



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rural Development



Presented by: Clyde Payne

State Office Community Programs Specialist

Water and Environmental Programs

Tennessee USDA RD

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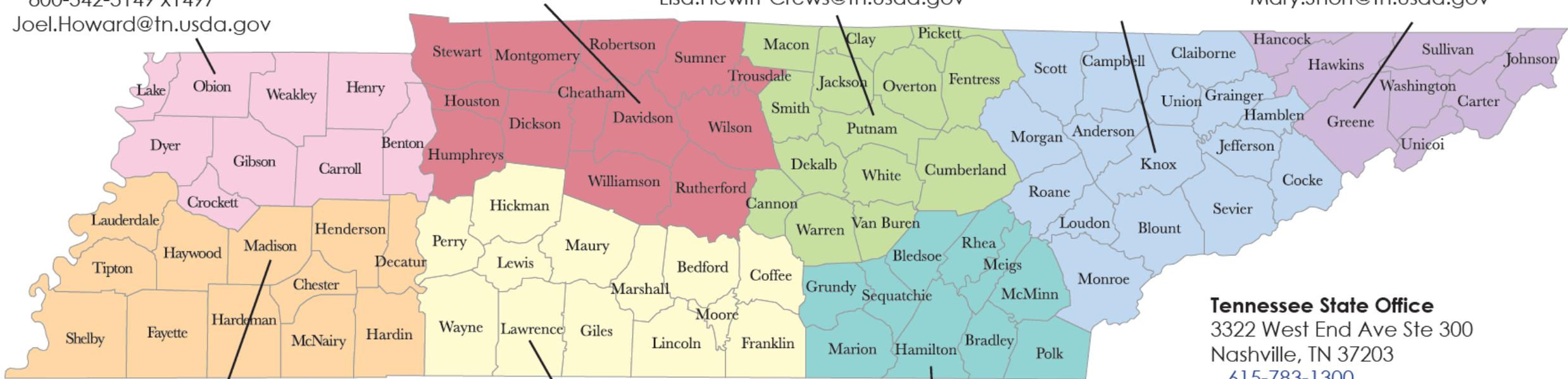
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Knoxville Area Office

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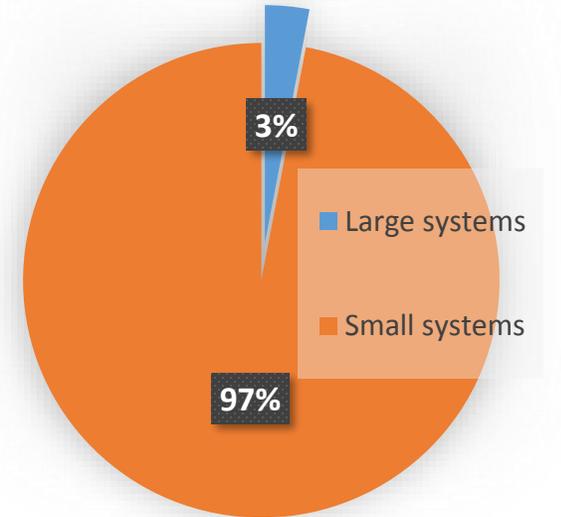
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Tennessee State Office

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Don Harris - Housing Programs
Dan Beasley - Business Programs
Terence McGhee - Community Programs

Water and Environmental Programs (WEP) Overview

- **WEP 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
- **Eligible areas:** Rural cities or towns with populations of 10,000 or less; tribal lands in rural areas; Colonias
- **Eligible borrowers:** Most state and local governmental entities; private non-profits; and federally-recognized tribes



Water and Environmental Program National Allocation

- USDA-TN has more than \$138 Million in direct loans available to use to partner with rural communities so they, too, can seize economic and workforce development opportunities that result from a strong foundation of modern, reliable infrastructure.
- Guaranteed Program
 - FY18 provides \$542 Million (Nationally)
 - USDA-TN has \$1.5 Million

Interest Rates Effective of 7/1/18

Poverty Rate- 2.3750%

Intermediate Rate- 3.1250%

Market Rate- 3.8750



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Specialty Grants

Emergency Assistance

Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants (ECWAG)

- Helps eligible communities prepare, or recover from, an **emergency** that threatens the availability of safe, reliable drinking water
- Events included but not limited to*:
 - Drought or flood, earthquake, tornado or hurricane, disease outbreak, chemical spill leak or seepage
- Funds can be used for water transmission line grants up to \$150,000 and water source grants up to \$1,000,000

Eligible applicants include: most state and local governmental entities, private non-profits, **federally and state recognized tribes**, serving rural areas 10k or less



Assistance for Developing Application Documents

Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Communities (SEARCH)



- Help for very small, financially distressed rural communities (2,500 or less) and have an MHI below the poverty line or less than 80% of statewide non-metro MHI
 - Predevelopment feasibility studies, design and engineering assistance, and technical assistance for funding applications

Eligible applicants include: most state and local gov't entities, non-profits, and federally recognized tribes

Assistance for Developing Application Documents

Water and Waste Disposal Predevelopment Planning Grants (PPG)

- Assists low-income communities with initial planning and development of applications for RD WWD direct loan/grant loan guarantee programs
- Eligible applicants include: most state and local governmental entities, nonprofits, and federally recognized tribes
- Eligible areas include rural towns (10k or less), **federally recognized tribal lands**, and Colonias and have an MHI below the poverty line or less than 80% of statewide non-metro MHI
- Max. grant amount is \$30,000 or 75% of predevelopment planning costs
- Applicant or a 3rd party must cover 25% of the project cost



Working Together to Impact Water Infrastructure

- Rural community leaders can apply electronically by going to rd.usda.gov and using our interactive RDAApply application. You can also apply through one of USDA Rural Development's state or field offices.
- At USDA Rural Development, we have a long-standing motto that we are committed to the future of rural communities.
- We look forward to working with rural community leaders across the nation to build and enhance infrastructure and to seize many other opportunities for rural America in the days to come.

We are committed to the future of rural communities

Thank you for your interest in Rural Development!



Questions?