

Andrew Sawyers, EPA
Association of Clean Water Agencies
August 2024



National CWSRF Accomplishments



\$8.8 billion
in FY23



\$775 million
federal allotment
in FY23



1.5%
National average interest
rate in FY23 (vs. 3.6%
prevailing market rate)



\$172 billion
since 1988



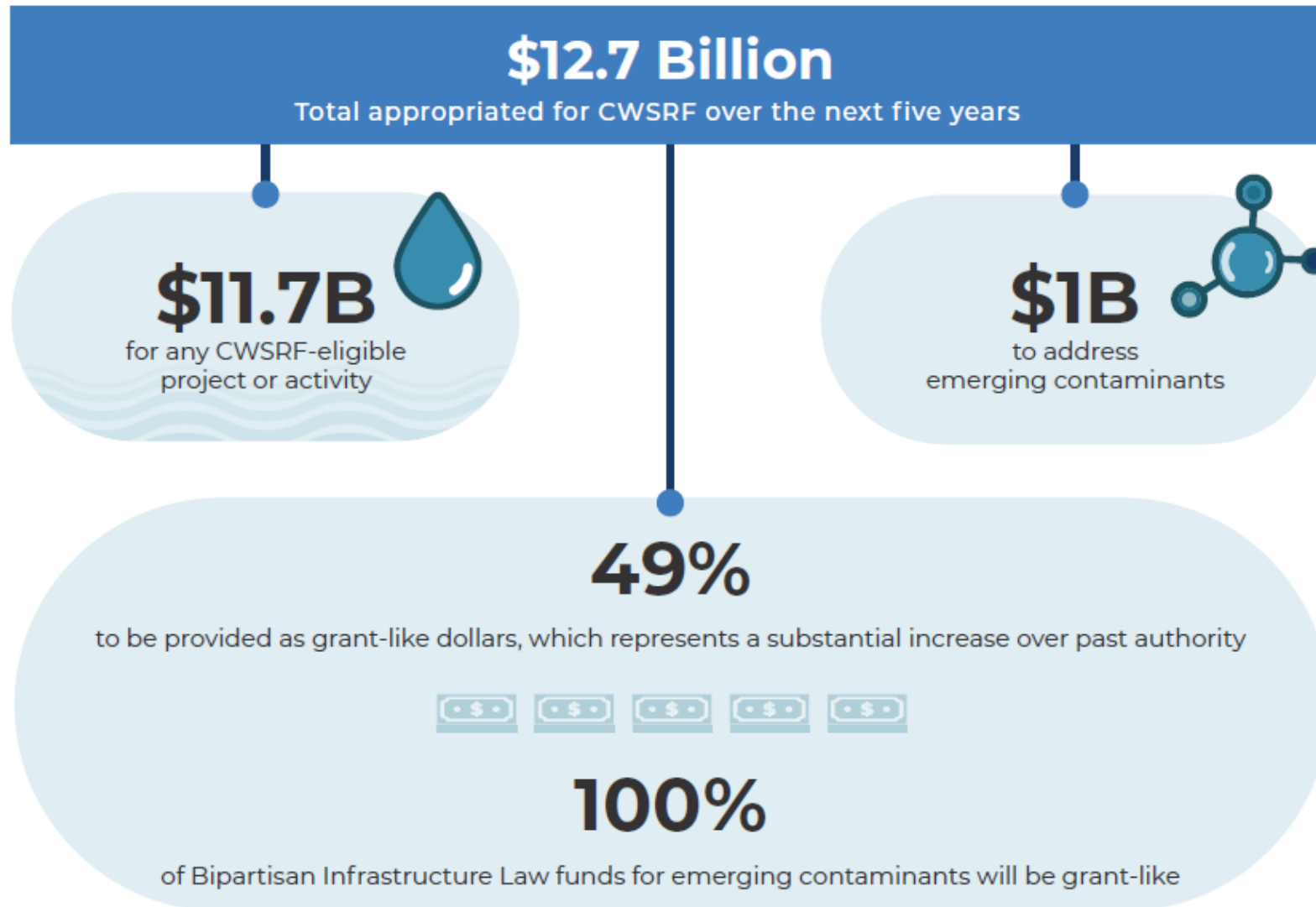
48,900 projects
since 1988

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

- Signed by President Biden on November 15, 2021.
- Historic investment in key programs and initiatives implemented by EPA to build safer, healthier, cleaner communities.
- Includes \$50 billion to strengthen the nation's drinking water and wastewater systems – the single largest investment in water that the federal government has ever made.
- Approximately \$43.4B of this funding goes through the existing CWSRFs and DWSRFs.
- 49%* of SRF dollars to be provided in the form of grants and forgivable loans

*Emerging contaminants funds will be provided entirely as grants and forgivable loans.

CWSRF and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law



BIL Accomplishments



- So far, nearly \$4.3 billion of BIL funding has been awarded to State CWSRF programs to fund local water quality projects. The remaining funds will be distributed by 2026.
- Approximately \$2.7B of the CWSRF funds have been awarded to BIL projects to protect water quality in nearly 240 communities.
- Invested more than \$3.3B of BIL SRF funding in projects that support disadvantaged and underserved communities to improve their drinking water and wastewater services.
 - CW: \$1.6B
 - DW: \$1.7B

Technical Assistance to Help Communities Access BIL SRF Funding

- **Need:** Many communities need support to develop quality SRF projects and apply for SRF funding.
- **Goal:** Expand availability of technical assistance (TA) to help underserved communities access SRF funding, in partnership with states, tribes and territories.
- **Focuses:**
 - Proactive outreach to disadvantaged or underserved communities in rural, urban, suburban, and tribal areas.
 - Community-centered, locally driven solutions.
 - SRF applications that result in sustainable, affordable, and resilient projects.



Clean Water
State Revolving Fund

Please reach out with any questions



CWSRF@epa.gov

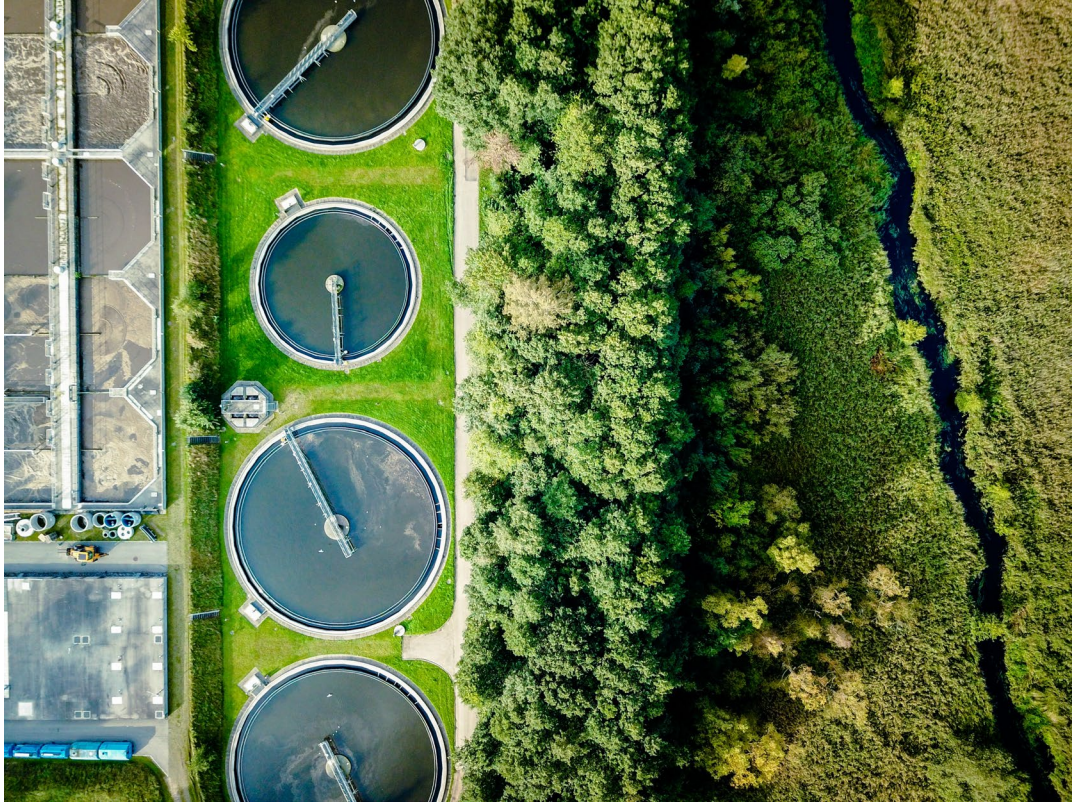


www.epa.gov/cwsrf
www.epa.gov/dwsrf



Register for the EPA Water Finance newsletter

CWSRF Emerging Contaminants Funds



2024 ACWA Annual Meeting



Emerging Contaminants Funding
through the Bipartisan Infrastructure
Law

Clean Water State Revolving Fund Emerging Contaminants



- ◆ Appropriates **\$1 billion over five years** (FY 2022-2026) to address emerging contaminants (ECs)
- ◆ Does not require a cost-share or match
- ◆ **All funds are to be awarded to funding applicants as 100% forgivable loans or grants.**

To help borrowers and administrators determine if a project idea is eligible, EPA published a **Project Eligibility Decision Tree**.

