

Financial Assistance for Montana Water, Wastewater & Solid Waste Projects

Anna Miller, Deputy Administrator
Autumn Coleman, Bureau Chief



MONTANA W²ASACT

WATER, WASTEWATER AND SOLID WASTE ACTION TEAM

WASACT members combine forces to help Montana communities fund successful water and sewer projects. Funding authorities in WASACT help close the gap between what systems cost and what their users can afford. dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cardd/wasact





W²ASACT

Online Resources

- Funding Applications
 - Uniform Application
- Technical Assistance
 - Providers & Resources
- Financial Assistance
 - [Funding Table](#)
 - Target Rates
 - Invoices & Budget Tracking
- Publications & Workshops
 - Rate Study, Consultant Directory, Guides
- Uniform Specifications

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W2ASACT INFORMATION

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Submit Comments

- Questions on the website materials, meeting information, or to let us know how we are doing

Updated January 2020

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR WATER, WASTEWATER AND SOLID WASTE PROJECTS IN MONTANA

Program Name	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Projects	Local Match Required	Planning Costs Covered?	Amount of Funds Available Per Project	Loan Repayment Period	Ranking Criteria	Funding Cycle (Deadline)	Special Requirements and Additional Information	Program Contact
MONTANA AND FEDERAL AGENCIES ACCEPTING THE UNIFORM APPLICATION										
U.S. Rural Development- US Department of Agriculture (USDA) a. Water and Environmental Loan and Grant Program b. Pre-Development Grants c. Search Grants	a., b., c. Counties & Municipalities, Water/Sewer Districts, Federally recognized Indian Tribes and Non Profits - Associations	a. Water, Wastewater, Storm water, and Solid Waste Systems (Construction, Repair, Expansion) b. Planning c. Planning	a. No b. Yes (25%) c. No	Yes, reimbursement as part of total project costs	a. Ratio dependent upon user rates, no limit or maximum for loans, 75% maximum grant b., c. \$30,000	a. 40 years or life of facility	Priority given to: Under 1,000 in population, Low income, Health hazards, and Extended service to additional rural users	Open-cycle	Population <10,000 Applicants must be unable to finance the project by use of commercial credit at reasonable rates and terms www.usda.gov	Steve Troendle USDA/Rural Development 2229 Boothill Ct. Bozeman, MT 59715 (406) 585-2520 steve.troendle@mt.usda.gov
Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) Renewable Resource Grant & Loan Program (RRGL) a. Renewable Resource Grants and Loans b. Project Planning Grants c. Emergency Grant Program	a., b. & c. Government entities (Includes Indian Tribes)	a., b. & c. Renewable Resource Conservation, Management, Development, and Preservation Projects	a., b. and c. No	a. & b. Yes c. No	a. Grants (Public) Up to \$125,000 a. Loans (Public) No maximum b. up to \$25,000 c. up to \$30,000	a. (Loans) 20 Years or less.	a. Resource benefits financial feasibility, project management, technical feasibility, b. Resource benefits c. Urgency and financial need.	a. Applications due on May 15 of even numbered years. b. as funding is available c. Open	a. Projects must conserve, manage, develop, or preserve a renewable resource. b. Preliminary engineering, planning, or other activities leading to a renewable resource project. c. Emergency projects that result in property damage or legal liability dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cardd/resource-development/renewable-resource-grant-program	DNRC – RRGL Program 1539 11th Avenue, PO BOX 201601 Helena, MT 59620 Lindsay Volpe (406) 444-9766 lmvolpe@mt.gov
Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) a. Water Pollution Control State Revolving Fund Loan (WPCSRF) b. Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan Program (DWSRF) Loans	a. Municipalities for wastewater projects - Municipalities and private entities for nonpoint source projects. b. All community public water systems.	a. Wastewater projects that solve water quality problems. b. Drinking water projects that achieve compliance with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act.	a. No b. No	a. Yes b. Yes	a. & b. 100% of eligible project costs can be borrowed; ability to repay loan must be shown. Partial principal forgiveness may apply.	a. 30 years or less. Cannot exceed design life. b. 20 years or less. Qualifying disadvantaged communities are eligible for loan terms of up to 30 years and term cannot exceed the design life. a. & b. Up to 3 years for interim financing.	a. Impairment of water uses, extent project will restore water quality, public health improvement and readiness to proceed. b. Protect public health, comply with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, system affordability	a. & b. Open-cycle	a. & b. Projects must be included on the Project Priority List and Intended Use Plan; must demonstrate ability to repay loan. Must meet Federal Davis Bacon Wage and American Iron and Steel requirements. Minority Business Enterprise requirements MAY be required b. Organizational capacity is adequate to maintain compliance with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act. www.deq.mt.gov	DEQ – State Revolving Fund 1520 E 6th Avenue PO BOX 200901 Helena, MT 59620 a. Mike Abrahamson (WPCSRF)(406) 444-6776 mabrahamson@mt.gov b. Mark Smith (DWSRF) (406) 444-5325 marks@mt.gov
Montana Department of Commerce (DOC) Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) a. Public & Community Facility Grants b. Community Planning Grants c. Economic Development and Housing Grants (Federal grant administered by Commerce)	Incorporated cities and towns, and counties. Note: Counties may apply on behalf of water/sewer district and tribal utility authorities.	Water, wastewater, solid waste, hookup fees and assessments, economic development, housing (multifamily & single family)	Yes a. 25% local match) b. 1 to 3 match (33% match) c. Contact the program	Yes, for costs associated with engineer and grant administration.	a. up to \$450,000 b. up to \$50,000 c. Contact the program	C. Contact the program.	Community planning assessment, project need, concept and technical design, community efforts, financial assistance, benefit to low and moderate income	a. Annual competition-spring of the year b. & c. Contact the program	a. At least 51% of the beneficiaries of a project must be low or moderate income. b. Planning such as PER, CIP & community development planning. See website for eligibility options. comdev.mt.gov	Community Development Division Staff 301 S Park Avenue, PO BOX 200523 Helena, MT 59620 (406) 841-2770 dccdd@mt.gov
Montana Department of Commerce Montana Board of Investments INTERCAP Loan Program Loans	Local government units, Special Purpose Districts, Water/Sewer Districts And Tribal governments	Water & Wastewater Systems, Solid Waste (Construction, repair, expansion, equipment, vehicles, planning, interim financing)	No	Yes	100% of eligible projects can be borrowed; ability to repay loan must be shown. Over \$3 million on a case by case basis.	Up to 15 years	No ranking criteria. Board examines applicant's financial profile and repayment ability.	Continuous cycle	www.investmentmt.com	MT DOC Board of Investments PO BOX 200126 Helena, MT 59620 Savannah Morgan (406) 444-0257 SMorgan@mt.gov Louise Welsh, (406) 444-0891 lwelsh@mt.gov
Montana Department of Commerce Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP) a. Construction Grants b. Infrastructure Planning Grants c. Emergency Grants	Incorporated cities and towns, counties, water, sewer and solid waste districts, and federally recognized tribal governments.	Drinking water systems, wastewater treatment, sanitary or storm sewers, solid waste systems, and bridges.	a. Yes, typically 50%, which can include other grants b. Yes, 50% c. Local participation required.	a. Yes, for costs associated with engineer and grant administration.	a. Up to \$750,000 b. Up to \$15,000 c. Typically, no more than \$10,000 determined on a case by case basis.	Not Applicable	Health and Safety, financial need, technical design, planning and management, other funding for the project, economic development, and community support.	a. Spring of even numbered years. b & c. Applications accepted in spring in odd numbered years until appropriation is gone. c. Apply anytime	a. Funding approved by the Legislature. b. Funding approved by Commerce. Infrastructure planning grants (PER or CIP). c. Funding approved by Commerce. Projects intended to respond to emergency situation. comdev.mt.gov	Community Development Division 301 S. Park Avenue PO BOX 200523 Helena, MT 59620 (406) 841-2770 dccdd@mt.gov

