

**Texas Association of Resource Conservation and Development Areas, Inc.
("RC&D")**

Wastewater Treatment Assistance

Project Description

Texas Association of Resource Conservation and Development Areas, Inc. ("RC&D") shall coordinate with city and county government officials and private entities ("Partner Entities") to repair or replace failing or inadequately designed on-site wastewater treatment systems such as septic systems for low-income households. Low-income households fall at or below the 80 percent median income level for households in the county where they live.

RC&D shall ensure that all repairs, replacements, and installations are performed in compliance with local, state, and federal rules relating to on-site wastewater treatment systems. RC&D shall ensure that only properly licensed contractors are utilized for repair of existing on-site wastewater treatment systems and installation of new on-site wastewater treatment systems.

An on-site wastewater treatment system is a system of treatment devices or disposal facilities that (1) is used for the disposal of domestic sewage, excluding liquid waste resulting from the processes used in industrial and commercial establishments; (2) is located on the site where the sewage is produced; and (3) produces not more than 5,000 gallons of waste a day.

Eligible Sites

Eligible sites will be limited to those where the household qualifies as low-income.

Environmental Benefit

This SEP will provide a benefit to the environment by preventing the release of sewage into the environment and by protecting human health. Raw sewage can carry bacteria, viruses, protozoa (parasitic organisms), helminthes (intestinal worms), and bioaerosols (inhalable molds and fungi). The diseases they may cause range in severity from mild gastroenteritis to life-threatening ailments such as cholera, dysentery, infectious hepatitis, and severe gastroenteritis. People can be exposed through sewage in drinking water sources, direct contact from water in lawns or streets, and inhalation and skin absorption.

Sewage overflows may cause damage to the environment. Sewage overflows may reach rivers, lakes, streams, or aquifer systems. In addition to potential spread of disease, sewage in the environment contributes excess nutrients, metals, and toxic pollutants that contaminate water quality, cause algae blooms, and kill fish and other organisms in aquatic habitats.

Eligible Areas and Counties

Statewide

Minimum Contribution Amount

\$100