<https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/clean-water-state-revolving-fund-emerging-contaminants#tree>

Clean Water SRF Emerging Contaminants Fund ECs Addressed – FFY22 & FFY23

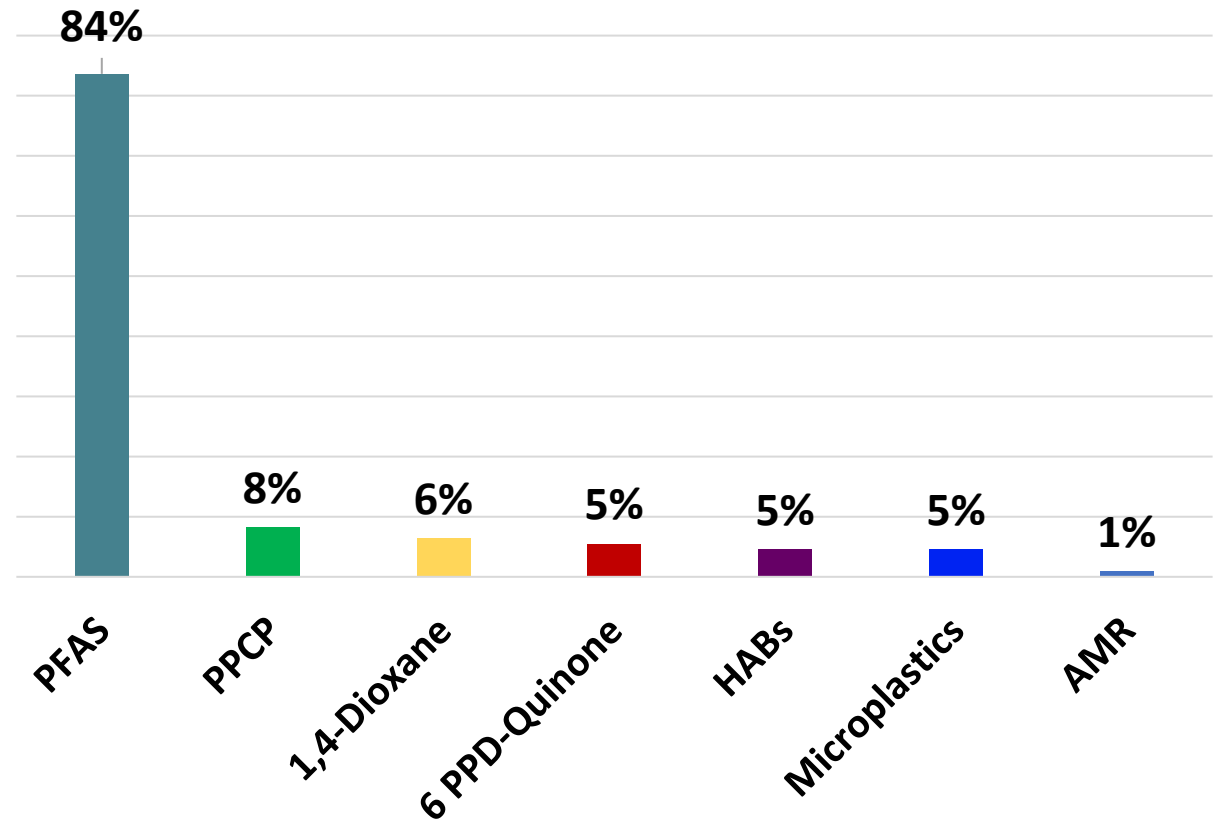
Of the 110 proposed projects:

- ◆ 84% will address PFAS
- ◆ 30% will address other contaminants:
 - ◆ Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products (PPCP)
 - ◆ 6 PPD-Quinone
 - ◆ 1,4-Dioxane
 - ◆ Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)
 - ◆ Microplastics

Note: Percentage adds up to greater than 100% as some projects address more than one EC.

*All data was pulled from Intended Use Plans and are subject to change.

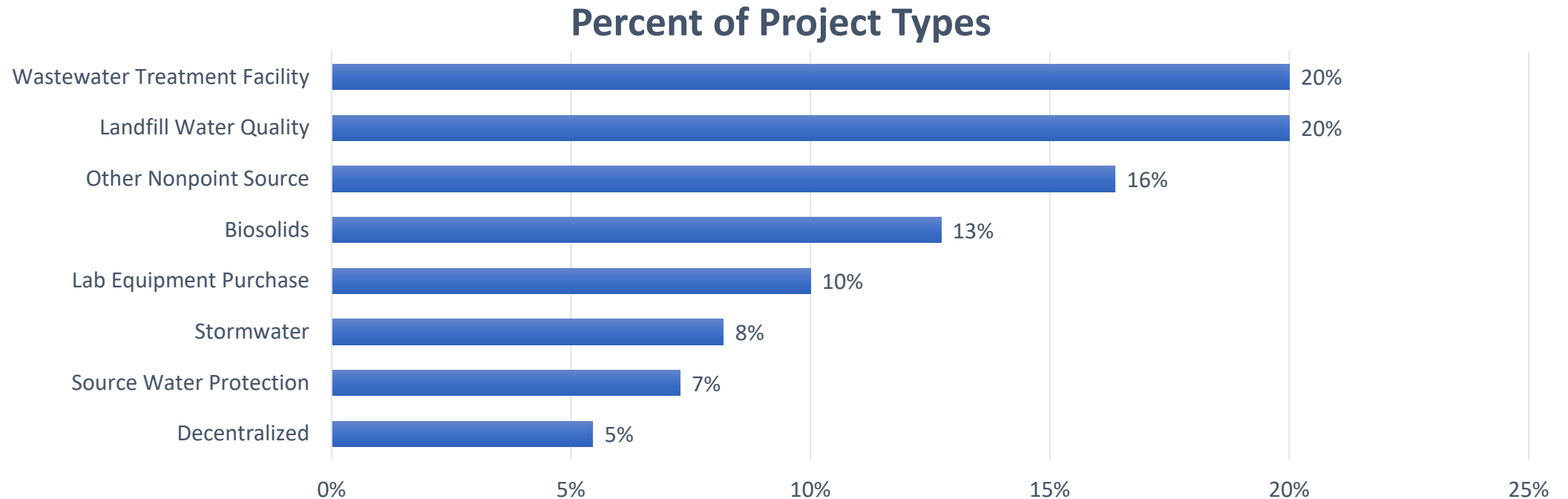
Percent of Projects Addressing an EC



Clean Water SRF Emerging Contaminants Fund EC Project Types – FY22 & FY23

Currently, there are 110 proposed CWSRF EC projects across the states and Puerto Rico.

More than half of these projects are planning, design, and pilot projects.



*All data was pulled from Intended Use Plans and are subject to change.

Project Case Studies

Access the case studies here →



Land Application of Biosolids and Yard Waste Compost Demonstration Project

- PPCPs, Microplastics, and PFAS
- City of Norman, Oklahoma Water Reclamation Facility

Septic-to-Sewer Conversion

- PPCPs
- Southern Nevada Water Authority/Las Vegas Valley Water District

South Thornton Natural Drainage System Installation, Stormwater Pollution Prevention

- 6PPD, 6PPD-quinone
- City of Seattle Public Utilities

Laboratory Equipment Purchase

- PFAS, Lithium, 1,4-Dioxane
- Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services

Soliciting Source Water Protection Planning Projects

- PFAS, 1,4-Dioxane
- New York State

POTW Water Pollution Control Emerging Contaminants Project

- PFAS
- City of Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Landfill Leachate Treatment Project

- PFAS
- Town of Conway, New Hampshire

Lake Thunderbird Emerging Contaminants Assessment Project

- PFOS, pesticides, PPCPs, hormones
- Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District

Reclaimed Water Emerging Contaminants Project

- PFAS, 1,4-Dioxane
- City of Tucson, Arizona

PFAS Destruction in Biosolids Technology Pilot

- PFAS, PPCPs
- City of Orlando, Florida

Wastewater Treatment Plant Lagoon Decommissioning and Sludge Disposal

- PFAS
- City of Belding, Michigan

Conversations and developments with states indicate that developing EC project pipelines is a challenge.

EPA has resources to assist states.