Updated January 2020

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR WATER, WASTEWATER AND SOLID WASTE PROJECTS IN MONTANA

Program Name	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Projects	Local Match Required	Planning Costs Covered?	Amount of Funds Available Per Project	Loan Repayment Period	Ranking Criteria	Funding Cycle (Deadline)	Special Requirements and Additional Information	Program Contact
ADDITIONAL FEDERAL FUNDING PROGRAMS										
U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) Public Works Grants (Federal)	Municipalities, Counties, Indian Tribes, nonprofits	Water and Wastewater Systems	Yes	Yes, under the Technical Assistance Program	Generally, not to exceed \$3,000,000, but may be waived in special circumstances.	Not Applicable	5 investment priorities found on https://www.eda.gov/about/investment-priorities/	Applications accepted at any time.	Project tied to economic development, job creation, or retention. Must comply with federal regulations www.eda.gov	Kirk Keysor PO BOX 10032 Bozeman, MT 59719 406-599-9795 kkeysor@eda.gov
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Rural Montana Environmental Infrastructure and Resource Development Program (Section 595, WRDA 1999), funding assistance.	Public entities (Includes Indian Tribes)	Wastewater treatment and related facilities, water supply and related facilities, environmental restoration and surface water resource protection and development.	75% federal/25% local cost share.	Planning costs can count towards local cost share or can be reimbursed, even when incurred prior to signing a project partnership agreement.	No specific amount per project, but typically no more than \$1,500,000. Funding for this program varies year to year.	Not Applicable	None	No specific deadline. Funds are announced in the Corps Work Plan, and projects receiving funds are notified, funding tied to Federal fiscal year appropriation process.	Funds are to be obligated (reserved to project) in the same fiscal year that funds are appropriated. Obligation of funds occurs after the sponsor and Corps sign a project partnership agreement. Funding assistance is provided as reimbursement of costs, and those reimbursements can occur after the year funding is obligated if needed. See website for Program information: www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Project-Planning/WRRDA-7001-Proposals/	USACE Omaha District 1616 Capitol Avenue Omaha, NE 68102-4901 888-835-5971 or 402-995-2702 hplanning@usace.army.mil
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Technical Assistance Programs a. Planning Assistance to States & Tribes (Sec. 22, WRDA 74) b. Flood Plain Management Services Program (FPMS) (Sec. 206, Flood Control Act (FCA) of 1960)	States, local governments, federally-recognized Indian Tribes, non-federal entities (w/local government support)	Broad range of water resource issues. These programs are planning level only and do not lead to construction.	a. 50% federal; 50% non-federal b. 100% federal	These studies are inherently planning level studies only. Refer to information on the local match required.	Federal limit: a. \$2 million for each state or Tribe per year b. \$1 million per state per year	Not Applicable	USACE discretion within available funds.	No specific deadline, but federal share is tied to the federal appropriation process.	Interested sponsors should submit a letter of request. More information can be found at www.nwo.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/Planning.aspx	Planning Branch USACE, Omaha District 1616 Capitol Avenue Omaha, NE 68102 (402) 995-2701 (402) 995-2680 hplanning@usace.army.mil
ADDITIONAL STATE FUNDING PROGRAMS										
Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Reclamation & Development Grants a. RDG Project Grants b. RDG Planning Grants	Government Agencies (Includes Indian Tribes)	Reclamation of land, water or public infrastructure affected by mining or hazardous waste sites	No	a. Some b. Yes	a. up to \$500,000 b. up to \$50,000	Not Applicable	a. & b: Reclamation results in natural resource benefits; need and urgency; appropriate technical design; project management; and financial feasibility.	a. Applications due May 15 of even numbered years. b. As funds are available.	a. Primary purpose is to reclaim land damaged by resource extraction. Also, funds projects that meet a crucial state needs. b. Funds available for site investigations and project planning dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cadd/resourc-e-development/reclamation-and-development-grants-program	Heidi Anderson Fohnagy 1539 11th Avenue PO BOX 201601 Helena, MT 59620 (406) 444-6687 HAndersonFohnagy@mt.gov
Department of Commerce (DOC) Montana Coal Board Grant Program	Counties & Municipalities, Local Government Units, State Agencies, Special Districts, Water/Sewer Districts, federally recognized Indian Tribes	a. Water, wastewater, solid waste systems, roads, bridges, road equipment, planning, other types of projects that are impacted by coal development.	Financial need and local effort are considerations.	Yes, for costs associated with engineer and grant administration.	a. No limit	a. Not Applicable	Planning, need, severity of impact, availability of funds, and degree of local effort.	a. Continuous cycle, applications due 45 days prior to quarterly meetings.	Areas experiencing impacts from coal development or decline. Funding approved by Coal Board. comdev.mt.gov	Community Development Division Staff 301 S Park Avenue, PO Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620 (406) 841-2770 dccdd@mt.gov

