



# Your Partner in Prosperity ~ Virginia

Presented by Tracey Krespach

Hosted by Piedmont Environmental Council

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# Contact Information

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# USDA Rural Development's Mission

# Rural Development's Programs

[https://www.rd.usda.gov/sites/default/files/508\\_RD19\\_SummarOfPrograms112519\\_1.pdf](https://www.rd.usda.gov/sites/default/files/508_RD19_SummarOfPrograms112519_1.pdf)



# USDA - The People's Department



**Agricultural Marketing Service - AMS**

**Agricultural Research Service - ARS**

**Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service - APHIS**

**Economic Research Service - ERS**

**Farm Service Agency - FSA**

**Food and Nutrition Service – FNS**

**Food Safety and Inspection Service – FSIS**

**Foreign Agricultural Service – FAS**

**Forest Service – FS**

**National Agricultural Statistics Service – NASS**

**National Institute of Food and Agriculture**

**Natural Resources Conservation Service – NRCS**

**Risk Management Agency – RMA**

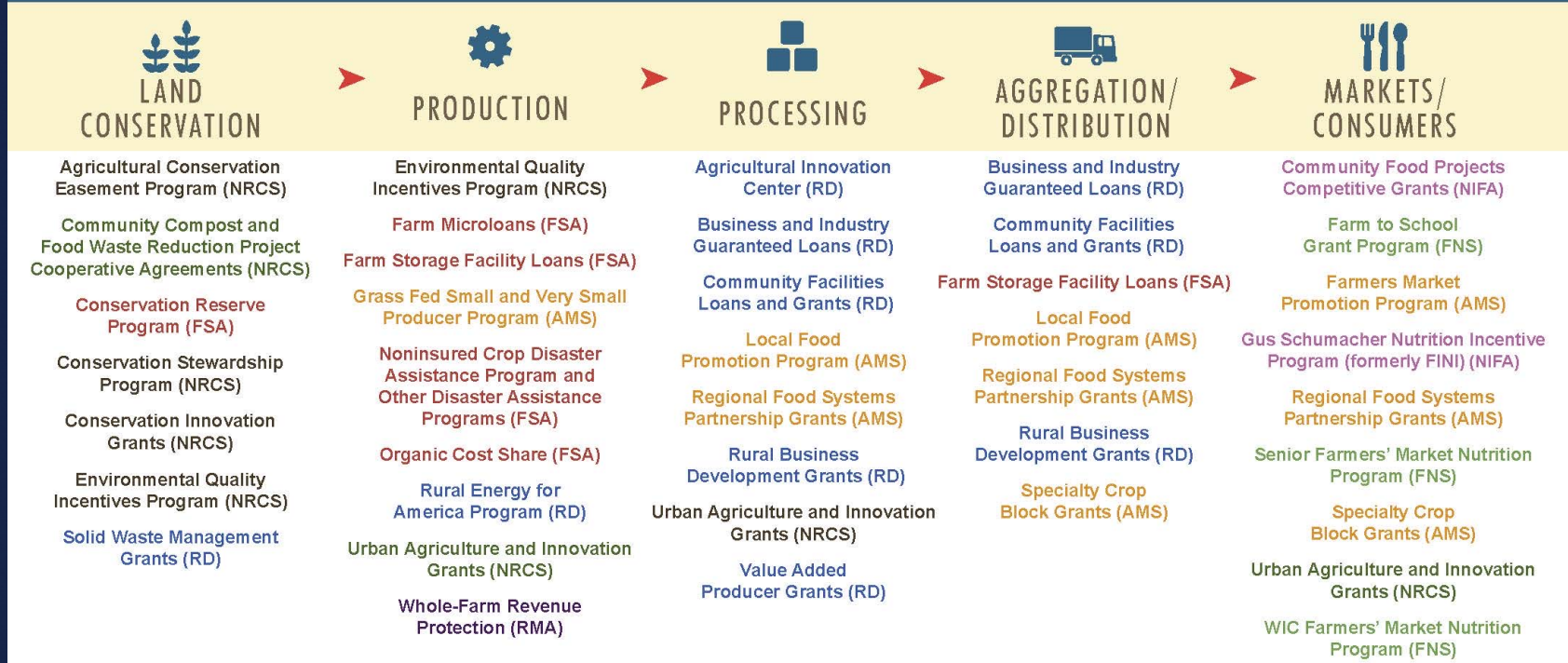
**Rural Development – RD - (RBS/RHS/RUS)**



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

# USDA PROGRAMS IN THE LOCAL FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN

USDA is committed to supporting robust regional food economies across the food chain through the programs noted below.