Connect with us for project pipeline support and to get your questions answered:

State CWSRF Program Contacts

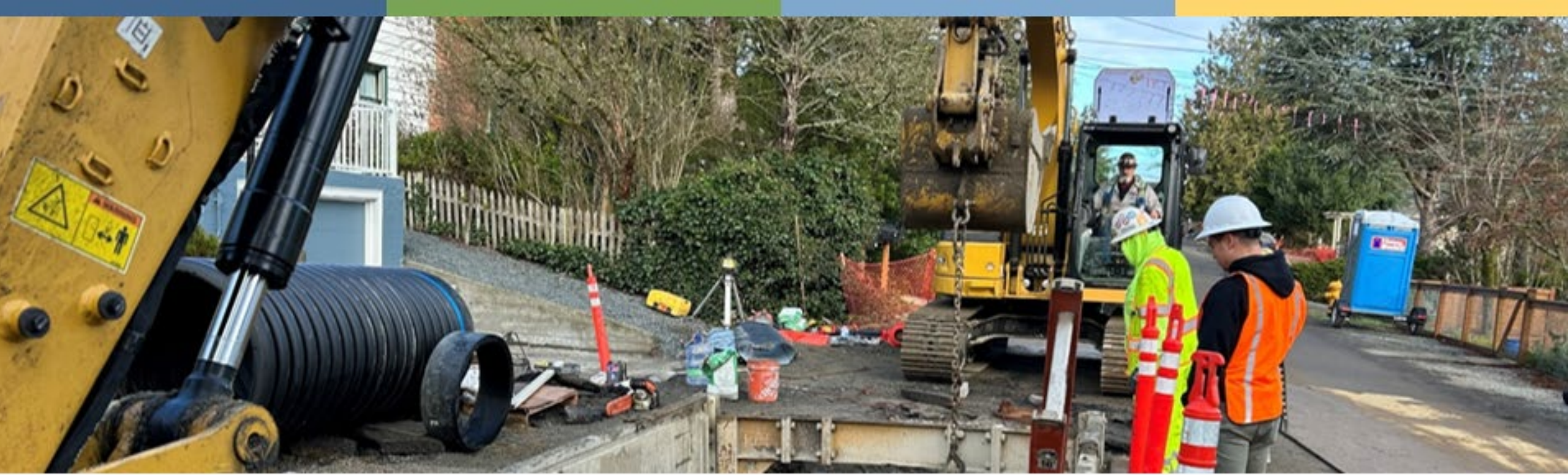
<https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/state-cwsrf-program-contacts>

Resources for Potential Borrowers and Administrators:

<https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/clean-water-state-revolving-fund-emerging-contaminants>

HQ Emerging Contaminants Team: cwsrfEC@epa.gov

Kelly Tucker | Smiti Nepal | Heather Strathearn | Jake Adler | Kristin Ratajczak | Logan Loadholtz



Stormwater and Emerging Contaminants Funding: Thornton Creek

David Giglio, Water Quality Deputy Program Manager

Thornton Creek Watershed

- The watershed is approximately 60% impervious.
- Over 90% of the creek's main channel (15+ miles) – flows above ground to Lake Washington.



Thornton Creek Water Quality

Thornton Creek is listed for temperature, dissolved oxygen, and fecal coliform bacteria.

- **Plan to Protect Seattle Waterways**
 - Address water pollution from combined sewer overflows and stormwater runoff
 - City of Seattle's investing in Thornton Creek Watershed to address
 - Habitat
 - Flooding
 - Water Quality



6PPD and stormwater



South Thornton Creek Project Overview

Stormwater treatment

43 bioretention cells

Treats stormwater from 60 acres

Includes treatment for 13 acres of paved surfaces

January 2025: construction should be complete

EXISTING:

**EAST
RIGHT-OF-WAY**

**WEST
RIGHT-OF-WAY**



EXISTING TYPICAL STREET SECTION WITHOUT DITCH
23RD AVE NE

PROPOSED:

**EAST
RIGHT-OF-WAY**

**WEST
RIGHT-OF-WAY**



Ecology funding

Clean Water State Revolving Fund-
Emerging Contaminants Funding

In SFY24, Ecology awarded the City of
Seattle **\$11.89 million**

- \$6.5M standard loan
- \$5.3M Emerging Contaminants (BIL)
Forgivable Loan



Monitoring

- Current agreement doesn't include funding for effectiveness monitoring
- Seattle Public Utilities is building a plan to measure what flows in and out of the bioretention cells.
 - Developing a Quality Assurance Project Plan
 - Planning to monitor influent and effluent
- We are looking for additional funding to support monitoring

Additional investments in Thornton Creek

In SFY25, we awarded the City of Seattle funding for North Thornton Creek

- Design only; similar scope
- \$4.56 million
 - \$866,580 standard loan
 - \$3.69M Emerging Contaminants (BIL) Forgivable Loan

They plan to apply for construction funding in our SFY27 cycle.



“Oversized Kitchen Strainer”





Thank you

David Giglio

David.Giglio@ecy.wa.gov

Overview EPA's Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA)

ACWA Annual Meeting

August 2024
Morgan Brown



EPA supports infrastructure improvements via:

Technical Assistance (TA)

EPA WaterTA Programs
TA providers (funded by EPA grants)
External TA Program Partnerships



Funding

Clean Water and Drinking Water State
Revolving Funds (SRF)
Water Infrastructure Finance and
Innovation Act (WIFIA)
Water Infrastructure Improvements for
the Nation (WIIN) Act Grants
Drinking Water Infrastructure Grants
Tribal Set-Aside (DWIG-TSA)
Clean Water Indian Set Aside (CWISA)

EPA WaterTA Supports Communities to:



Identify water challenges



Plan for solutions



Increase community engagement



Improve compliance and access to safe and clean water services



Build technical, financial, managerial capacity



Develop application materials to access water infrastructure funding

EPA WaterTA Approach

- **Targeted:** focused on disadvantaged and underserved communities as well as those that may struggle to access funding to improve their water infrastructure
- **Proactive:** directly assist disadvantaged and underserved communities – we go to them!
- **Community-centered:** meet communities where they are by building trust, adjusting to their needs, and being culturally competent



EPA WATER TA

Environmental Finance Centers

Closing America's Wastewater Access Gap

Lead Service Line Replacement Accelerators Pilot

Direct Technical Assistance

Clean Water Rural, Small & Tribal Assistance

Get the Lead Out (GLO) Initiative

Preliminary Engineering Support

Community Solutions Team Pilot

Training and Technical Assistance for Small Systems

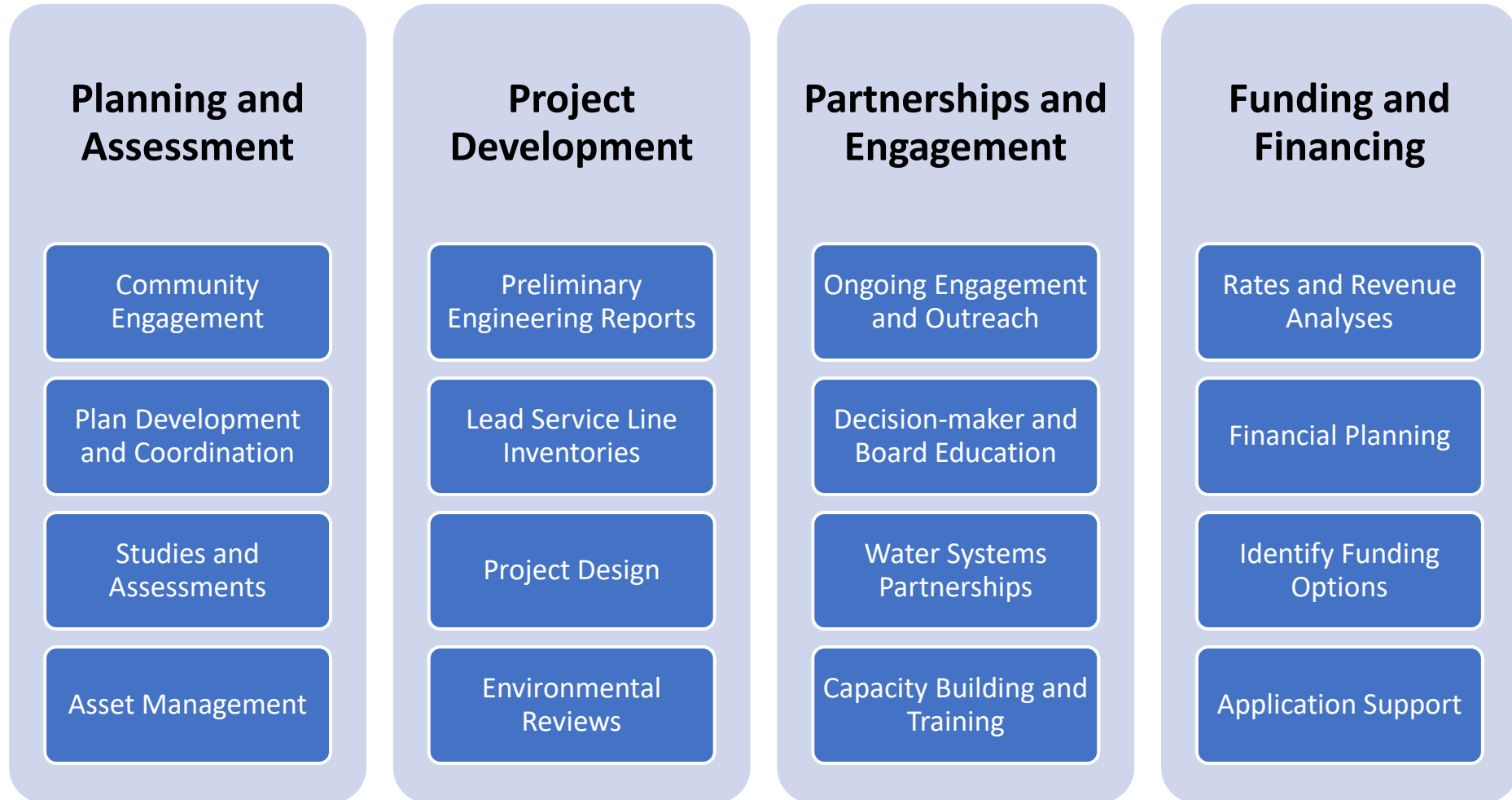
Cybersecurity Technical Assistance

Creating Resilient Water Utilities

TA for Rural, Small, and Tribal WW Systems

and more!

