

USDA Rural Development offers a variety of grants, loans, and loan guarantees for individuals, families, and small businesses in Minnesota. We have invested almost \$3 billion throughout Minnesota since 2009.

Rural businesses can choose from several programs that are best suited to their needs, including: financing for renewable energy or loan guarantees for start-ups, expansions, and equipment purchases. These programs are an effort to help promote a dynamic and diverse economically developed environment throughout rural Minnesota. In support of our business programs, we also invest in modern infrastructure and housing, encouraging growth and healthy, clean, and safe environments.

Minnesota leads the nation in renewable energy grants awarded to agricultural producers and small businesses. We also have one of the largest single-family and multi-family housing portfolios in the nation.

**Business & Cooperatives**

**Programs**

**Housing**

**Programs**

**Community**

**Programs**

# USDA Rural Development Area Offices - MN

## State Office

St. Paul | 651.602.7800

## Northwest Area

Detroit Lakes | 218.847.9392  
Thief River Falls | 218.681.2843  
Alexandria | 320.763.3191

## Northeast Area

Baxter | 218.829.5965  
Virginia | 218.741.3929  
Bemidji | 218.751.1942

## East Central Area

Cambridge | 763.689.3354

## Southwest Area

Marshall | 507.532.3234  
Worthington | 507.372.7784  
Willmar | 320.235.5612

## Southeast Area

Faribault | 507.332.7418  
Austin | 507.437.8247



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To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD).

# USDA Rural Development

Committed to the future of rural communities



Always  
Looking  
Forward.



Committed to the future of rural communities

## Business Programs

### *Rural Energy for America (REAP)*

- Grants and guaranteed loans for farmers and rural small businesses to install renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements.
- Examples: wind turbines, geo-thermal, solar power, blender pumps, and grain dryers.

### *B&I Loan Guarantees*

- Loans for business start-ups, expansions, and equipment purchases.
- Guarantees up to 80% of the loan.
- Rates negotiated between lender and borrower.

### *Intermediary Relending*

- Loans for local intermediaries to create revolving loan funds. These funds are used to finance business and economic development activity.
  - Intermediaries include: nonprofits, Indian tribes, public agencies, and cooperatives.

### *Rural Business Enterprise Grants*

- Finances small and emerging rural businesses.
- Examples: land acquisition, construction, renovation, utilities, parking, or pollution control.

### *Rural Business Opportunity Grants*

- Provide training and technical assistance for business development, entrepreneurs, and economic development.

### *Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant*

- Funding for projects through local utility organizations.
- Zero interest loans and grants for economic development projects.



## Community Programs

Rural Development offers low-interest loans, loan guarantees, and grants to help develop essential community facilities in cities of 20,000 or less.

- Examples include: hospitals, emergency response, day cares, community centers, town halls, assisted living centers, police stations, and libraries.
- Loan guarantees up to 90 percent of the total loan with a one percent guarantee fee paid by the lender, or passed on to the borrower.
- Guaranteed loans may be sold on the secondary market.

Rural Development offers low-interest loans, loan guarantees, and grants to help provide safe drinking water, sanitary sewer treatment systems, and solid waste and storm drainage facilities in communities of 10,000 or less.

- Public bodies, nonprofits, and Indian Tribes are eligible.
- Nonprofits may also receive funds to provide technical assistance and training to rural communities regarding water and wastewater infrastructure.



## Housing Programs

### *Guaranteed Loans*

- Made directly through traditional lenders and guaranteed by Rural Development.
- Interest rates negotiated between borrower and lender.
- Applicants must be able to afford monthly mortgage payments, including taxes and insurance, and meet credit requirements.
- Multi-family housing programs to build and renovate are also available.

### *Direct Loans*

- Directly funded by the government, and awarded to low and very low-income households to achieve homeownership.
- Mortgage payments are based on income and terms may be up to 38 years.
- Applicants must be unable to obtain financing elsewhere, but meet credit requirements to qualify.
- Multi-family housing programs to build and renovate are also available.

### *Home Repair Loans and Grants*

- Funding for homeowners to make repairs to current homes.
- Max. loan amount is \$20,000 with a one percent interest rate over 20 years.
- Grants up to \$7,500 are available to those over 62 years old, and must be used to repair health and safety hazards.
- Can also be used for connecting utility service lines, pay hookup fees, and install plumbing and related fixtures.

