



OHIO RURAL COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- *Overview
- *Scope of Services
- *Leveraged Funds
- *Field Agent Contacts



Great Lakes Rural Community Assistance Program
Administered by WSOS Community Action Commission Inc.
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OVERVIEW

What is RCAP?

The Rural Community Assistance Program (RCAP) is a national, non-profit organization incorporated in 1972 that provides technical assistance to help solve water and wastewater problems. RCAP has field staff in all 50 states and Puerto Rico and has been assisting small, rural communities for over 30 years. Ohio RCAP is located within the Great Lakes Region, which consists of six other states including Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.



Is there a cost for Ohio RCAP Services?

The majority of RCAP services are provided at no cost to communities or community projects that serve a population of 10,000 or less. RCAP field staff work with community leaders to identify the problem, find affordable solutions, and successfully complete the project.

Who funds Ohio RCAP?

The United States and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utilities Service (RUS), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) provide funding to Ohio RCAP.

What services does Ohio RCAP provide?

Many services are provided in the areas of Program Planning, Facility Development, Operation and Maintenance, Management and Finance, and Trainings designed to build communities Technical, Managerial, and Financial capacity.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

Services are provided at no cost unless indicated by *

Program Planning (Initial concern to design phase)

- Assess available water and wastewater financing resources and complete financial packaging
- Review plans for appropriate content for funding agency requirements
- Provide information on alternative treatment systems
- Tabulate income surveys
- Conduct community wide surveys on environmental issues
- Assist in procuring engineers and other professional services
- Serve as coordinator/facilitator among funding agencies, regulators, consultants, and community
- Write grant/loan applications for funding of planning
- Prepare Environmental Reports *

Facility Development (from the design phase onward)

- Coordination/facilitation among funders, regulators, consultants, and community
- Assist in procuring engineers and other professional services
- Write grant/loan applications for funding
- Conduct appropriate public hearing and meetings
- Maintain file depository for all required project records
- Package financing for project
- Administration of grants *



Operation and Maintenance

(after construction, during operation, treatment technologies)

- Assist in meeting NPDES requirements
- Serve as coordinator/facilitator among funders, regulators, consultants, and community
- Development and implementation of compliance action plans
- Development of system policies and procedures
- Assist in procuring professional services
- Assist in conducting vulnerability assessments

SCOPE OF SERVICES (cont.)

Services are provided at no cost unless indicated by *

Management and Finance (financial management of the system)

- Perform rate studies (offered for a fee for populations over 10,000)
- Assist in procuring professional services
- Completion of financial reports to funding agencies
- Assist with bookkeeping and accounting
- Coordination/facilitation among funders, regulators, consultants, community
- Preparation of capacity assurance plans (offered for a fee for populations over 10,000)
- Assist in preparation of asset management plans (offered for a fee for populations over 10,000)

Source Water/Wellhead Protection Planning *

- Complete Potential Contaminant Source Inventory (PCSI)
- Assist and train community volunteers to complete PCSI
- Facilitate and coordinate wellhead protection planning stake holder's committee
- Assist in the development and delivery of public involvement strategies
- Prepare public education materials
- Present public education information
- Complete the management plan
- Coordinate activities with OEPA, consultants, community, funders
- Assist in procuring other professional services

Training

- Utility Management: Technical, Managerial and Financial Capacity
- Financial Management: Evaluating policies and records, Planning needs and implementation, and monitoring
- Asset Management: Developing a plan, Preparing a budget, and Setting rates
- Project Development (Planning, Design, and Construction)
- Decentralized Wastewater



LEVERAGED FUNDS

Ohio RCAP specializes in helping communities obtain financing for water and wastewater projects. The list below reveals the amount of funds Ohio RCAP has obtained for communities from 1998—2007.

Leveraged Funds History

<i>Program Year</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1998-1999	\$42,129,824
1999-2000	\$17,612,957
2000-2001	\$18,432,637
2001-2002	\$31,791,170
2002-2003	\$28,368,299
2003-2004	\$43,010,103
2004-2005	\$29,867,053
2005-2006	\$66,574,789
2006-2007	\$70,712,367

Ohio RCAP has led the nation in leveraged funds since 2001.



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