WaterTA Services





Who is eligible to receive EPA WaterTA Services?

- Local governments/communities
- Drinking water utilities/systems
- Wastewater utilities/systems
- Stormwater utilities/systems
- States, Tribes, territories
- Non-governmental organizations
- **Questions? Contact WaterTA@epa.gov**

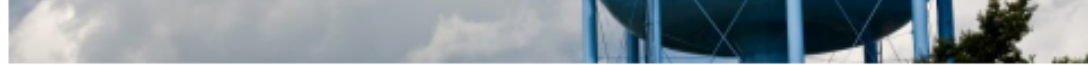
Regional WaterTA Coordinators

Each EPA Region has a WaterTA Coordinator who is responsible for:

- Coordination and engagement with States
- Serving as the primary contact for WaterTA
- Coordinating webform request review and response with States
- Coordinating WaterTA activities within region

Region	TA Coordinator	Email
1	Martine Wong	wong.martine@epa.gov
2	Winnie Zhao	Zhao.winnie@epa.gov
3	Walter Higgins	higgins.walter@epa.gov
4	Chris Thomas	thomas.chris@epa.gov
5	Jennifer Bielanski	bielanski.jennifer@epa.gov
6	Jessica Fry	fry.jessica.l@epa.gov
7	Lisa Montgomery	montgomery.lisa@epa.gov
8	Tamara Barbakova	barbakova.tamara@epa.gov
9	Sara Jacobs	jacobs.sara@epa.gov
10	Ryan Gross	gross.ryan@epa.gov

Request WaterTA at [www.epa.gov/ WaterTA](http://www.epa.gov/WaterTA)



All communities deserve access to clean, reliable water. Yet, too many communities in America face challenges in providing safe drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater services to their residents. The [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#) presents an unprecedented opportunity to address water infrastructure needs by providing \$50 billion in new funding. [Investment in water in the history of our nation](#). New and existing [EPA Water Technical Assistance \(WaterTA\) programs](#) will be utilized to support effective implementation of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.



What is WaterTA?

EPA's free Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA) helps communities to identify water challenges, develop capacity, and develop application materials to request federal infrastructure funding. To implement WaterTA, EPA collaborates with states, local government, community partners, and other key stakeholders. [Learn more about WaterTA programs.](#)



Help for Your Community

EPA WaterTA aims to assist communities with applications for federal funding, quality infrastructure, and reliable water services. If your community is facing water infrastructure challenges and you would benefit from support, we encourage you to learn more about [who can receive WaterTA services and the challenges WaterTA can help your community address](#) then complete and submit a [webform request](#) via the following button:

[Click Here to Request Water Technical Assistance for Your Community](#)



Resources for WaterTA Providers



Search EPA.gov

Environmental Topics

Laws & Regulations

Report a Violation

About EPA

Water Infrastructure

CONTACT US

Water Technical Assistance Request Form

OMB Control Number: 2030-0051



Expiration Date: 5/31/24

Complete the following form to request Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA).

EPA WaterTA aims to assist communities with applications for federal funding, quality water infrastructure, and reliable water services in partnership with drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater utilities and local government. WaterTA cannot provide direct assistance to federal facilities. Before submitting a request, we encourage you to learn more about [who can receive WaterTA and the challenges WaterTA can help your community address](#). Contact WaterTA@epa.gov if you have any questions regarding your organization's eligibility.

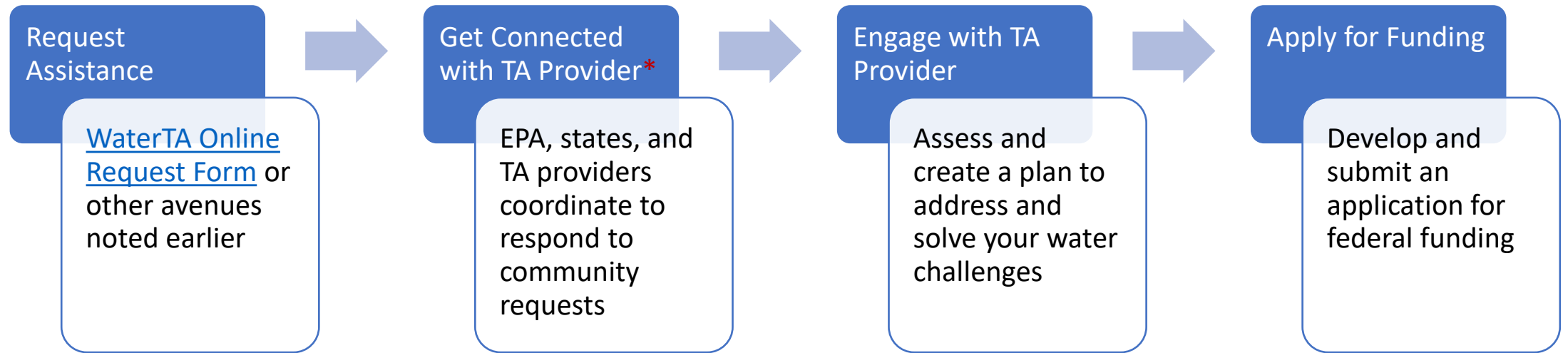
If you include your email address in your submitted form, you will receive a confirmation email. After reviewing your submission, EPA or a technical assistance provider will respond with potential next steps. Response times may vary depending on the volume and types of requests we receive. Many states also offer WaterTA programs. Thus, EPA may share your request with the appropriate state agency in an effort to provide the best, most timely assistance.

Please note not every request may be offered WaterTA, and participation in this or other EPA technical assistance programs does not guarantee funding through the State Revolving Funds (SRFs) or other programs.

To receive updates on EPA programs, helpful resources, and notifications of upcoming webinars and training events, sign up for EPA's [Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center email list](#). If you have any questions or concerns about the WaterTA Request Form, please contact WaterTA@epa.gov.

- [WaterTA Informational Webinar](#) (September 29, 2023)
- [WaterTA Informational Webinar](#) (July 31, 2023)
- [WaterTA Community Fact Sheet \(pdf\)](#) (175.56 KB, May 2023, 830-F-23-006) - General information for the public on WaterTA.

What Happens Next?

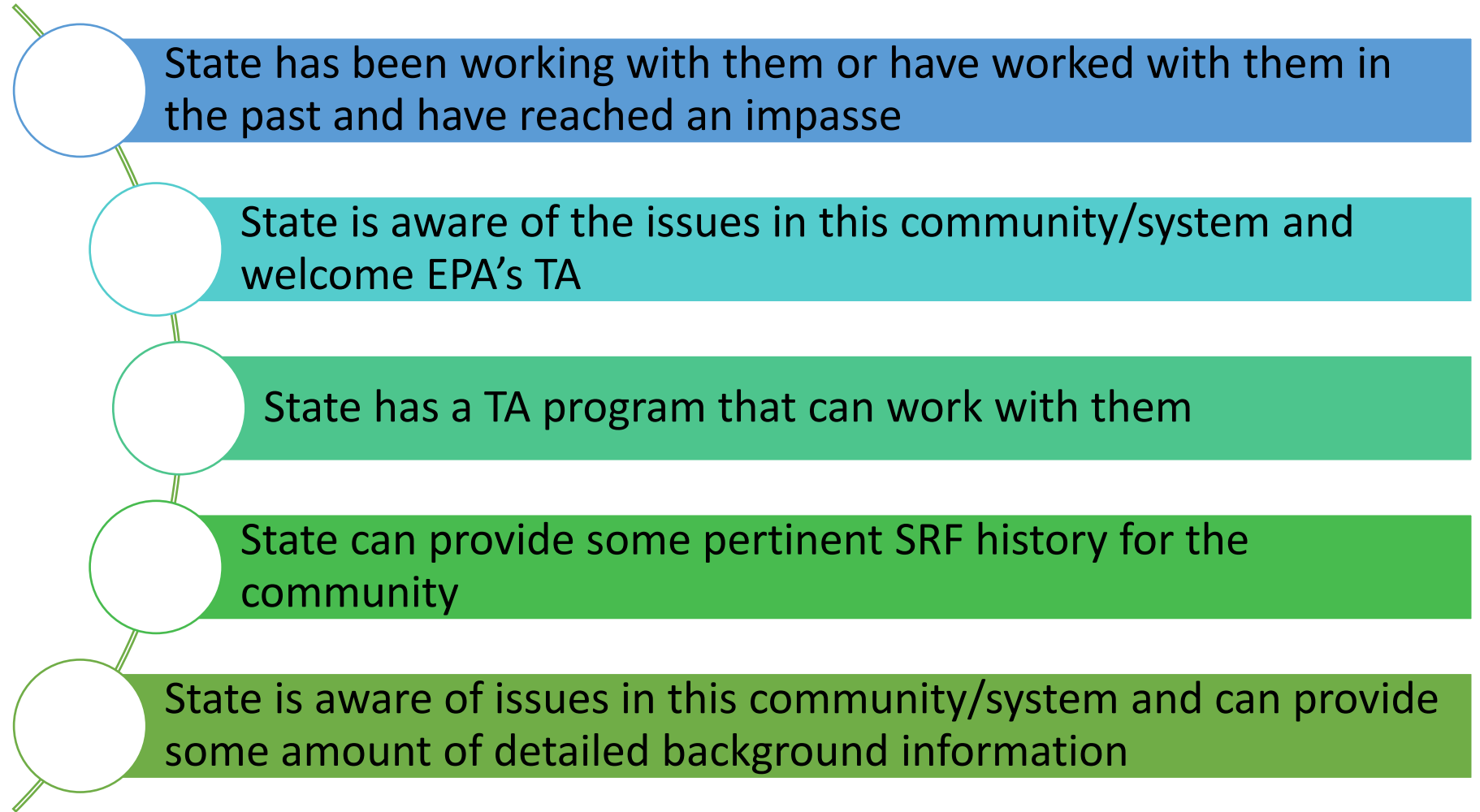


The end result: *more communities with applications for federal funding, leading to advances to quality water infrastructure projects, and more reliable water services*

*Not every request may be offered WaterTA, and participation in this or other EPA technical assistance programs does not guarantee funding through the State Revolving Funds or other programs.