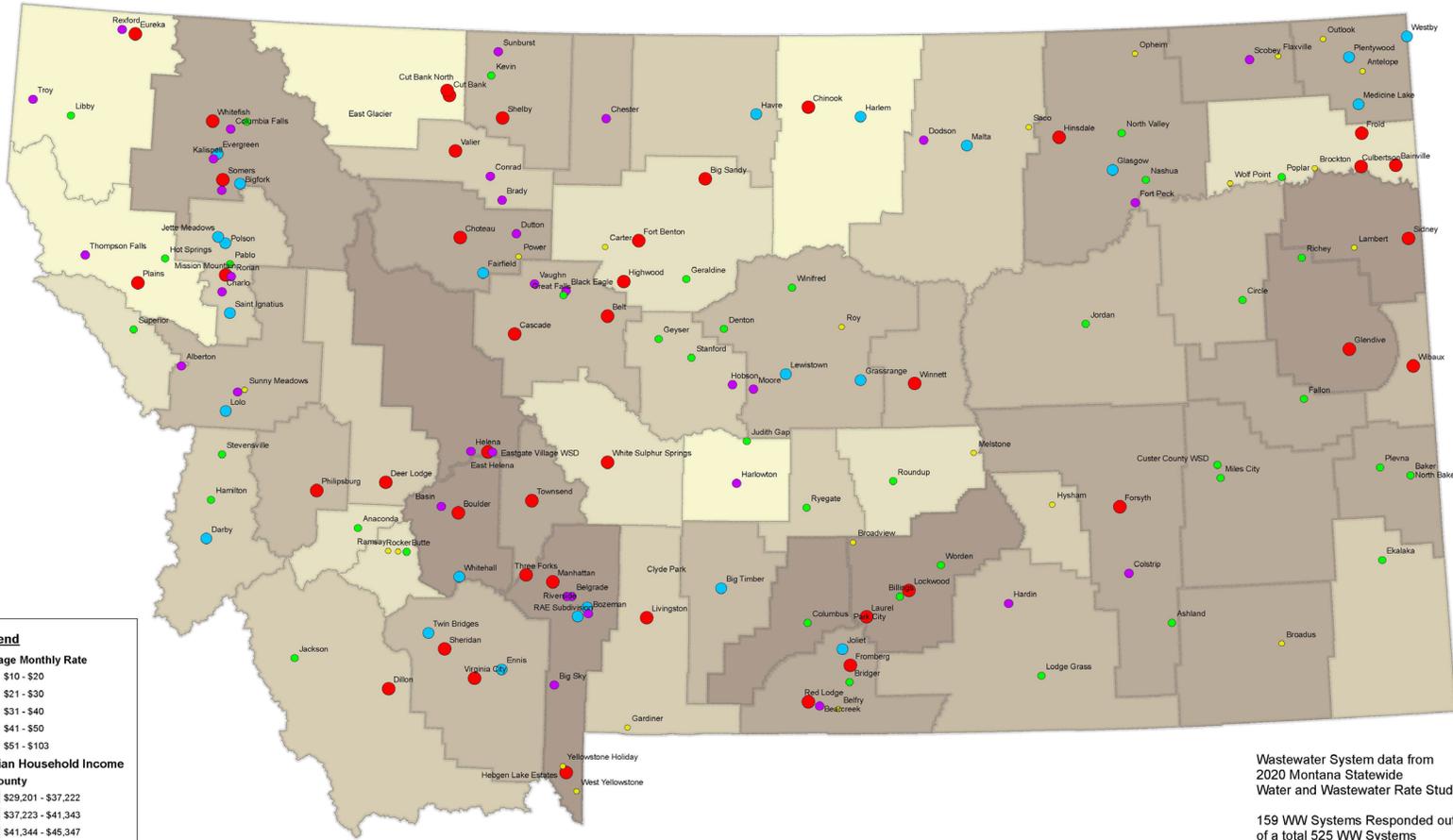
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U.S. Indian Health Service (IHS) Sanitation Facilities Construction Program Grants (Federal)	Federally-recognized Indian Tribes	Water and sewer facilities for new non-HUD funded housing; Funding to correct sanitation deficiencies.	No, but points are added for contributions to project.	Planning is provided by IHS engineers.	\$15,000 to \$40,000 limit per home, depending on situation.	Not Applicable	Deficiency level, O&M capability, Tribal Priority, Capital Cost, Health Impact, Previous Service from Federal Agencies, and other considerations.	May 1 of each year	See Ranking Criteria on website www.ih.gov	Jim White, Captain U.S. Public Health Service Director Sanitation Facilities Construction Billings Indian Health Service Box 36600, Billings, MT 59107 jim.white@ih.gov (406) 247-7096
PROGRAMS SPECIFICALLY FOR FUNDING TRIBAL PROJECTS										
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) a. Clean Water Act (CWA) b. Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Indian Set Aside Grants (Federal)	Federally-recognized Indian Tribes	Water and sewer facilities for Indian homes served by community facilities or that could be consolidated into community facilities. Fund planning, design and construction for water & wastewater facilities that serve Indian Tribes.	No	Yes	No limit, but typically less than \$750,000	Not Applicable	a. IHS Sanitation Deficiency System is used. b. Improvements in: public health, public safety, ability to comply, environment, adequacy, efficiency, and utility capacity.	Usually the end of March each year.	Tribes may choose a direct grant from EPA or enter into an agreement with EPA and IHS to transfer funds to IHS, who then administers the project. www.epa.gov	Bruce Cooper U.S. EPA Region 8 Tribal Solid Waste Coordinator 1595 Wynkoop St. Denver, CO 80202 (303) 312-6135 Cooper.bruce@epa.gov
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS										
Midwest Assistance Program (MAP) Provides free technical assistance for water, wastewater and solid waste needs	Montana rural communities and tribal nations	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	www.map-inc.org/	Erinn Zindt Regional Field Manager PO Box 621 Bozeman, MT 59771 (406) 580-4812 ezindt@map-inc.org
Montana Rural Water Systems Water & Waste Water Technical Assistance and Training, Source Water Protection - USDA EPA Water Training, Septic, and Wastewater Program	All Public Water Supply Systems	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Circuit Riders serve populations less than 10,000, all other programs serve all public water supplies www.mrws.org/	John Camden 925 7th Avenue So. Great Falls, MT 59405 406-454-1151 mrws@bresnan.net