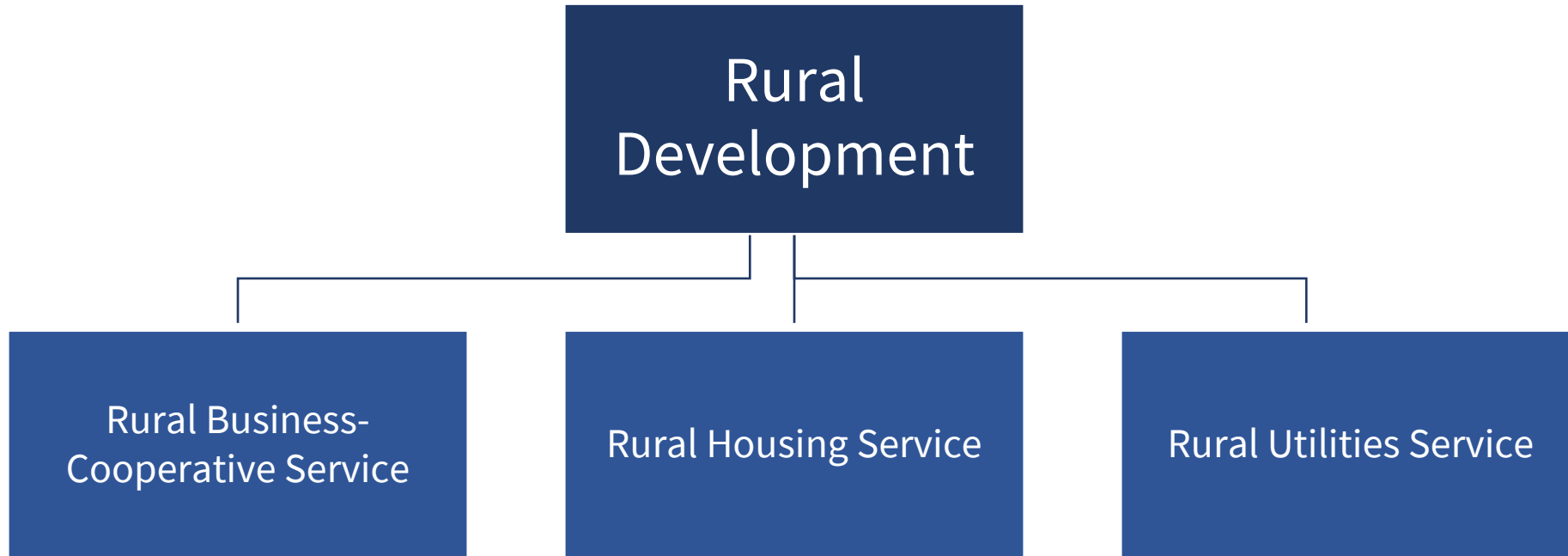


## RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS ALONG THE SUPPLY CHAIN

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (NIFA)	Extension Risk Management (NIFA)	Rural Cooperative Development Grants (RD)
Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program (NIFA)	Federal State Marketing Improvement Program (AMS)	Small Business Innovation Research (NIFA)
Community Prosperity Funding Opportunity (OPPE)	Food Safety Outreach Program (NIFA)	Socially Disadvantaged Group Grant (RD)
Conservation Technical Assistance (NRCS)	Organic Research & Extension Initiative (NIFA)	Specialty Crop Block Grants (AMS)
Enhancing Agricultural Opportunities for Military Veterans (AGVETS) (NIFA)	Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers Program (2501 Program) (OPPE)	Specialty Crop Research Initiative (NIFA)
		Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (NIFA)



