



# Your Partner to Fund Clean, Reliable Water

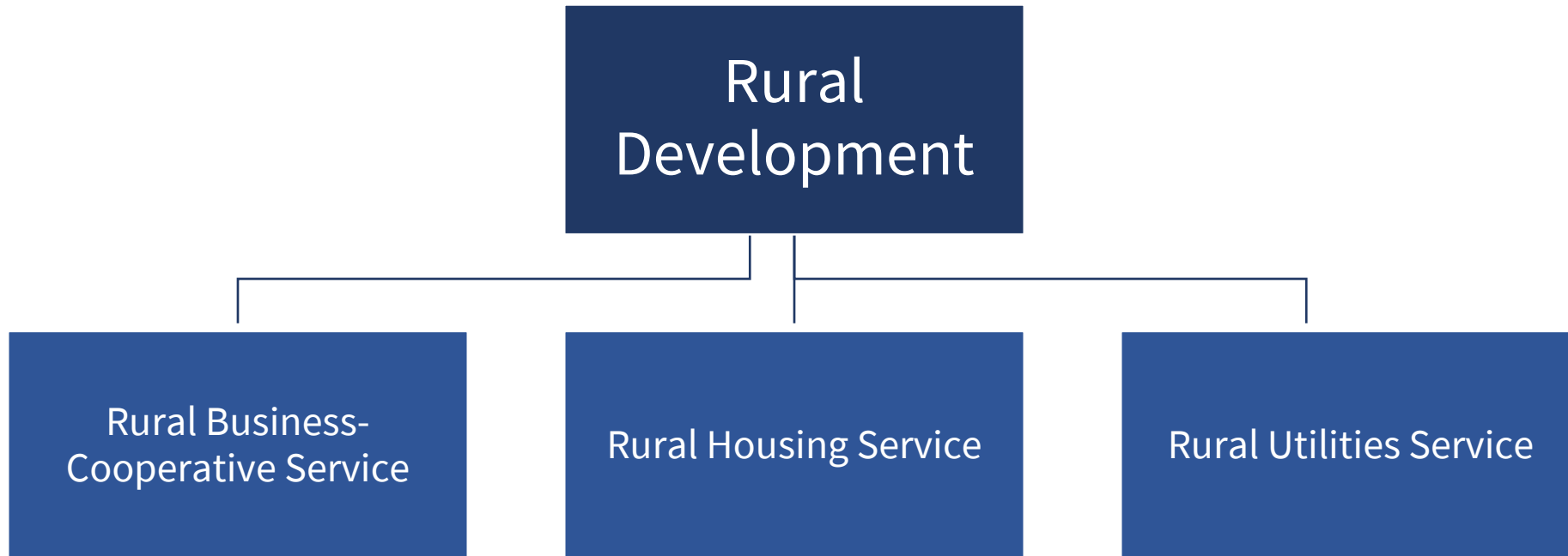
Presented by Robert Wilson ~ Area Specialist





