Funding via the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF)

For this presentation, EPA will discuss the DWSRF, which was established by the 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act. Each of the 50 states and Puerto Rico operate DWSRF programs, which function like infrastructure banks by providing low interest loans to eligible recipients for drinking water infrastructure projects. As money is paid back into a state’s revolving loan fund, the state makes new loans to other recipients. These recycled repayments of loan principal and interest earnings allow the state’s DWSRF to “revolve” over time. Since program inception, over 50 percent of the loans have been for small systems serving fewer than 3,300, and 70 percent have been for systems serving fewer that 10,000. In addition to this infrastructure funding, the DWSRF may also provide technical assistance to water systems and fund other system capacity-building and operator certification activities.

Financing Water and Waste Infrastructure for Small Communities

Since the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has been the backbone of economic development and infrastructure in many rural communities, both on-farm and off-farm. For this presentation, the USDA will be discussing its Rural Utilities Service Water and Environmental Programs (WEP). USDA’s WEP is exclusively focused on financing water and waste infrastructure needs of rural communities with 10,000 or fewer people. WEP not only provides financial assistance for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements, but also provides critical technical assistance to rural communities and their water and wastewater systems.

EPA Presentation by Nicholas Chamberlain

Nick serves as the DWSRF Team Lead with EPA’s Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water. In this role, he manages the development of guidance, training, and the delivery of technical assistance to our stakeholder partners in government and industry. Nick has been with EPA since 2008. He has a bachelor’s degree in Government and Politics, Environmental Science & Policy from the University of Maryland.

USDA Presentation by Cheryl Francis

Cheryl is the Program Operations Branch Chief for USDA’s Rural Development’s (RD) Water and Environmental Programs (WEP). Cheryl started in WEP as a community program specialist in 1996; she became branch chief in 2011. Prior to WEP, she worked as a loan specialist in the RD Electric Program for nine years. Cheryl also worked in telecommunications in the private sector, where she provided administrative support to international telecommunications programs. Cheryl holds a B.S. in Accounting from the University of Maryland University College.

USDA Presentation by Steve Saulnier, P.E.

Steve is a Branch Chief and has been with USDA’s RD Rural Utilities Service for 16 years. He is an environmental engineer and has 39 years of experience working with small, rural communities on water, wastewater, and solid waste management issues. Prior to USDA, Steve was an environmental engineer for the U.S. Army and the U.S. Public Health Service. He has designed and supervised construction of small water and wastewater systems for Native American communities and for northern Iraq’s Kurdish region.

Registration: https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3552068359475264001

Who should attend?
State primacy agencies, tribes, community planners, technical assistance providers, academia, and water systems interested in issues facing community water systems and solutions to help solve them.

Looking for more webinars?
This webinar is part of EPA’s Monthly Small Systems Webinar Series: Challenges and Treatment Solutions for Small Drinking Water Systems. A webinar will be held each month in 2018.

epa.gov/water-research/small-systems-monthly-webinar-series