

# Solid Waste Management Grants

## What does this program do?

**This program reduces or eliminates pollution of water resources by providing funding for organizations that provide technical assistance or training to improve the planning and management of solid waste sites.**

## Who may apply?

- **Most state and local governmental entities**
- **Nonprofits**
- **Federally recognized Tribes**
- **Academic institutions**

### All applicants must have:

- **Proven ability, background, or experience to successfully complete a project similar to the one proposed**
- **Legal authority and capacity to provide technical assistance or training**

## What is an eligible area?

Rural areas and towns with a population of 10,000 or less – [check eligible addresses](#)

Special consideration may be given for projects serving:

- An area with fewer than 5,500 or fewer than 2,500 people;
- regional, multi-state, or national areas; or
- lower-income populations.

## What may the funds be used for?

- Evaluate current landfill conditions to identify threats to water resources
- Provide technical assistance or training to enhance the operation and maintenance of active landfills
- Provide technical assistance or training to help communities reduce the amount of solid waste coming into a landfill
- Provide technical assistance or training to prepare for closure and future use of a landfill site

These grants may not be used to:

- Duplicate current services, replace or substitute support previously provided, i.e., service already rendered by a consultant in developing a project
- Duplicate assistance provided by the U.S. Forest Service
- Pay for capital assets, real estate, or vehicles

- Pay for construction, operation, or maintenance
- Improve or renovate office space or repair or maintain private property
  - See [7 CFR 1775.5](#) for a complete list

## Are there terms for grants?

- This is a nationally competitive grant.
- Projects should be completed within 12 months.
- Grants are subject to the availability of funds.

## Are matching funds required?

Matching funds are not required for this grant, however, applicant and in-kind contributions are recommended.

## Who currently participates in this program?

See our [grantee directory](#) for a list of current and past participants.

## How do we get started?

- [Download the 2017 Solid Waste Management Application Guide.](#)
  - Applications for this program are accepted annually through your [local RD office](#) from Oct. 1 – Dec. 31.
  - Program resources (includes forms needed, guidance, certifications etc.)

## Who can answer questions?

Contact the solid waste grant manager in the RD National Office at (202) 720-9589.

## What governs this program?

- Code of Federal Regulations  
[7 CFR 1775 Subpart D](#)
- Section 310B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act

## Why does USDA Rural Development do this?

This program helps small communities and utilities better manage solid waste disposal.

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**NOTE:** Because citations and other information may be subject to change, please always consult the program instructions listed in the section above titled “*What Governs This Program?*” You may also contact your local office for assistance. You will find additional forms, resources, and program information at [rd.usda.gov](http://rd.usda.gov). *USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.*