# USDA Rural Development's Mission

# Rural Development Agencies



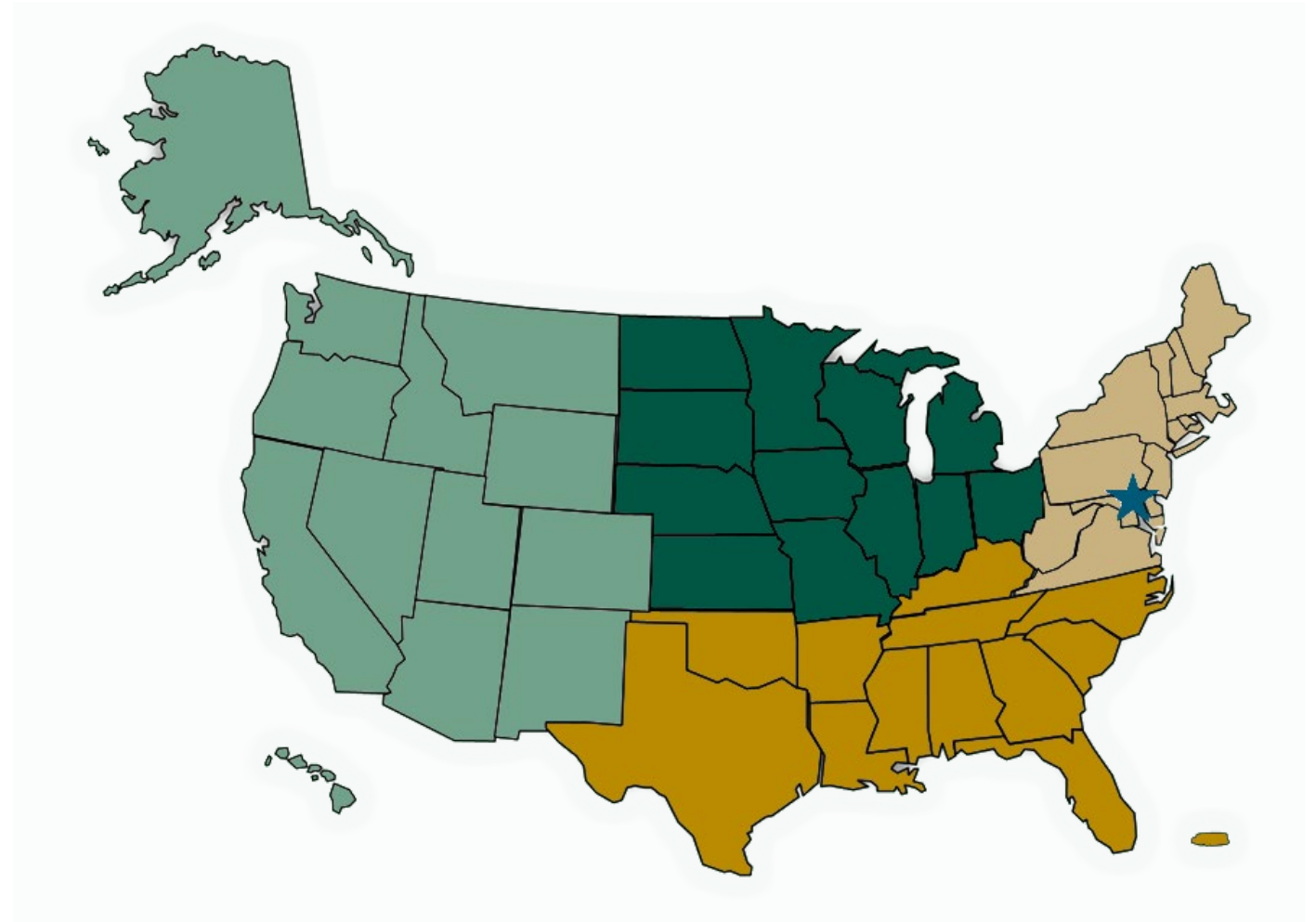
# Rural Development Offices

4 Regions

47 State Offices

400 Area Offices

1 National Office in DC





## Water and Waste Disposal Grants SEARCH AND PPG

- Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Communities and Households.
- Water & Waste Disposal Predevelopment Planning Grants.

# SEARCH GRANT

What does this program do?

- This program helps very small, financially distressed rural communities with predevelopment feasibility studies, design, and technical assistance on proposed water and waste disposal projects.

## What is an eligible area?

- Areas to be served must be rural and financially distressed.

Must have a population of 2,500 or less and a median household income of no more than \$42,794.

check eligible addresses:

<https://eligibility.sc.egov.usda.gov/eligibility/welcomeAction.do>

## Who may apply?

- Most State and local governmental.
- Non-profits.
- Federally Recognized Tribes.



## How may the funds be used?

To pay predevelopment planning costs, including:

- Feasibility studies to support applications for funding water or waste disposal projects.
- Preliminary design and engineering analysis.
- Technical assistance for the development of an application for financial assistance.

# Water & Waste Disposal Predevelopment Planning Grants (PPG)

What does this program do?

- It helps small, financially distressed rural communities with a population of 10,000 or less and a median household income of \$42,794 or less.

check eligible addresses:

<https://eligibility.sc.egov.usda.gov/eligibility/welcomeAction.do>

## How may the funds be used?

- Grants may be used to pay part of developing a complete application for USDA Rural Development Water & Waste Disposal direct Loan/Grant and loan Guarantee programs.
- To include:
  - Feasibility studies to support applications for funding water or waste disposal projects.
  - Preliminary design and engineering analysis.