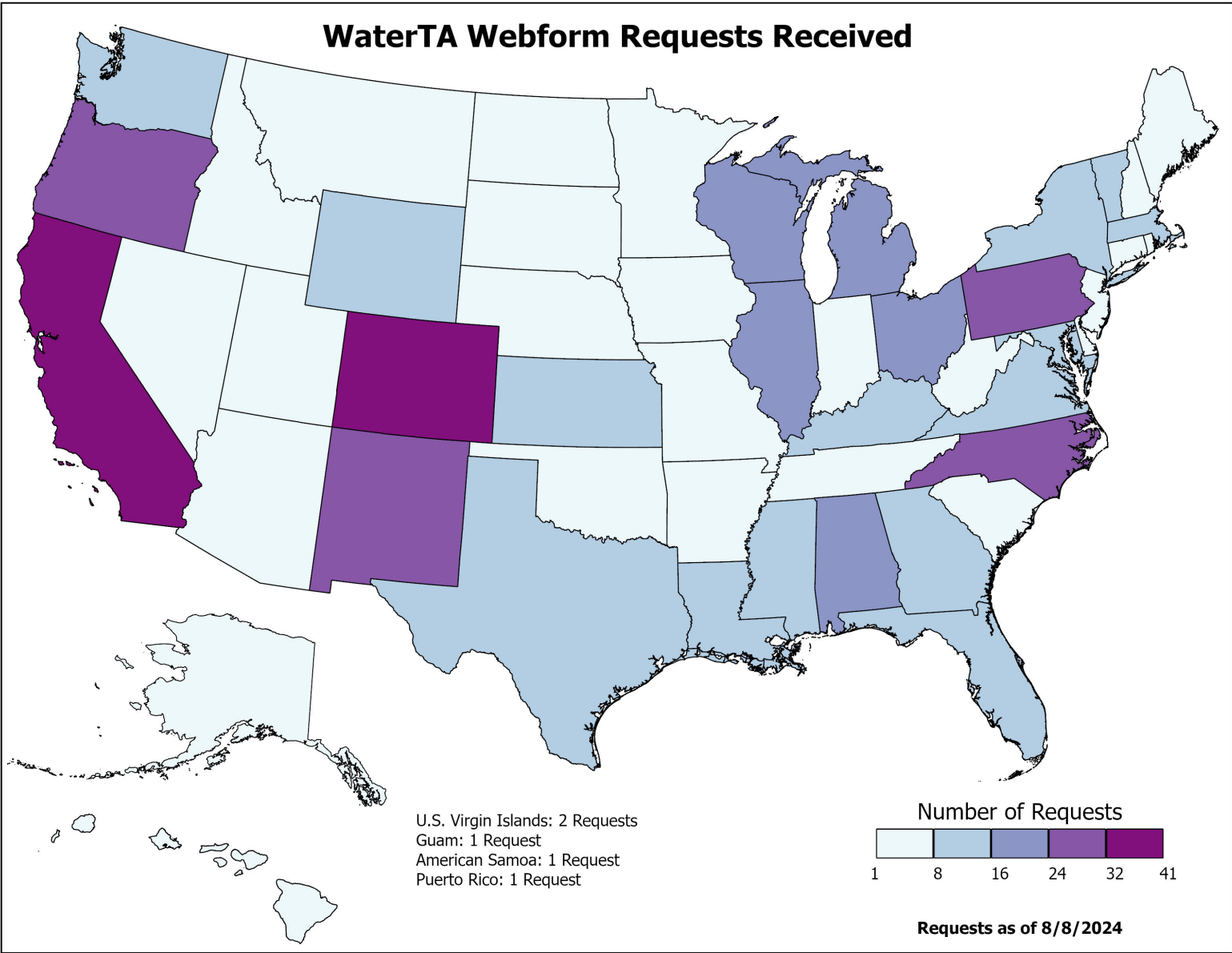
WaterTA Request Processing

Examples of input from the State



WaterTA Webform Requests Received as of August 8, 2024

Over 300 Requests Connected to WaterTA Providers



Technical Assistance Provider Map on Searchable Clearinghouse of Wastewater Technologies (SCOWT)

<https://clearinghouse.epa.gov/ords/wfc/f?p=259:37>

SCOWT – Searchable Clearinghouse of Wastewater Technology

Helping communities make informed choices about innovative, alternative, and reuse wastewater technologies

Home

About

Acknowledgements

Submit Feedback or Resource

Technical Assistance Providers

Technical Assistance Providers

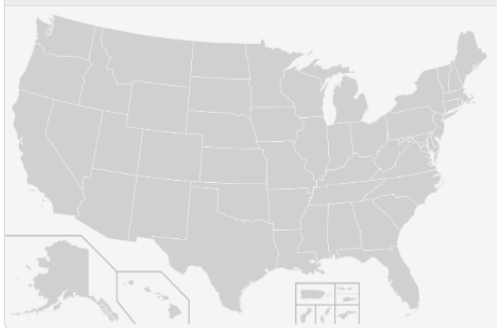
The map below is intended to help connect communities with organizations that are part of EPA's technical assistance program. Technical assistance (TA) providers may be able help with local issues related to centralized and decentralized/onsite wastewater management as well as water reuse.

Click on the map to help determine which organization(s) may be able to provide technical assistance in your state or territory. TA providers assist federally recognized Tribes within any states or territories that they service. Contact information for each technical assistance provider is included below for inquiries about services, availability, and intake processes.

1 How to Use This Page

Click here for a brief walkthrough of the search tool.

1 Select State or Territory



THEN

2 Narrow Search Results with Filters (Optional)



Technical Assistance Provider Map

- ❖ An interactive interface that provides a list of EPA program Technical Assistance (TA) Providers
- ❖ Using the Map and Filter tools various users can narrow down the specific TA providers that best match their needs
- ❖ All TA Provider contact information is listed in the results as well as direct links to the TA Provider websites

[Water Infrastructure](#)

[CONTACT US](#)

Local Infrastructure Investment Stories



<https://www.epa.gov/water-infrastructure/local-infrastructure-investment-stories>



EPA WATER TA

Environmental Finance Centers

Closing America's Wastewater Access Gap

Lead Service Line Replacement Accelerators Pilot

Direct Technical Assistance

Clean Water Rural, Small & Tribal Assistance

Get the Lead Out (GLO) Initiative

Preliminary Engineering Support

Community Solutions Team Pilot

Training and Technical Assistance for Small Systems

Cybersecurity Technical Assistance

Creating Resilient Water Utilities

TA for Rural, Small, and Tribal WW Systems

and more!

WaterTA Program Resources

www.epa.gov/WaterTA

[WaterTA Programs Fact Sheet](#)

[WaterTA Request Form](#)

Email: WaterTA@epa.gov



Thank you!

Morgan Brown

Brown.Morgan@epa.gov



EPA Grant Programs that Support Clean Water TA

-Environmental Finance Centers (EFC) Grant Program

- November 2022, EPA selected 29 EFCs that help communities across the country access federal funding for infrastructure projects that improve public health and environmental protection.

-Clean Water Rural, Small & Tribal (RST) TA Grant Program

- Assist in planning, developing, & acquisition of financing
- Support POTWs/decentralized systems to protect water quality and comply with CWA
- Relatively New
FY20 - \$12 M // FY21 - \$18 M // FY22 - \$20 M // FY23- \$27M // FY24 - \$ 25.5M



TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT

- **Gathering input from state partners to identify eligible communities.**

- Richard K. Friesner,
PhD
NEIWPCC
- ACWA Annual
Meeting
- August 2024

Which Small Systems in your State need help with CMOM?

Capacity, Management, Operations, and Maintenance

- NEIWPCC has funding from EPA to provide direct technical assistance to facilities over next three years
- We want to be as helpful as possible, working in concert with state programs without adding to state staff workloads
- Regulatory staff have the best sense of need in their states

NEIWPCCC's Grant Award

- Three year period, kicked off 10/1/23
- Six new self-paced training courses
- 35 facilities provided technical assistance throughout NE & NY
 - Support completing EPA's CMOM self-evaluation
 - Technical assistance to plan, prioritize, and execute needed CMOM improvements

Self-Paced Course Development

Basic Municipal Wastewater Treatment

Regulations, Permits, & Reporting

Wastewater Process Troubleshooting & Optimization

Capacity, Management, Operation, & Maintenance (CMOM) Programs

Budgets, Rates, & Funding

Emergency Planning & Resiliency

EPA's Focus

Grant focus

- Small & Rural (defined: <10,000 people served or <1 MGD)
- Tribal (Federally recognized Tribes)

Agency focus

- Justice40 (disadvantaged communities)

NEIWPCC's Ask to States

Identifying facilities that need this assistance the most?

