

The Rural Community Development (RCD) Program

Helping New Hampshire's rural and tribal communities build and maintain safe water and wastewater systems



New Hampshire State Facts



710 community water systems

667 water systems serve communities with fewer than 3,300 people

\$1.06 billion estimated water infrastructure need for small systems

41.7% of the population lives in a rural area

Sources: EPA, Census

About the RCD Program

The [Rural Community Development \(RCD\)](#) grant program builds capacity to create, expand, and maintain safe, affordable water and wastewater systems in rural areas. RCD serves very small communities in sparsely populated areas made up predominately of residents with low income who lack safe water and wastewater treatment services and sometimes even indoor plumbing. RCD tailors its support based on community need. It helps communities assess water and wastewater infrastructure and accessibility needs, helps identify and secure funding for water facility upgrades, builds capacity through local experts to establish and maintain water facilities, and trains water operators to ensure water systems are functional and compliant. There are currently [eight RCD grant recipients](#) — six regional organizations and two organizations that support tribal communities. RCD grant recipients [RCAP Solutions, Inc. \(RSOL\)](#) and [United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. \(USET\)](#) serve communities in the state of New Hampshire.

Examples of RCD's Support in New Hampshire

Rock Rimmon Cooperative

Low-income manufactured home communities often lack the capacity to keep water system plans and procedures up to date. The Rock Rimmon Cooperative, a modular home park in Danville, New Hampshire, found its water system plans and procedures as well as its asset management plan out of date. With RCD funds, RSOL conducted data collection and a detailed asset inventory to obtain information needed to update the plan. Additionally, RSOL performed analyses to develop assessments of asset conditions, estimations of expected useful life, and evaluations of replacement costs. With the needed information compiled, RSOL collaborated with water system officials to develop a complete, accurate, and updated asset management plan. This new plan will enable the cooperative to effectively plan the maintenance of their system.

Town Line Village

Town Line Village, in Holderness, New Hampshire, struggled with chronic leaks in its water distribution system and failing leach fields. This put the community at risk of raw sewage backing up into homes and endangering the health of its residents. The needed infrastructure improvements were too expensive for the town. With RCD funds, RSOL completed an income survey to document the community's income status and worked with an engineer to identify the infrastructure needs. To secure funding for the improvements, RSOL provided technical assistance for submitting applications and helped the community secure \$2.5 million in funding from multiple grant programs. With funding secured, this community will soon have a new, reliable water system that will provide safe drinking water and a new wastewater system that will ensure safe and sanitary wastewater treatment for all residents. RSOL continues to work with Town Line Village to develop the documents and tools needed for the community's water and wastewater sustainability.

National Outcomes*

With the help of RCD:



\$742 million
in additional funding
secured for communities



83,000 residents
have gained access to
safe drinking water



49,000 residents
have gained access to
sanitary sewer systems



2,100 communities
served by RCD projects

*Outcomes for RCD grant recipients' work across the country since FY21



RCD
Rural Community Development

For more information about the Rural Community Development (RCD) Program, [visit the RCD website](#) and the [RCD Information and Data Dashboard](#).

For more information about OCS's other anti-poverty programs, [visit the OCS website](#).