

# **EPA Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA):**

## Overview

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**November 2024**





# What is WaterTA?

*EPA's **FREE** Water Technical Assistance Program!!!*

**Mission:** supplement State TA efforts and fill in water TA gaps in the Region  
(drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater)

**Focus:** small, rural, disadvantaged, and underserved communities, communities that have never accessed SRF funding

**Goal:** more communities in compliance, with up-to-date infrastructure, and reliable water services

**17+**  
*Initiatives*



*Environmental Finance Centers*

***Creating Resilient Water Utilities (CRWU)***

*Cybersecurity Technical Assistance*

***Tackling Emergent Contaminants (TEC)***

*Clean Water Rural, Small, & Tribal TA (RST)*

***Get the Lead Out (GLO) Initiative***

*Training & Technical Assistance (T&TA)*

***Water Engineering Support Team (WEST)***

*Closing America's Wastewater Access Gap (CAWAG)*

*and more!!!*

# R8 WaterTA Providers

*EPA works with national and regional experts in water & community support*

- [Cadmus](#)
- [Moonshot Missions](#)
- [US Water Alliance](#) (USWA)
- [Eastern Research Group](#) (ERG)
- [Midwest Assistance Program](#) (MAP) – *Local TA provider!*
- [National Rural Water Association](#) (NRWA) – *Local TA provider!*
- [University of New Mexico, Southwest EFC](#)
- [Environmental Policy Innovation Center](#) (EPIC)

*and more!!!*

# EPA WaterTA Supports Communities to:



Identify water challenges



Plan for solutions



Increase community engagement



Improve compliance and access to safe and clean water services



Build technical, financial, managerial capacity



Develop application materials to access water infrastructure funding



# Summary of WaterTA Services

## Planning & Assessment

- Plan Development & Coordination
- Studies & Assessments
- Asset Management

## Project Development

- Preliminary Engineering Reports
- Lead Service Line Inventories
- Environmental Reviews

## Partnerships & Engagement

- Decision Maker & Board Education
- Water System Partnerships
- Capacity Building

## Funding & Financing

- Financial Planning
- Identifying Funding Options
- Application Support



# Who Can Receive EPA WaterTA Services?

## Eligible

- Public, not-for-profit communities and water systems/utilities
- *Limited TA is available to Private water systems*
- Local governments/communities
- States, Tribes, territories
- Non-governmental organizations

## Ineligible

- Federal facilities
- Individuals/Individual households

# How to Request WaterTA?

## Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA) Request Form –

<https://www.epa.gov/water-infrastructure/forms/water-technical-assistance-request-form>

Water Infrastructure

CONTACT US

## Water Technical Assistance Request Form

OMB Control Number: 2030-0051

Expiration Date: 5/31/24

### Complete the following form to request Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA).

If you include your email address in your submitted form, you will receive a confirmation email from WaterTA@epa.gov. After reviewing your submission, EPA or a TA provider will respond with potential next steps. Response times may vary depending on the volume and types of requests received.

Many states also offer WaterTA programs. Thus, EPA may share your request with the appropriate state agency in effort to provide the best, most timely assistance.

Please note not every request may be offered WaterTA, and participation in this or other EPA TA programs does not guarantee funding through the State Revolving Funds (SRFs) or other programs.

To receive updates on EPA programs, helpful resources, and notifications of upcoming webinars and training events, please sign up for the [EPA's Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center email list](#).

If you have any questions or concerns about the WaterTA Request Form, please contact: [WaterTA@epa.gov](mailto:WaterTA@epa.gov)





# Tackling Emerging Contaminants (TEC) TA

- Coming soon!
- EPA is preparing to offer additional WaterTA to support small or disadvantaged communities nationwide around emerging contaminants, including but not limited to PFAS
- For more information or questions:  
WaterTA@epa.gov
- Submit EC requests through WaterTA's webform (<https://www.epa.gov/water-infrastructure/forms/water-technical-assistance-request-form>)



# Tackling Emerging Contaminants (TEC) TA

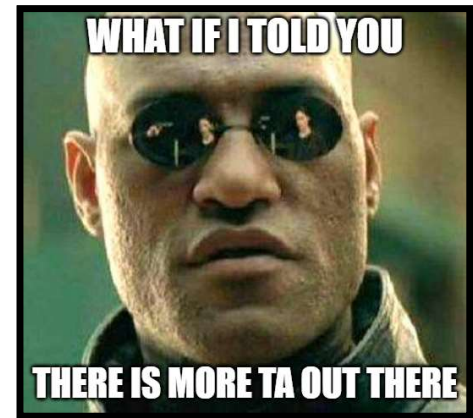
Will support communities to do the following:

- Be prepared to access and utilize Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities (EC-SDC) grant funding
- Initial diagnostic monitoring
- Infrastructure planning and project development
- Complete preliminary engineering steps
- Community engagement and outreach

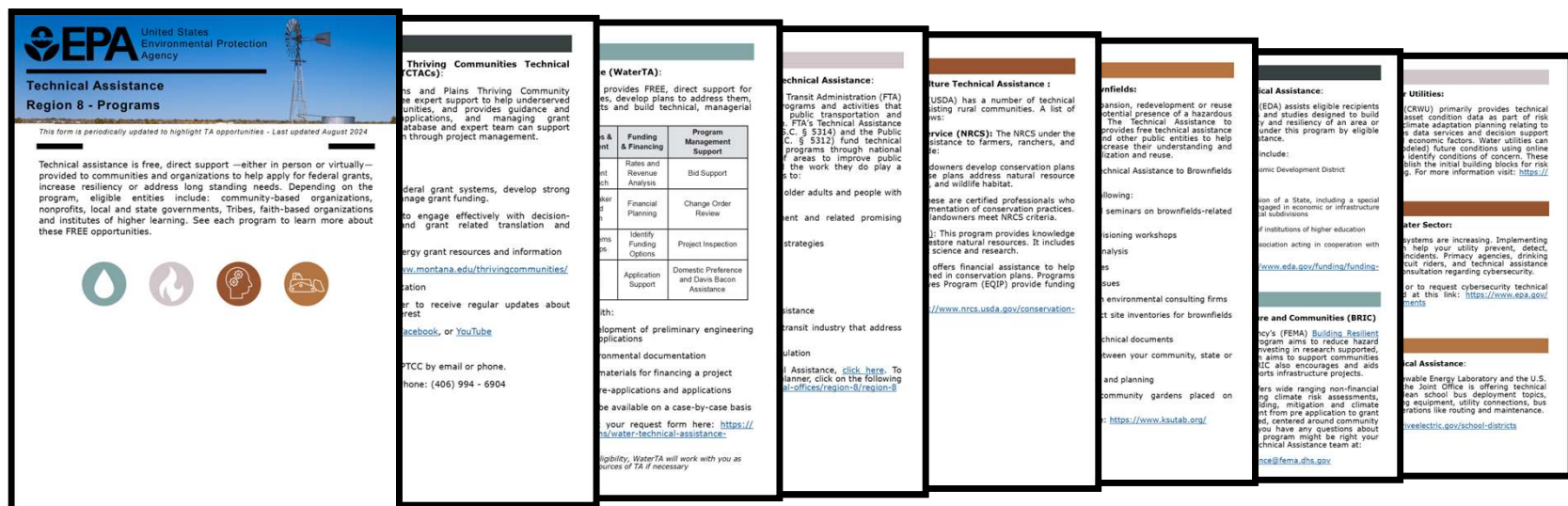


# Additional Technical Assistance

- Mountain and Plains Thriving Community Collaboration
- Creating Resilient Water Utilities
- Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities
- Cybersecurity for the Water Sector
- Technical Assistance to Brownfields
- Economic Development Assistance
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Communities and Households
- Clean School Bus Technical Assistance
- Federal Transit Administration Technical Assistance



- Tool for decision makers, town managers, and nonprofits to identify assistance related to their priorities
- Highlights programs across 5 different federal agencies including 5 different EPA programs



## Mountains and Plains Thriving Communities Collaborative

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- Technical Assistance Provider via MSU
  - Partnered with University of Wyoming
  - Provides free expert support to help rural and underserved communities identify grant opportunities, and provides guidance and training on preparing grant applications, and managing grant funding
  - Sign up to their newsletter here:  
<https://www.montana.edu/thrivingcommunities/contact.html#mailing-list>