We will:

- Coordinate with other grantees to ensure appropriate engagement
- Prioritize outreach to facilities based on guidance from EPA
- Once participation is confirmed, provide individualized assistance to each beneficiary
- Tailor our efforts to the state's needs

Each state program can choose the level of involvement they wish to have.

NEIWPCCC's Ask to States

The results so far...

45 beneficiaries currently identified

5 from Connecticut

6 from Massachusetts

17 from Maine

2 from New Hampshire

5 from New York

2 from Rhode Island

6 from Vermont

13 of these communities are considered disadvantaged by the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool



NEIWPCC can help you create a plan to fix problems you may have in your collection system.

How Can We Help You?

We have funding from the EPA to help you with challenges you have with your collection system. Our technical and organizational experts are available at no cost to you to help you evaluate your system and plan to make improvements.

About NEIWPCC

NEIWPCC is a regional commission that helps the states of the Northeast preserve and advance water quality. We were formed more than 75 years ago and have been providing wastewater training since 1968. Our technical experts are versed in all aspects of wastewater collection and treatment.



Common Issues

- an old system that suffers from infiltration or inflow issues
- securing the funding you need for routine operations and maintenance
- older pump stations in need of an upgrade or replacement
- no longer have up-to-date records about the status of your collection system

Our Approach

Our experts will work directly with you to identify and prioritize solutions, including funding strategies. We will start by guiding you through EPA's easy-to-use Capacity, Management, Operations, and Maintenance self-assessment. Using the outcomes from that assessment and your input, we'll tailor our assistance to your needs. Whether you need a little boost getting your plans together to prioritize and plan for collection system repair and maintenance or you need more in-depth assistance identifying and planning for funding capital projects, we can help.

We are working with communities throughout New England and New York. Our grant is focused on helping small, rural, and tribal communities. We can help you whether you run a treatment plant, in addition to managing a collection system, or if you are a satellite community to a treatment plant run by another organization.

In conjunction with our technical assistance, we are developing six self-paced training courses under our grant. Once live, these courses will be available to all of the communities we are helping in this project.

If you are interested in our program, please contact Peter Zaykoski (pzaykoski@neiwpc.org or 207-253-8020) to learn more and schedule an initial meeting to discuss further.



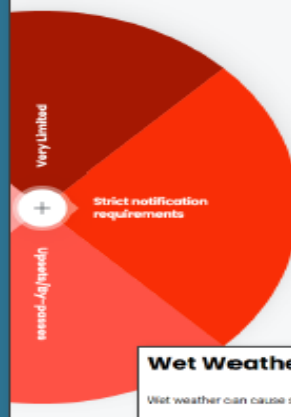
UPDATE ON SELF-PACED TRAINING COASSEMBLE

Tons of different:

- Learning formats
- Ways to check comprehension
- Flexibility

Defenses to Violations

Add a description for this screen.



Strict notification requirements

Add a description here.

Important Terminology for Collection Systems

Sanitary Sewer

Storm Sewer

Combined Sewer

Storm Sewer

designed to collect stormwater and, in some cases, groundwater, and discharge it to a surface water body or a portion of land where it can seep into the ground.

The First Public Sewers

Add a description for this screen.

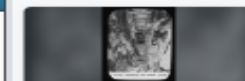
1800s



1800s

The development of sewers began in London, introducing early public health programs, spurred by unsanitary conditions.

1820s



1820s

The first sewer system in Hamburg, Germany was built in 1820.

1850s



1850s

The first sewer system was designed in 1850. In 1862, the first sewer in London was found to be clogged, resulting in the construction of a new sewer.

Section 1 Checkpoint

Clean Water Act

- Very first water pollution control law
- Established by the NPDES
- Is administered by the EPA
- All of the above

Knowledge Check

What type sewer system is designed to collect both stormwater and sanitary wastewater?

Sanitary Sewer

Combined Sewer

Storm Sewer

There is no such sewer

Wet Weather Impacts

Wet weather can cause significant impacts on wastewater collection and treatment facilities.

Impacts can range from minor increases in pollutants discharged from the WWTF to the receiving stream, to sanitary sewer catastrophic flooding of facilities and equipment during extreme storm events.

+ Collection Systems

× WWTF

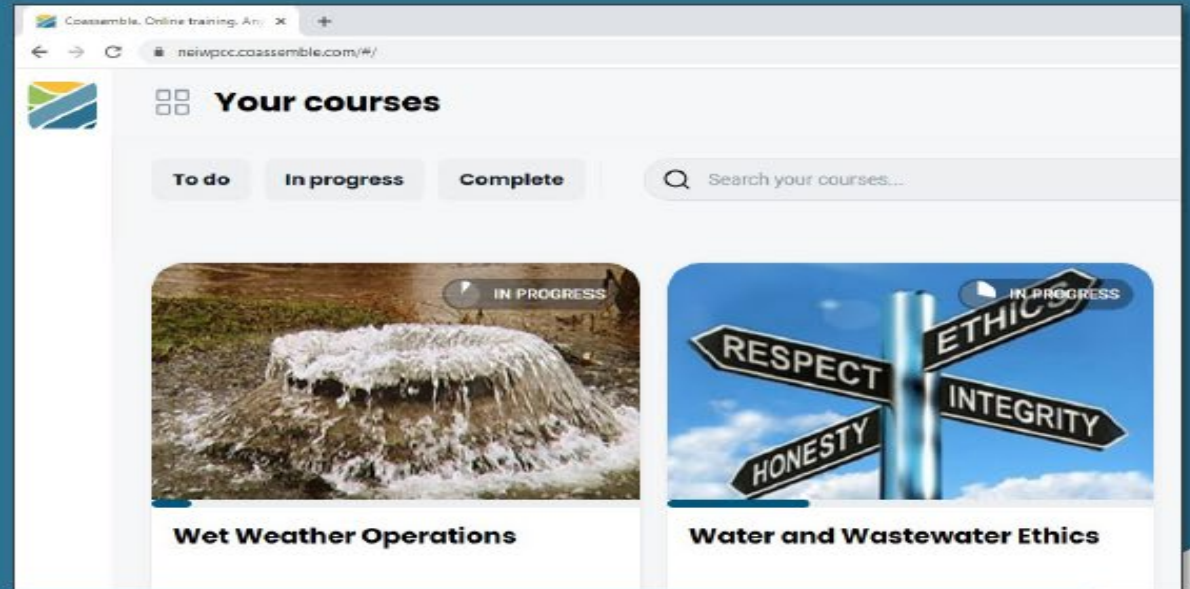
Surcharging in this Parshall flume makes it impossible for it to properly measure flow at the WWTF. As a result of wet weather flow, effluent launder and weir are completely submerged on this clarifier, obviously impacting effluent quality.



UPDATE ON SELF-PACED TRAINING

Two courses currently in development:

- Wet Weather Operations (replaces existing)
- Water and Wastewater Ethics (high demand)



EPA WaterTA

Contract Supported Initiatives

- Water TA Engineering Support
- Compliance Advisors
- Decentralized Systems – Closing America’s Wastewater Access Gap

EPA WaterTA: Engineering Support

**Jenny Dodd, ERG, Contractor to EPA
August 2024**



WaterTA Engineering Support Background

WaterTA engineering support:

- Enhances WaterTA Programs with no-cost, supplemental engineering resources
- Helps communities identify needs, conduct preliminary project planning, and produce the engineering documents for federal water infrastructure funding
- Fills a need identified by states – addresses a frequent funding barrier

Goals for providing engineering support:

- Project is eligible for SRF or tribal set-aside funding, and support will lead to a federal funding application
- Priority given to disadvantaged communities that have not historically accessed federal funding

How Can We Work Together?

- Connect us with communities that can benefit from WaterTA Engineering Support.
- Send communities to <https://www.epa.gov/water-infrastructure/forms/water-technical-assistance-request-form> to submit a WaterTA Request Form.
- Let us know about potential outreach opportunities.
- WaterTA Engineering Support Clean Water Contacts:
 - Chandy.Danusha@epa.gov
 - WaterTARequestContractor@erg.com
 - Jenny.Dodd@erg.com
- <https://www.epa.gov/water-infrastructure/waterta-engineering-support>

Big Valley Band of Pomo Indian Tribe, Lake County, California: Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements

Community: Onsite Wastewater Treatment Facility
(serving ~400)

Challenges:

- Structural integrity of the packaged wastewater treatment plant
- Treatment facilities lacking influent screening and waste activated sludge wasting capabilities
- Low quality effluent

WaterTA support:

- Structural evaluation of existing treatment facility
- Environmental review
- Preliminary Engineering Report development for treatment improvements



Sandhill Acres Example

Community: On Lot Disposal Systems – Individual Septic Tanks with Shared Disposal Bed for each Pair of Lots (serving 128 lots).