Updated annually by the Water, Wastewater, and Solid Waste Action Coordinating Team dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cardd/wasact

Average Monthly Wastewater Rates by Median Household Income



Legend

Average Monthly Rate

- \$10 - \$20
- \$21 - \$30
- \$31 - \$40
- \$41 - \$50
- \$51 - \$103

Median Household Income by County

- \$29,201 - \$37,222
- \$37,223 - \$41,343
- \$41,344 - \$45,347
- \$45,348 - \$49,761
- \$49,762 - \$56,988
- \$56,989 - \$66,572

Wastewater System data from 2020 Montana Statewide Water and Wastewater Rate Study

159 WW Systems Responded out of a total 525 WW Systems

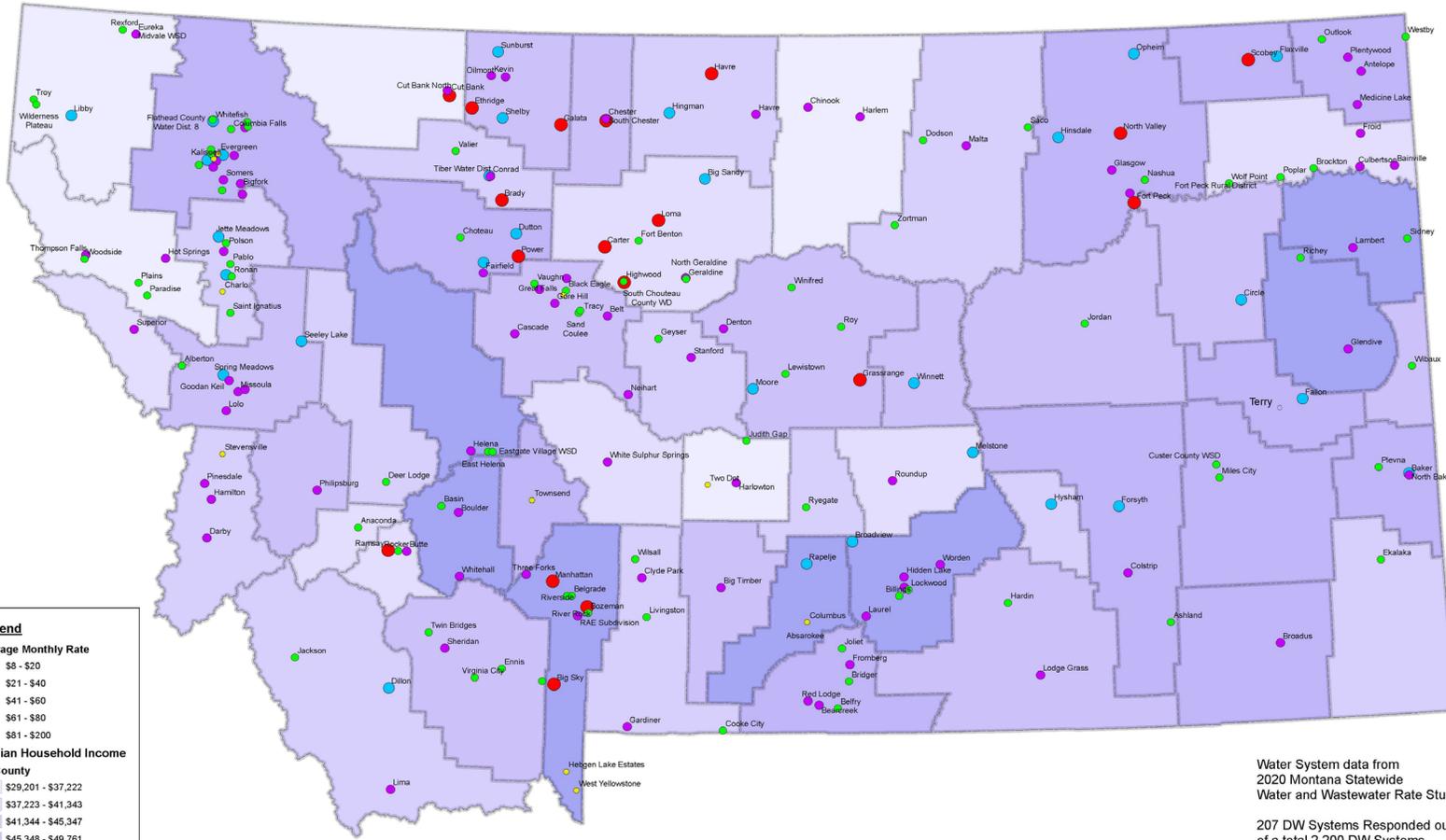
Median Household Income from 2010 Census Data updated in 2017