# New R8 Grant!

**Grantmakers Subgrants** *Round 1 Open Oct 28th – Dec 15th 2024*

## **Tier 1 Assessment Projects up to \$150,000 (1 year)**

- Ex: Sampling, testing, surveys and studies

## **Tier 2 Planning Projects up to \$250,000 (1-2 years)**

- Ex: Planning, public outreach and education

## **Tier 3 Development of Projects up to \$350,000 (2 years)**

- Ex: Project development, blueprints for construction or cleanup projects, schematics, and technical development

## **Examples of Env Issues Subgrantees Can Address**

- Water quality & sampling
- Small cleanup projects
- Stormwater issues and green infrastructure
- Emergency preparedness and disaster resiliency



# Funding Databases

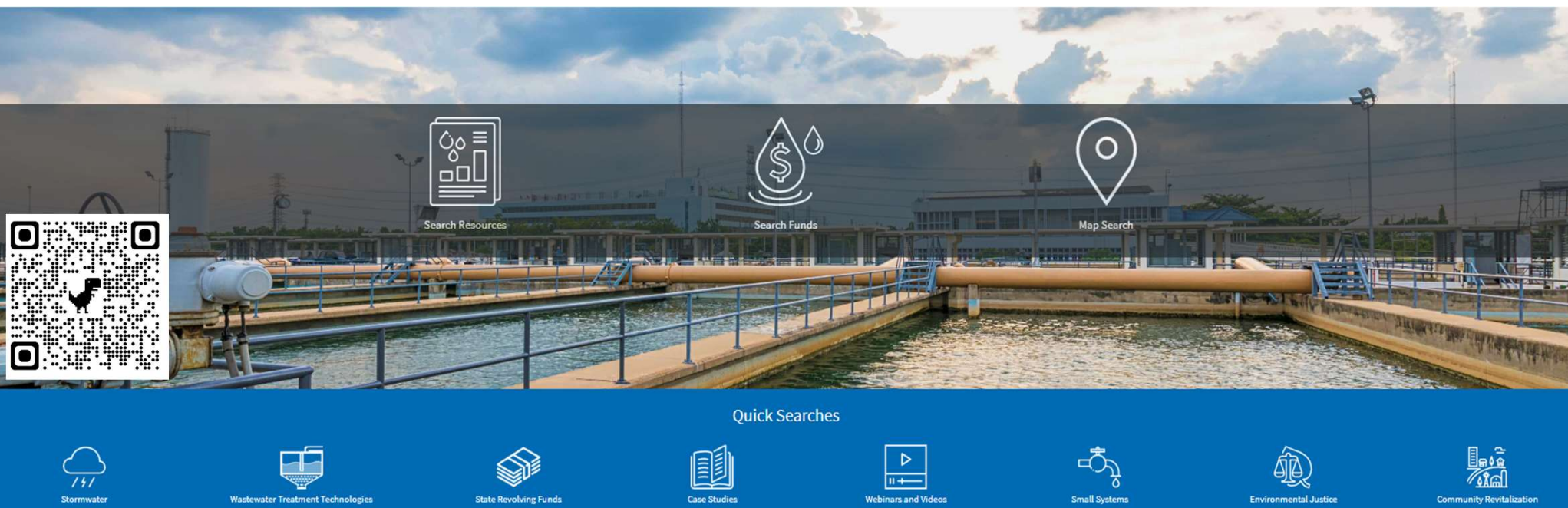
*Water funding databases to identify grants and loans:*

- [Water Finance Clearinghouse](#)
- [Environmental Finance Center Network](#)
- [Federal Funding for Water and Wastewater Utilities in National Disasters \(Fed FUNDS\)](#)
- [USDA's Water & Environmental Programs \(WEP\)](#)
- [Hud Exchange Funding Navigator](#)
- [Grants.gov](#)

# Water Finance Clearinghouse

<https://ordspub.epa.gov/ords/wfc/f?p=WFC:12>

- Web-based portal developed by EPA's Water Infrastructure Finance and Resiliency Center
- Two databases: Funds & Resources (case studies + webinars about financing mechanisms)
- Hosts water finance learning modules



# Have Questions?

**Email:** Tamara Barbakova - EPA R8 Water TA Coordinator

[barbakova.tamara@epa.gov](mailto:barbakova.tamara@epa.gov)

# Ready to Request Technical Assistance?

**Visit:** <https://www.epa.gov/water-infrastructure/forms/water-technical-assistance-request-form>





# Learn more or request assistance at

[www.epa.gov/WaterTA](http://www.epa.gov/WaterTA)