Challenges:

- Aging systems over 30 years old
 - Failed Disposal Beds
 - Deteriorated Concrete Septic Tanks
- Poor Soils and high-water table.
- Public sewer prohibits connections for non-annexed or adjacent areas.

WaterTA support:

- Site investigation and documentation of existing conditions.
- Desktop Environmental Resources review.
- Preliminary Engineering Report development for treatment alternatives.



Village of Cody, Nebraska: Water Tower and Wastewater Lagoon Improvements

Community: Small, remote community of 168 residents

Challenges:

- Water tower riser pipe leaking significantly and at risk for sudden, catastrophic failure
- Wastewater lagoon exceeding state maximum allowable seepage rate
- Concerns with resilience of drinking water system

WaterTA support:

- Identified and assisted community with applying for emergency funding through the DWSRF that will allow the water tower repairs to be completed on an accelerated timeline before freezing conditions
- Alternatives analysis and Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) development for the wastewater lagoon



Water tower with leaking riser pipe

Wardtown Mobile Home Cooperative Water Distribution System Improvements

Community: Wardtown is a Mobile Home Cooperative in Freeport, Maine.

Challenges:

- Community needs improvements to the water distribution system.

WaterTA Engineering Support:

- Comprehensive PER needed for SRF application and to inform the structuring of the project
- Community will also be applying for a new CDBG infrastructure improvement funds for manufactured housing communities.



Charter Oaks Village Cooperative Well House and Water Storage Improvements

Community: Charter Oaks is a Mobile Home Community in Arundel, Maine.

Challenges:

- On Maine's SRF FY24 Priority List for improvements to the well house and water storage system.

WaterTA Engineering Support:

- Comprehensive PER needed for SRF application and to inform the structuring of the project
- Community will also be applying for a new CDBG infrastructure improvement funds for manufactured housing communities.



What is the Compliance Advisor Program?



- Provides hands-on, one-on-one technical assistance to operators of small **wastewater AND drinking water** systems to address compliance issues.
- Targets smaller systems (generally < 10k population served) that may be under-resourced and lacking sufficient financial, managerial and technical expertise.
- Complements traditional inspection and enforcement tools.
- Initiated by OECA working closely with Office of Water
- Focused on ***helping small systems maintain/return to compliance.***

System Selection

- System has **problems attaining and/or maintaining compliance** with the SDWA and/or CWA requirements;
- System agrees to participate and exhibits a good faith effort to comply. To succeed, systems will need to respond promptly and have **operator(s) who are engaged and willing to work with the Compliance Advisors;**
- **System is small** (generally a system serving a population less than 10,000); and
- System is **reasonably close** (within a two-hour drive) **to additional systems** that would be in the same circuit.

Case Study: Fort Gay, WV

Aug. 21, 2024


- Community:
 - Small WW lagoon system in WV
- Challenges:
 - Problems with lagoon cells short-circuiting and sludge accumulation
 - Poor maintenance of lagoon
 - FOG issues contributing to sewer overflows in collection system
- Compliance Advisor Support:
 - Recommendations include repairing lagoon baffle curtains and aerators, maintain lagoon, and initiate a FOG and wipes reduction program
 - Helped system so far with a sampling calendar, pump station map, and outreach on FOG and wipes.



Neighborhood Alert!

GREASE

You are receiving this notice because this neighborhood has been especially affected by FOG: Fats, Oils, and Grease in the sewers leading to clogs and overflows.

 Can it  Cool it  Toss It

Case Study: Wind River Reservation (WY)

- **Community:**
 - Four tribal lagoon systems on a reservation.
- **Challenges:**
 - Various problems with lagoons, lift stations and staffing/O&M.
- **Compliance Advisor Support:**
 - Developed lagoon inspection checklist, O&M Plan, lift station SOP, prioritized infrastructure upgrade list, SSO reporting guide, etc.
 - Systems made a number of physical improvements based on CAP recommendations.



For more information

Aug. 21, 2024

EPA Compliance Advisor Contacts:

- John Kosco
- Greg Savitske
- Water.Compliance@epa.gov

<https://www.epa.gov/compliance/compliance-advisors-sustainable-water-systems-program>



Closing America's Wastewater Access Gap Initiative

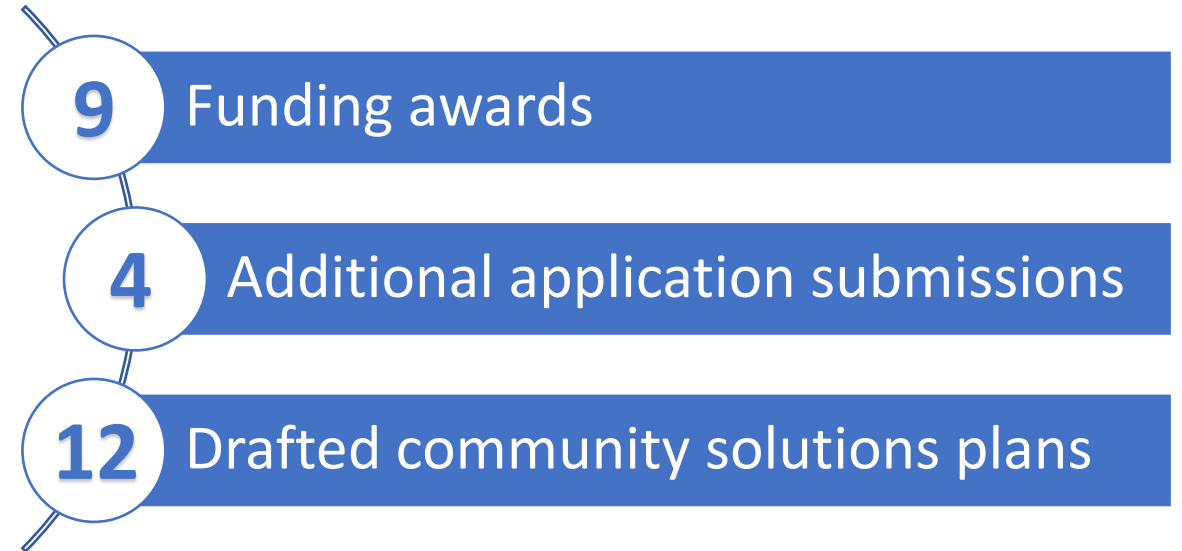
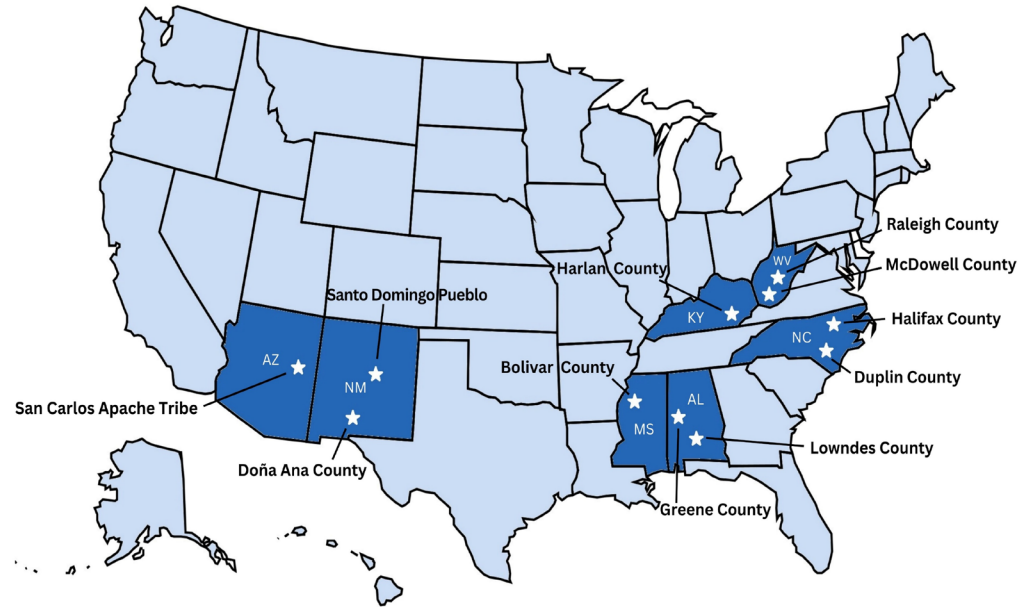
TA for communities using septic systems

Closing America's Wastewater Access Gap Initiative – Adding Communities!

- Provides technical assistance to communities with failing septic systems or without wastewater infrastructure.
- In 2022, EPA and USDA piloted the program in 11 places. Worked closely with TA providers, states, Tribes, local government, communities...
- In February 2024, announced the expansion to 150 additional communities over three years.
- Opportunity for States and EPA to work on state priorities for decentralized systems.



11 Pilot Communities: Progress So Far



Projects continue, with funding applications in development and all solutions plans being finalized and posted to EPA's [Closing America's Wastewater Access Gap webpage](#) in the early spring.

Questions and Contact Information

Contact: Zach Lowenstein at Lowenstein.Zachary@epa.gov

If you are aware of any disadvantaged or underserved decentralized communities in your state that could benefit from EPA's Closing America's Wastewater Access Gap Initiative, please submit a request through the WaterTA webform at that can be found at www.epa.gov/WaterTA or email a description to SepticHelp@epa.gov.



