

# Washington's SRF Program and Small Water Systems

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HELPING TO ENSURE SAFE AND RELIABLE DRINKING WATER

# Small Water Systems in Washington

- 💧 WA has approximately 4,000 small water systems
- 💧 Most are run by volunteers (boards, operators)
- 💧 Need assistance with *Capacity*:
  - Financial – rates, revenues, & reserves
  - Operational & Technical – how to meet regulatory requirements
  - Managerial – organizing & planning

# Washington's DWSRF Program

Helps small water systems with:

## 💧 *Set Asides*

- Training and technical assistance
- Funding for plans, studies, reports
- Capacity products (fact sheets, source protection GIS project)
- Special Programs - Small Communities Initiative

# Washington's DWSRF Program

Helps small water systems with:

## 💧 *DWSRF Loan Program*

- Loan workshops
- One on One technical assistance
- Assistance with SERP & Section 106
- Incentives for low income communities

# Washington's DWSRF Set Asides

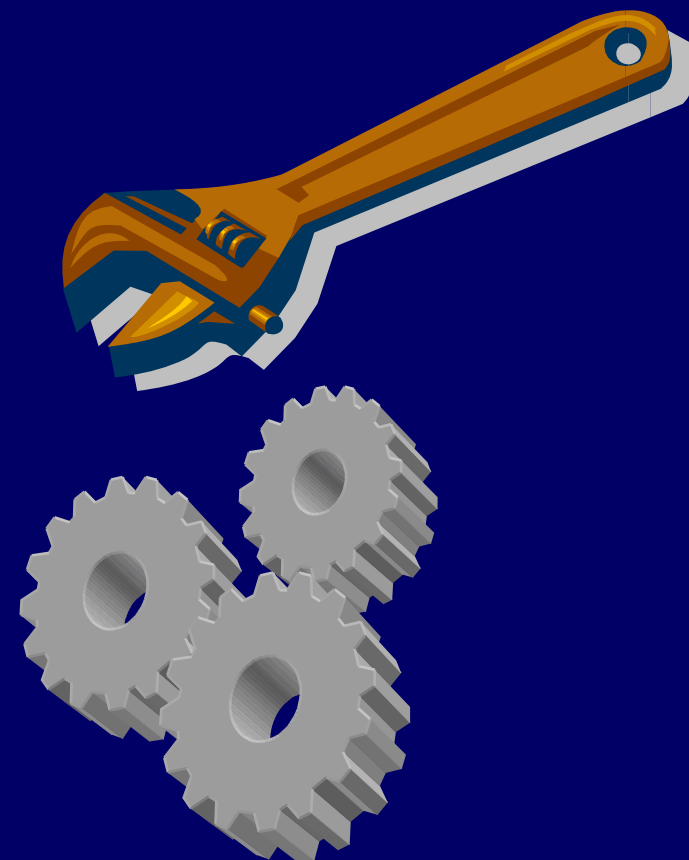
## 💧 Training and Technical Assistance Contracts with:

- Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC)
- Evergreen Rural Water Association
- Local health agencies

# Washington's DWSRF Set Asides

## 💧 Training and Technical Assistance:

- Sanitary surveys
- Source protection
- Financial capacity
- Water system planning
- Board training
- Emergency response
- Funding opportunities
- New operator training
- Income surveys



# Washington's DWSRF Set Asides

## 💧 Funding for studies & reports

- 4 to 6 studies per year for:
  - Studying high priority projects (such as restructuring & consolidation of failing systems)
  - Hydrology studies
- Helps to prepare projects for construction DWSRF loans or other funding

# Small Communities Initiative

- 💧 **Multi-agency partnership**
- 💧 **A statewide program to directly assist small communities in solving critical infrastructure challenges, including drinking water.**

# DWSRF Loan Program

- 💧 **Majority of funds goes to small water systems**
- 💧 **Assistance Provided =**
  - **Workshops – 6 per year statewide**
    - Provide application information
    - Provide loan management information
    - DOH staff on hand to answer questions



# DWSRF Loan Program

## 💧 Assistance Provided =

- **One on One Technical Assistance (pre- and post-loan)**
  - Regional Engineers
  - Regional Planners
  - DWSRF staff
  - Capacity staff



# DWSRF Loan Program

## 💧 Assistance Provided =

### ▪ SERP & Section 106 Process

- Dedicated DWSRF staff
- Works directly with DWSRF applicants & borrowers to understand the process and guide them through it
- Partners with related agencies to ensure a smooth process
- Troubleshoots project barriers

# DWSRF Loan Program

## 💧 Assistance Provided =

- **Incentives for low-income communities**
  - **Reduced interest rate or zero interest depending on low-income status**
  - **Bonus points added to application score if rates are appropriate (formula tied to whether community is “distressed”)**

# DWSRF Loan Program

- 💧 **What is needed to make things better for small systems in Washington:**
  - **Principal forgiveness**
  - **Small streamlined loans for emergent needs**

# For more information:

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# Questions?



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ALWAYS WORKING FOR A SAFER AND  
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