## Additional

The predevelopment planning costs must be related to a proposed project that meets the following requirements:

- Construct, enlarge, extend, or improve rural water, sanitary sewage, solid waste disposal, and storm wastewater disposal facilities.
- Construct or relocate public buildings, roads, bridges, fences, or utilities and to make other public improvements necessary for the successful operation or protection of facilities.
- Relocate private buildings, roads, bridges, fences, or utilities, and other private improvements necessary for the successful operation or protection of facilities.

## What are the terms for the grants?

- Grants may **NOT** be used to pay for work already completed.
- The amount of the grant will be subtracted from the total grant eligibility if a USDA grant is awarded for part of the water or waste disposal project.
- These grants do not have to be paid back if the application for the USDA direct loan or loan/grant combination is not successful.
- Grants are based on demonstrated need and subject to the availability of funds.
- Partnerships with other federal, state, and local entities are encouraged, and grants are awarded only when the applicant cannot afford to borrow the needed funds.



## Is there a maximum grant amount?

- SEARCH Grant up to \$30,000
- PPG to a maximum of \$30,000 or 75 percent of the predevelopment planning costs. (at least 25 percent of the project cost must come from the applicant or third-party sources.)

# Water and Waste Disposal Loans and Grants

What does this program do?

- Provides funding for clean and reliable drinking water, sewage disposal, solid waste disposal, and storm water drainage in eligible rural areas utilizing long-term, low-interest loans. If funds are available, a grant may be combined with a loan if necessary to keep user costs reasonable.



## Water and Waste Loans and Grants.

- Up to 40-year period, based on the useful life of the facilities financed.
- Fixed interest rate.
- The interest rate is based on the need for the project and the median household income of the area to be served.



## Water and Waste Loans and Grants cont.

Current rate structure until March 31, 2021  
(Rates subject to change quarterly).

- Poverty Line Rate = 1.250% MHI less than \$42,794 & health hazard.
- Intermediate Rate = 1.750% MHI below \$53,493.
- Market Rate = 2.125% MHI Above \$53,493.

Rate is determined based on the approval date of the loan.

## Grant Determination

- 75% If below \$42,794 and if a health hazard, the rate may equal the Poverty Rate
- 45% grant eligible if less than State MHI, \$53,493 and greater than \$42,794 = intermediate rate.
- Over \$53,493 no grant assistance available.

(Other factors may apply for grant determination)



## How may funds be used?

Funds may be used to finance the acquisition, construction or improvement of:

- Drinking water sourcing, treatment, storage and distribution.
- Sewer collection, transmission, treatment and disposal.
- Solid waste collection, disposal and closure.
- Storm water collection, transmission and disposal.



In some cases, funding may also be available for related activities such as:

- Legal and engineering fees.
- Land acquisition, water and land rights, permits, and equipment.
- Start-up operations and maintenance.
- Interest incurred during construction.
- Purchase of facilities to improve service or prevent loss of service.
- Other costs determined to be necessary for completion of the project (See 7 CFR Part 1780.7 and 1780.9 for a complete list).



## FY 2020 Funding.

- **FY 20 VA WEP Loan Allocation** **\$31,676,000**
- **FY 20 VA WEP Grant Allocation** **8,732,000**
- **FY 20 VA WEP Loan Obligations** **51,338,000**
- **FY 20 VA WEP Grant Obligations** **13,333,500**

# RD Apply

- Safe and secure
- Convenient and available 24/7
- Faster processing with less paper