QR Code for
WaterTA Request
Form Webpage

New Wastewater Lagoon Tools for Communities, States and Tribes

Delivering on the Lagoon Wastewater Treatment Action Plan

August 2024

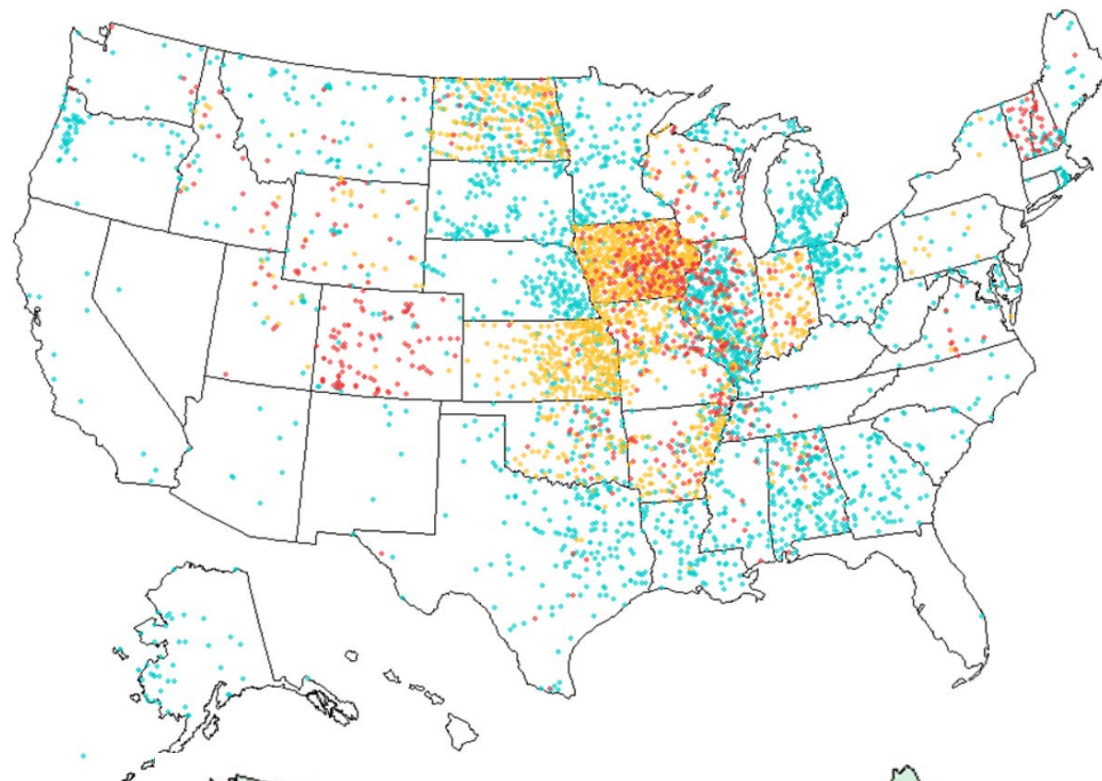
Catherine Allen and Sara Hisel-McCoy

EPA Office of Science and Technology
and Office of Wastewater Management



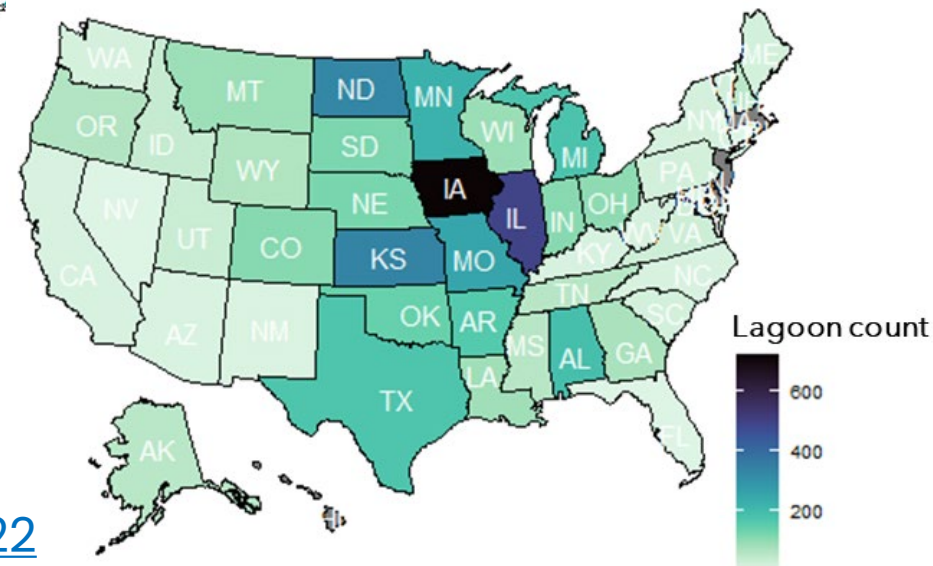
UNIVERSE OF LAGOONS: RESULTS

- **4,657** total unique lagoon facilities
 - 15% aerated
 - 32% facultative
 - 53% unspecified
- **46 states**
- **125 tribal facilities**
- Top 5 states with lagoons:
 - IA=722
 - IL=493
 - KS=337
 - ND=329
 - MO=252
- Top 3 EPA Regions with lagoons:
 - R7= 1431
 - R5= 1183
 - R8= 728



Lagoon type

- Facultative
- Aerated
- Unspecified



<https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-06/universe-lagoons-report-2022.pdf>

Lagoon Technical Assistance Pilot

For States: EPA Lagoon Team creating materials states can use during outreach to communities and TA providers.

- Status: Workshopping custom technical factsheets on lagoon mgmt. with a state in Region 5. Will generalize and vet materials with a state workgroup before distributing.

For Communities: Piloting front-to-back support for lagoon systems.

- Contract support to:
 - Diagnose cause of system upsets/deficiencies or non-compliance;
 - Provide operator training;
 - Support community meetings;
 - Develop Asset Management Plans, CIPs, and/or PERs; and,
 - Support funding applications if needed.
- Status: Pursuing partnership with 1-2 communities each in Region 8 and 9.

New Lagoon TA Tool! First Stop Toolbox

- A user-friendly diagnostic tool that provides situationally-relevant resources depending on the factors contributing to a lagoon's issues:
 - Walks users through Compliance/Technical Assistance, Technology Solutions, Financial Assistance, and Regulatory resources sequentially
 - Yields relevant technical resources to inform users' path forward
 - Can be used by someone with strong or limited knowledge of a specific lagoon's technical status

New Lagoon Cost and Performance Regulatory Support Tools!

- One pollutant that has been particularly challenging for communities with lagoon wastewater treatment systems is **ammonia**.
 - EPA published updated CWA 304(a) ammonia aquatic life criteria recommendations in 2013.
 - Many states and authorized Tribes have expressed reluctance to update their ammonia criteria to reflect the latest science because of non-compliance concerns for these communities.
- WQS variances could be an option to provide time to make incremental progress.
- Because these lagoon communities are often economically disadvantaged, such a WQS variance could be based on a rationale that meeting the WQS requirements would cause substantial and widespread economic and social impact (i.e., Factor 6).

Overview of SLCES Tool and ILT

- OW-OST has developed two tools streamlining the analysis, and an associated implementation document, as outlined in Action Item 4 of the *Lagoon Action Plan*:
 - 1) The Small Lagoon Community Economic Streamlining Tool, or “SLCES Tool”; and
 - 2) The Individual Lagoon Tool, or “ILT”.
- Both tools provide user-friendly ways to follow the EPA’s economic guidance.
 - Provide state-specific generalized cost estimates for ammonia control technologies.
 - Automate the retrieval of U.S. Census data for the analysis.
 - Provide user-friendly interfaces and instructions for data entry.
- Both tools result in an assessment of whether a substantial economic and social impact is likely, unlikely, or unclear when implementing the pollutant control technology options included in the tools.

Overview of SLCES Tool and ILT (continued)

SLCES Tool: Relies on a peer reviewed statistical model rather than community-specific information, allowing for a streamlined analysis of multiple lagoons at once.

ILT: Provides fields for further community-specific customization of the cost estimates and community socio-economic conditions and may be particularly useful where SLCES Tool outputs may not accurately reflect community specific conditions.

Accompanying Implementation Document for both Tools: *Applying the EPA's Economic Analysis Tools to a WQS Variance for Ammonia for Small Lagoon Communities.* Provides guidance on developing an ammonia WQS based on outputs from the tools.

Lagoon Questions?

Access the tools on EPA's Lagoon Resources Website:

<https://www.epa.gov/small-and-rural-wastewater-systems/lagoon-wastewater-treatment-systems#tools>

Tool Contacts:

First Stop Toolbox

- Strathearn.heather@epa.gov
- Hidalgo.alma@epa.gov

SLCES/ILT Contacts:

- dreyfus.melissa@epa.gov
- gravuer.kelly@epa.gov

Lagoon Technical Assistance Pilot:

- Adler.jacob@epa.gov
- Smith.benjamin@epa.gov
- Or, send a request to: WaterTA@epa.gov

State Support:

- Adler.jacob@epa.gov



Clean Water State Revolving Fund/ Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Updates

&

A Discussion of how States Can Take Advantage of Water Technical Assistance Opportunities

Thank you!