Community Wastewater Rates

[DNRC Rate Comparison 2019](#)



Average Monthly Water Rates by Median Household Income



Community Drinking Water Rates

[DNRC Rate Comparison 2019](#)



Water System data from
2020 Montana Statewide
Water and Wastewater Rate Study

207 DW Systems Responded out
of a total 2,200 DW Systems

Median Household Income from
2010 Census Data updated in 2017

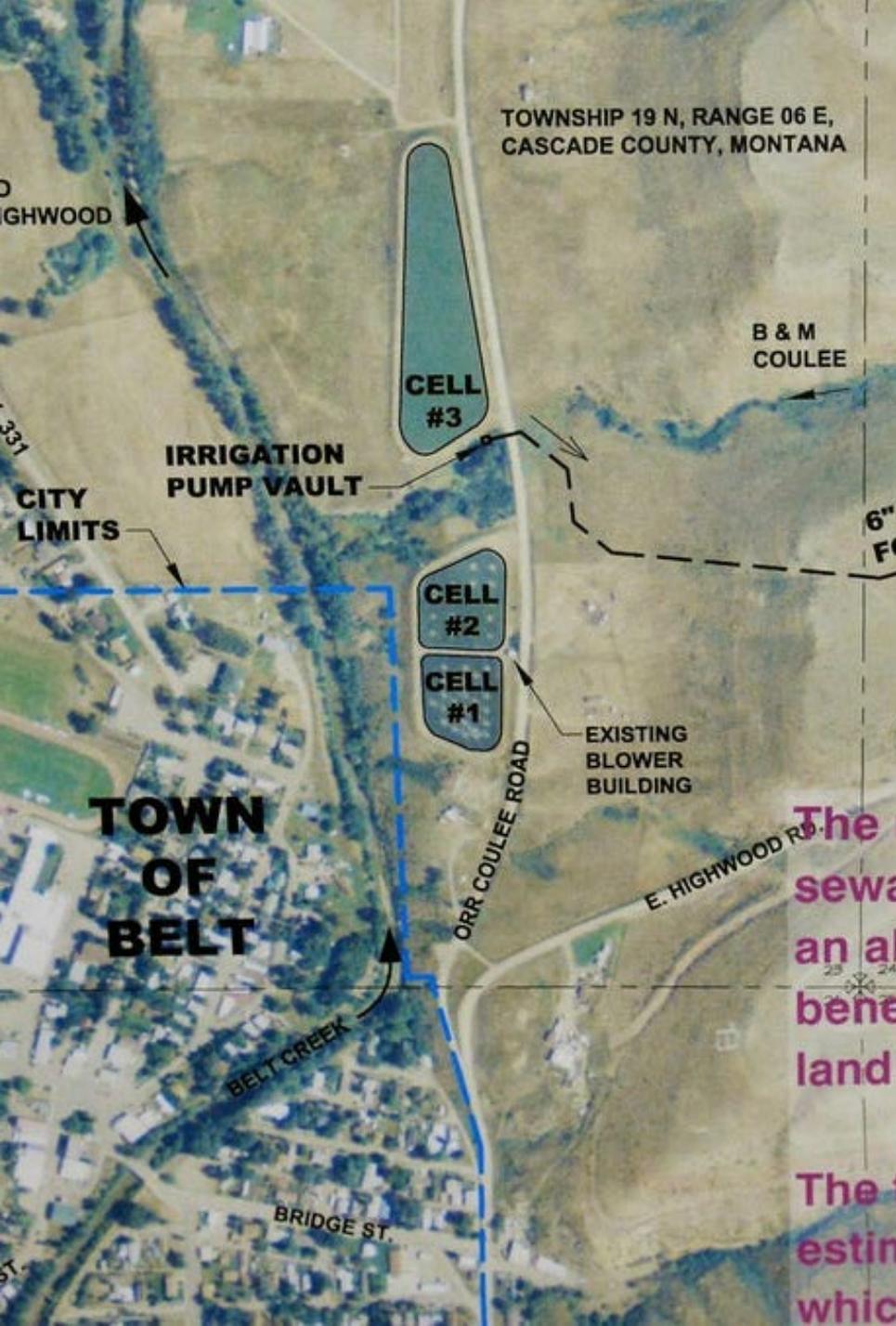


Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program

PLANNING GRANTS

Funding to plan projects that that will conserve, manage, develop, or protect Montana's renewable resources.

- Government Entities
- \$15,000 - \$8,000
- No Match
- Year-round application cycles





Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program

PROJECT GRANTS

Funding for projects that that will conserve, manage, develop, or protect Montana's renewable resources.

