

RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND WASTE DISPOSAL LOAN AND GRANT PROGRAM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Department provides long-term, low-interest loans and grants, as well as loan guarantees, to rural communities and small municipalities of 10,000 or less people. These loans and grants may be used to help fund new, upgraded, renovated and expanded water-supply storage and distribution systems and waste-collection treatment and disposal systems, including wastewater, solid waste and storm drainage.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Public bodies, including municipalities, county governments and special districts, and community-based, nonprofit corporations and Indian tribes.

TYPE OF ASSISTANCE

Loans for up to 40 years with interest rates ranging from 4.125 to 4.5 percent (subject to change), direct grants and loan guarantees.

AVAILABLE FUNDING

Loans: \$22.8 million; grants: \$7.7 million; loan guarantees: \$1.38 million (state allocation, FY 2007).

SOURCE OF FUNDS

Annual appropriation by Congress.

APPLICATION PROCESS/DEADLINES

Applications may be filed with the Rural Development office serving your area; applications may be filed year-round.

MATCHING/OTHER REQUIREMENTS

No match is required; however, joint funding of projects with private funds is encouraged.

CONTACT

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Florida Rural Development area offices (see Appendix VI to determine which area office serves your area):

Crestview: (850) 682-2416

Marianna: (850) 526-2610

Ocala: (352) 732-7534

Tavares: (352) 742-7005

West Palm Beach: (561) 683-2285

or

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Rural Development

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