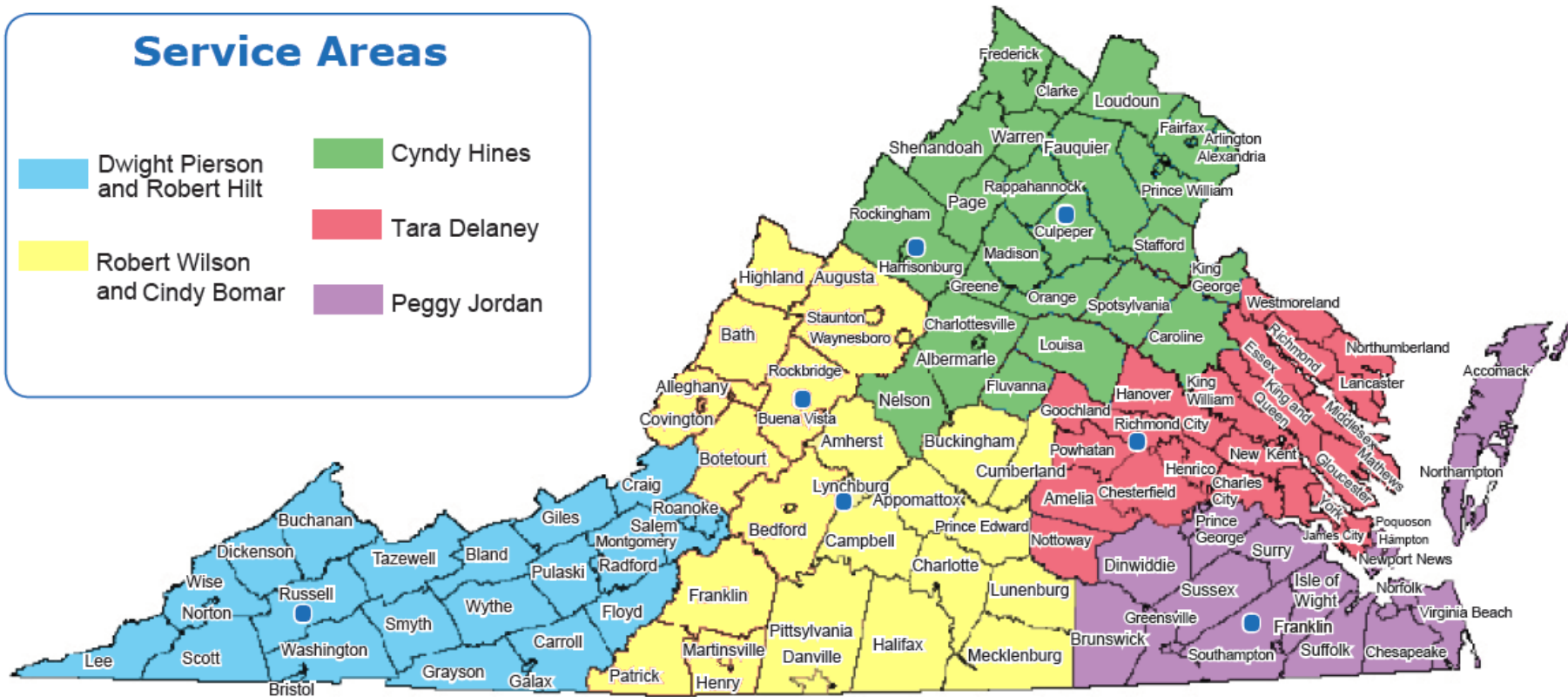
The screenshot shows the RD Apply web application interface. The browser address bar displays the URL: <https://rdapply.sc.egov.usda.gov/Intake/spring/AppHomeFlow?execution=e1s1>. The page features the USDA logo and the text "United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development" on the left, and "RD APPLY" with a wind turbine icon on the right. A navigation bar includes links for "Home", "Notifications", "Admin", "Electric CWP", and "Tutorials". Below this, there are buttons for "+ Add New Application" and "+ Authorized Representative Request", followed by the text "or Select an existing application from below.". A "Search Filters" section contains a text input field labeled "Application Nbr". Below this is a "Search Results" section. An "Export to Excel" button is located at the bottom right. The footer contains a list of links: "USDA.gov", "Site Map", "Policies and Links", "Our Performance", "Report Fraud on USDA Contracts", "Visit OIG", "FOIA", "Accessibility Statement", "Privacy Policy", "Non Discrimination Statement", "Information Quality", "USA.gov", and "White House".



## Community Programs Specialists Service Areas

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# Virginia Staff Directory

[VA Employee Directory](#)



# Rural Development's Programs

Summary of Programs [PDF](#)





rd.usda.gov



rd.usda.gov/coronavirus



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VA Gov Delivery Subscription

# **Thank you for joining us today!**

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