- Government Entities
- \$125,000 per project
- No Match
- Applications are due on May 15th Even Years

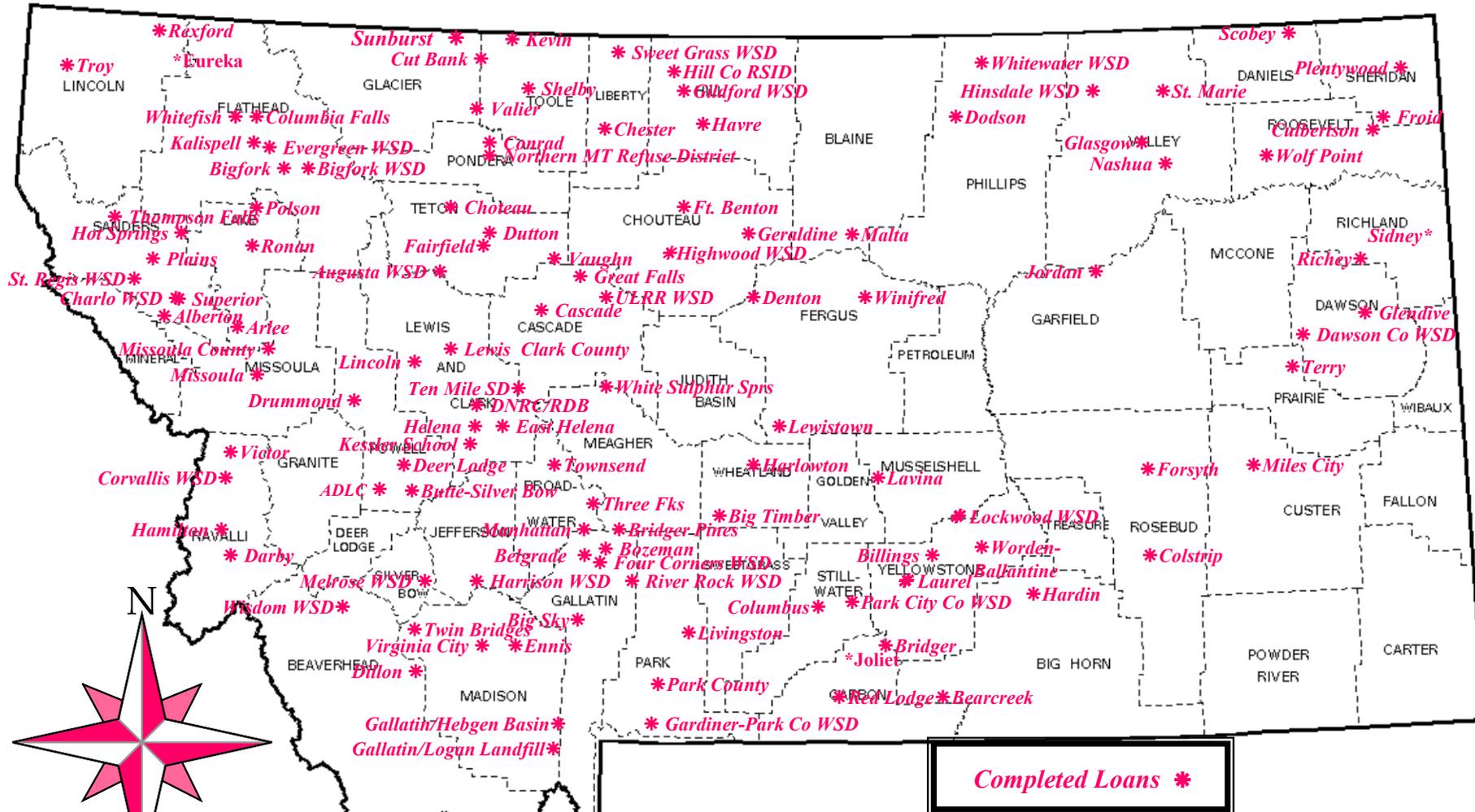




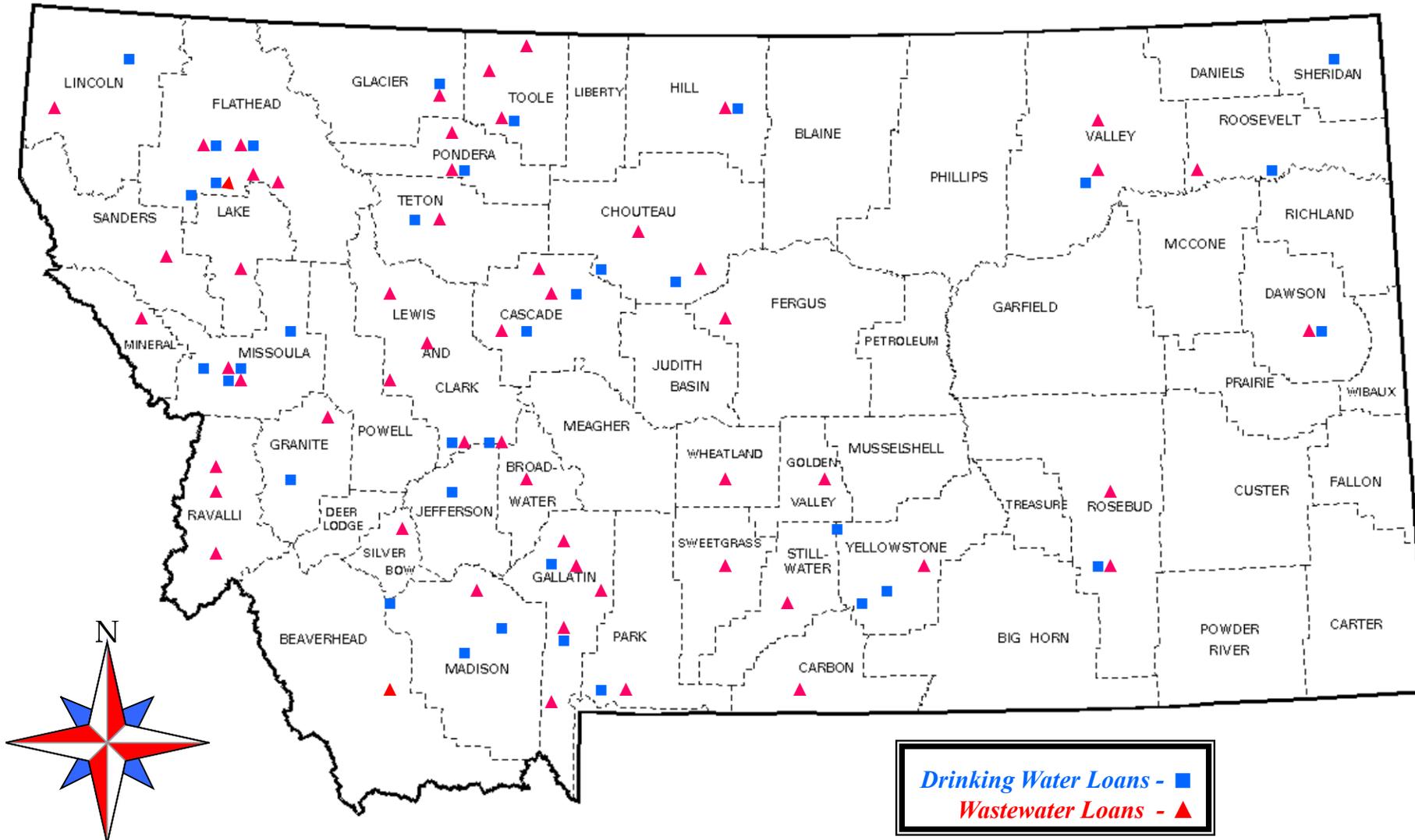
Wastewater & Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan Programs



Wastewater Revolving Fund Loans



PROPOSED Drinking Water Revolving Fund Loans Wastewater Revolving Fund Loans



Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Conservation and Resource Development Division

July 17, 2020



Roundup Drinking Water Line Replacements



Total Project Cost	DNRC RRGL	TSEP Grant	Community Development Block Grant	SRF Loan Forgiveness	SRF Loan	Local Funds	Coal Board Grant
\$2,927,000	\$125,000	\$750,000	\$450,000	\$408,000	\$494,000	\$300,000	\$400,000

Whitefish Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades



Total Project Cost	DNRC RRGL	TSEP Grant	WRDA Grant USACE	SRF Loan Forgiveness	SRF Loan B	SRF Loan C	Local Funds
\$24,844,885	\$125,000	\$625,000	\$270,000	\$350,000	\$10,000,000	\$9,575,000	\$3,899,885

Montana
Department of
Environmental
Quality



**MONTANA
SRF**

Montana
Department of
Natural
Resources and
Conservation

STATE REVOLVING FUND
Loan Assistance For Water Treatment Facilities
FOR: Town of Belt, MT
PROJECT COST: \$493,000

ENGINEER: NCI Engineers
GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Ed Boland Construction

dnrc.mt.gov/grants-and-loans

dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cardd/wasact

QUESTIONS?

Anna Miller, Deputy Administrator, annam@mt.gov, 406-444-66898

Autumn Coleman, Bureau Chief, Autumn.Coleman@mt.gov, 406-444-6687

Lindsay Volpe, RRGL Program Manager, Lmvolpe@mt.gov, 406-444-9776