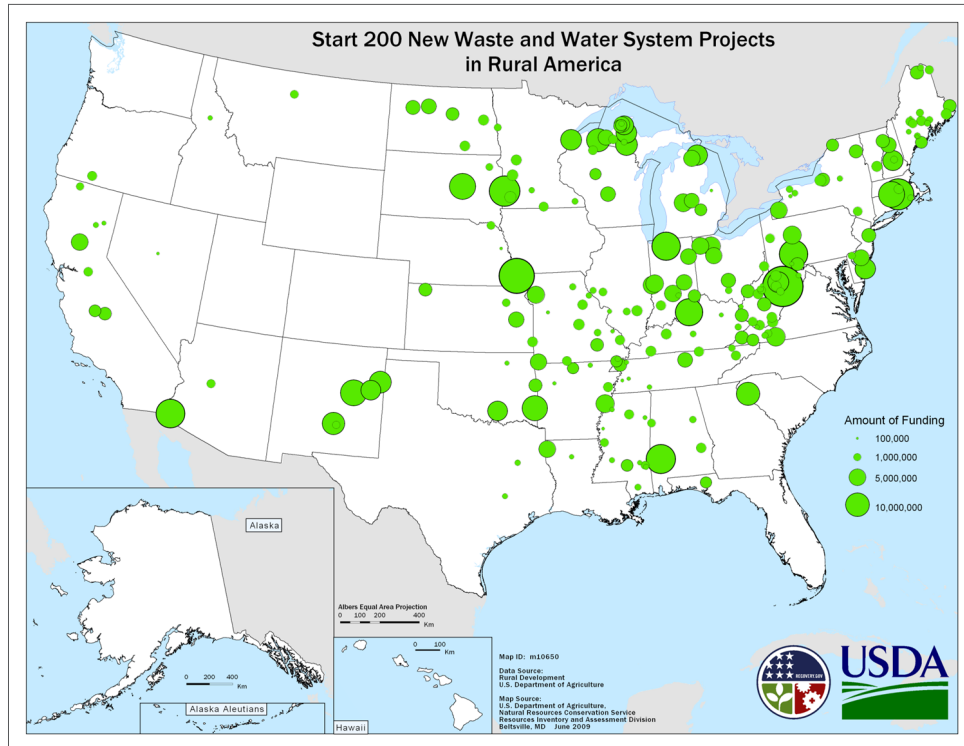


# Improving Health and Water Quality in Rural America



## In the Next 100 Days: Start 200 New Waste and Water System Projects in Rural America

**Why?** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Water and Waste Disposal (WWD) loan and grant program will use Recovery Act funds to build drinking water, sanitary sewer, solid waste and storm drainage facilities in rural communities of 10,000 or fewer people. The program provides financing for water and waste infrastructure when commercial credit is unavailable at reasonable rates, allowing rural communities to provide safe, reasonably priced services to their residents. The infrastructure enhancements will significantly improve the health and quality of life for millions of Americans who live outside of our major urban centers.

Here are a few examples of the types of problems these projects will help solve for people all over the country:

- The city of Ironwood, Michigan produces and distributes water to city customers as well as two other nearby communities. The condition of their outdated water distribution lines is very poor, wasting considerable amounts of water and causing low pressure problems throughout the system. Ironwood will receive \$4.8 million to replace an outdated water distribution system with water mains ranging from 70 to 100 years old.