



## WASTEWATER TREATMENT PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO NATIVE AMERICANS



A large number of homes in Indian country lack adequate systems to treat or dispose of sewage, according to a 1998 report by the Indian Health Service. If not properly collected, treated, or disposed of, wastewater can seriously affect the health of our citizens, our groundwater, and our surface waters. EPA's Office of Wastewater Management provides financial and technical assistance programs and resource centers to aid Native Americans with the construction and operation of wastewater facilities. Help can be obtained by contacting the following assistance programs or one of EPA's partner organizations and agencies as listed below:



Wastewater Treatment Lagoon  
Photo courtesy of Clay Smith, Iowa DNR



### Financial Assistance



#### Clean Water Indian Set-Aside (ISA) Grant Program

Program provides grants to Indian tribes and Alaskan Native Villages for the planning, design, and construction of wastewater treatment systems.

☎ Telephone: (202) 564-0584

🌐 Website: [www.epa.gov/owm/mab/indian/](http://www.epa.gov/owm/mab/indian/)

### State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program

Provides low cost loans to communities for a range of water quality projects, including decentralized systems, nonpoint source controls, and estuary protection. Applicants should apply to the state for a loan.

☎ Telephone: (202) 564-0589

🌐 Website: [www.epa.gov/owm/finan.htm](http://www.epa.gov/owm/finan.htm)

### Alaska Sanitation Grant Program

Provides grants to Alaska Native Village and rural communities for drinking water and wastewater facility construction, and training and technical assistance in facility operation.

☎ Telephone: (907) 465-5180

🌐 Website: [www.epa.gov/owm/indian/asaskan.htm](http://www.epa.gov/owm/indian/asaskan.htm)



## Technical Assistance



### Rural Community Assistance Program (RCAP)

Provides no-cost, community-specific information and technical assistance that helps to improve rural communities' ability to plan, design, construct, operate, and maintain wastewater systems. Resources include:

★ On-site Assistance

★ Training

★ Publications

☎ Telephone: (202) 408-1273

🌐 Website: [www.rcap.org](http://www.rcap.org)

### Operator On-Site Technical Assistance Program - 104(g)

Provides no-cost, over the shoulder on-site operator assistance for small community wastewater treatment facilities. Program improves the performance of small systems with compliance problems. Resources include:

★ On-site Operator Training

★ Financial Management

★ Troubleshooting

★ Other Operation and Maintenance Needs

☎ Telephone: (202) 564-0636

🌐 Website: [www.epa.gov/owm/tomm.htm](http://www.epa.gov/owm/tomm.htm)



## Resource Centers



### National Small Flows Clearinghouse (NSFC)

The NSFC helps small communities reach practical and affordable solutions to wastewater treatment problems. Resources include:

★ Newsletters

★ Databases

★ Hotline

★ Publications

★ Computer Bulletin Boards

☎ Telephone: (800) 624-8301

🌐 Website: [www.nsfv.wvu.edu](http://www.nsfv.wvu.edu)

### **National Environmental Training Center for Small Communities (NETCSC)**

NETCSC develops and delivers training courses and other training materials to environmental trainers and state and local officials on wastewater, drinking water, and solid waste services in small communities. Resources include:

- ☆ Newsletters
- ☆ Databases
- ☆ Hotline
- ☆ Training Courses/Materials
- ☎ Telephone: (800) 624-8301
- 🌐 Website: [www.netc.wvu.edu](http://www.netc.wvu.edu)

### **Tribal Wastewater Training and Technical Assistance Center**

EPA is currently working with Northern Arizona University to establish the center, which will provide training and technical assistance to tribes in the planning, desing, operations, and maintenance of wastewater systems. Resources include:

- ☆ Databases
- ☆ Training Courses/Materials
- ☆ Newsletters, Publications
- ☆ On-Site Technical Assistance
- ☎ Telephone: (202) 564-0636
- 🌐 Website: [www.epa.gov/owm/tomm.htm](http://www.epa.gov/owm/tomm.htm)



### **Other Partner Agencies**



### **Indian Health Service - Sanitation Facilities Construction Program**

Provides funding for drinking water, wastewater, and solid waste disposal facilities for American Indians. IHS also provides on-site training and technical assistance for the planning, design, construction, and operation and maintenance of facilities. Resources include:

- ☆ Training
- ☆ On-Site Technical Assistance
- ☎ Telephone: (301) 443-1046
- 🌐 Website: [www.ihs.gov](http://www.ihs.gov)

### **Department of Agriculture - Rural Utilities Service Water and Waste Disposal Program**

Provides both loans and grants to rural communities and Indian tribes (with 10,000 people or fewer) for drinking water and wastewater systems, and for soilid waste and storm drainage products. Resources include:

- ☆ Training
- ☆ Technical Assistance
- ☎ Telephone: (202) 720-1582
- 🌐 Website: [www.netc.usda.gov/rus](http://www.netc.usda.gov/rus)



For more information about these programs you may contact the Clean Water Act Indian Set-Aside Grant Program Contacts listed below. To request additional copies of this flyer, call (202) 564-0621. You can also write to the Small Communities Team at U.S. EPA (4204M), ICC Building, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460; or visit our internet site at [www.epa.gov/owm/smallc.htm](http://www.epa.gov/owm/smallc.htm).



## **EPA Clean Water Act Indian Set-Aside Grant Program Regional Contacts**



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