

USDA Rural Development is accepting applications for funds available to help private non-profit organizations and public bodies, including local governmental-based jurisdictional organizations, to assist rural Nebraska in areas of water, wastewater, and solid waste.

The application deadline is Dec. 31. Two types of funding are available, technical assistance and training grants and solid waste management grants.

Technical Assistance and Training Grants are available to private non-profit organizations that have the proven ability, background, experience, legal authority, and actual capacity to provide technical assistance and/or training on a regional basis to associations.

TAT Grants

Technical Assistance and Training (TAT) Grants are used to:

- Identify and evaluate solutions to water problems of associations in rural areas relating to source, storage, treatment and distribution;
- Identify and evaluate solutions to waste problems of associations in rural areas relating to collection, treatment and disposal;
- Assist associations with Rural Development water and/or wastewater loan and/or grant applications;
- Provide training to association personnel that will improve the management, operation and maintenance of water and waste disposal facilities; and
- Pay expenses associated with providing technical assistance and/or training.

Solid Waste Management (SWM) Grants are available to private non-profit organizations and public bodies, including local governmental-based jurisdictional organizations.

Applicants must have the proven ability, background, experience, legal authority, and actual capacity to provide technical assistance and/or training on a regional basis to associations.

The objectives of solid waste management grants are to reduce or eliminate pollution of water resources and to improve the planning and management of solid waste sites in rural areas.

Solid Waste Grants

Solid Waste Management Grants are used to:

- Evaluate current landfill conditions to reduce or eliminate pollution of water resources in rural areas;
- Provide technical assistance and/or training to:
 1. Enhance operator skills in the operation and maintenance of active landfills;
 2. Help communities reduce the solid waste stream;
 3. Assist 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.

Visit: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/UWP-solidwastemanagement.htm> for Solid Waste Management Grants and <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/UWP-solidwastemanagement.htm> for Technical Assistance and Training Grants. Contact Mary Sneckenberg at USDA Rural Development, (402) 437-5567 for obtaining an application and for program information.

For additional information on RD projects, please visit Rural Development's new interactive web map featuring program funding and success stories for fiscal years 2009-2011.

The data can be found at: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/RDSuccessStories.html>.

