



United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

U.S. EPA Region 10
(Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington)



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

For Water & Wastewater Infrastructure

About EPA WaterTA

EPA provides technical assistance (TA) to help communities meet the goals of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and the Clean Water Act (CWA). This TA can address water and wastewater issues in several ways, including development of well-planned infrastructure projects. Generally, these programs target communities that are small, rural, disadvantaged, and/or tribal communities.

The TA providers offer diverse services, including but not limited to:

Infrastructure needs identification	Capital improvements planning	Funding application development
Regulatory compliance assistance	Financial, managerial, and/or technical capacity building	Disaster and Climate Resiliency
Utility cybersecurity	Water quality optimization	Utility workforce development

This brochure summarizes several TA programs and resources available to communities and to water/wastewater utilities. This list is not exhaustive but is intended as a good place to start.

Connect with EPA Region 10's Water Infrastructure Technical Assistance Team

To request technical assistance services:	Jonathan Capua, P.E., PMP capua.jonathan@epa.gov 907-271-3541
For more information about technical assistance services:	Ryan Gross, P.E. gross.ryan@epa.gov 206-553-6293
For information about domestic preference requirements (BABA/AIS):	Kayla Wilson, E.I.T. wilson.kayla@epa.gov 206-553-0058

EPA Water Technical Assistance Programs

Additional information can be found on the [EPA WaterTA website](#).

Environmental Finance Centers

The **Environmental Finance Centers** (EFCs) help communities **access resources for infrastructure improvements** that are available through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

In the EPA Pacific Northwest Region, [Rural Community Assistance Corporation \(RCAC\)](#) administers the EFC. This EFC supports communities in **a range of activities that bolster communities' ability to obtain state and federal infrastructure funding**, including:

- Drafting funding applications
- Project construction management services
- Identifying financing and long-term O&M strategies
- Technical, managerial, and financial capacity training
- Community outreach and engagement
- Asset management
- Researching revenue approaches, including establishing use rates
- Income surveys to support project eligibility and funding
- Calculating the financial impact of capital projects on rate payers

Rural, Small, and Tribal (RST)

Wastewater Technical Assistance

- Helps disadvantaged Rural, Small, and Tribal communities access resources for wastewater infrastructure improvements.
- Supports **small wastewater treatment systems** to build technical, managerial, and financial capacity to operate their systems.
- Two TA providers, [RCAP](#) and [NRWA](#), provide a broad spectrum of support to communities across the US.
- The [Pacific Northwest Pollution Prevention Resource Center \(PPRC\)](#) helps communities abate Fats, Oils & Grease; PFAS; and other emerging contaminants.
- The [Alaska Municipal League](#), through the Alaska Water Infrastructure Financial Navigation Center (AWIFNC), helps communities improve financial, managerial and governance capacity to access infrastructure funding.

Training and Technical Assistance for Small Systems

Organizations (like [RCAP](#) or [NRWA](#)) provide training and technical assistance to:

1. **Small public water systems** to comply with the SDWA and improve financial and managerial capacity
2. **Small publicly-owned wastewater systems and decentralized wastewater systems** to improve water quality
3. **Private drinking water well owners** to improve water quality

Thriving Communities

Technical Assistance Centers (TCTAC)

- **Helps underserved communities build their capacity to access federal resources.**
- Provides training and other assistance to build capacity for navigating federal grant application systems, writing strong grant proposals, and effectively managing grant funding.
- Provides guidance on community engagement, meeting facilitation, and translation and interpretation services for limited English-speaking participants, thus removing barriers and improving accessibility **for communities with environmental justice concerns.**
- The TCTACs in the Pacific Northwest Region are:
 - [Northwestern Environmental and Energy Justice TCTAC](#) administered by the Willamette Partnership
 - [Pacific Northwest Environmental Justice TCTAC](#) administered by the University of Washington