# Rural Development Offices



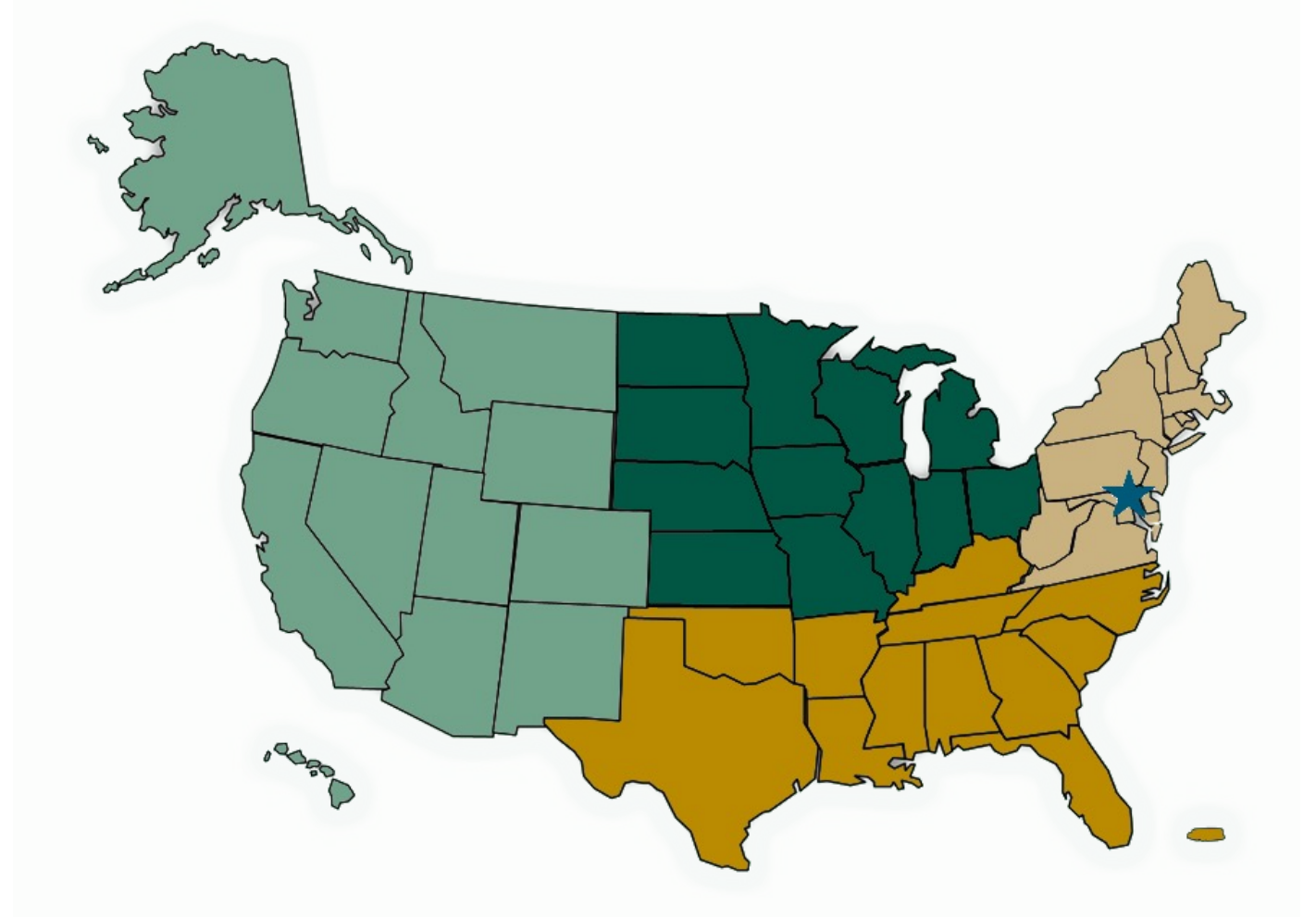
# Rural Development Offices

4 Regions

47 State Offices

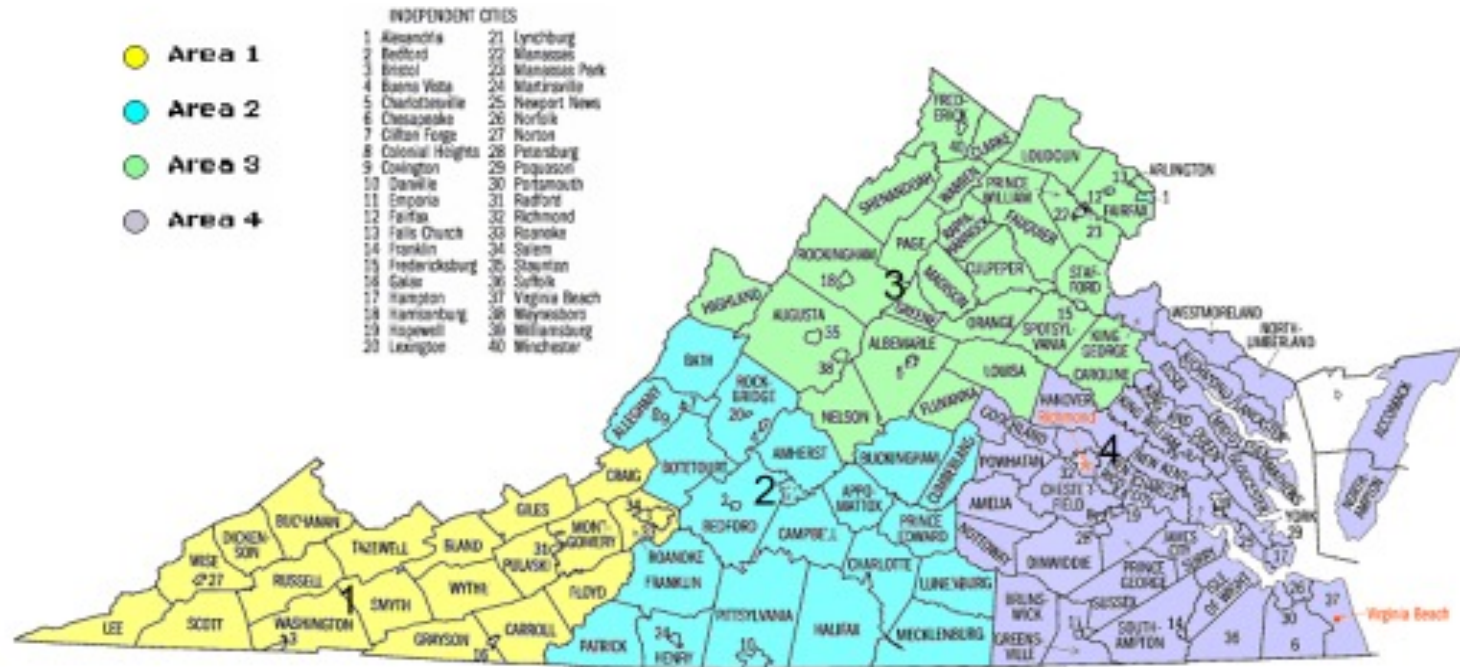
400 Area Offices

1 National Office in DC





# Rural Development Virginia - Area Offices



● **Wytheville Area Office**  
100 USDA Drive  
Wytheville, VA 24382  
Phone: 276-228-3513

● **Lynchburg Area Office**  
20311-ATimberlake Road  
Lynchburg, VA 24502  
Phone: 343-239-3473

● **Harrisonburg Area Office**  
1934 Deyerle Avenue  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801  
Phone: 540-433-9126

● **Courtland Area Office**  
22329 Main Street  
Courtland, VA 23837  
Phone: 757-653-2532

● **Lebanon Area Office**  
140 Highland Drive, Suite 5  
Lebanon, VA 24266  
Phone: 276-889-4650

● **Rocky Mount - Telework**  
P. O. Box 21607  
Roanoke, VA 24018  
Phone: 504-352-4246

● **Culpeper Area Office**  
351 Lakeside Drive  
Culpeper, VA 22701  
Phone: 540-825-4200

● **Richmond Area Office**  
1606 Santa Rosa Road, Suite 238  
Richmond, VA 23229  
Phone: 804-287-1611





# *Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)*

 **USDA** Rural Development  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



# *Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)*

## *Overview*

- ❑ Background
  
- ❑ Eligibility Requirements
  - ❑ Applicants
  - ❑ Technologies
  - ❑ Project Costs
  
- ❑ Assistance Types
  - ❑ Energy Audits and Renewable Energy Development Assistance
  - ❑ Grants for Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements
  - ❑ Guaranteed Loans for Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements
  
- ❑ Success Stories

# *Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)*

## *Background*

- ❑ Rural Development's First Energy Program, Section 9006, was authorized in 2002 Farm Bill (Title IX, Section 9006).
- ❑ 2008 Farm Bill 9006 was reauthorized under Section 9007 and titled: **Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)**
- ❑ 2008 Farm Bill also created new energy programs
  - ❑ Biorefinery Assistance (9003)
  - ❑ Repowering Assistance (9004)
  - ❑ Bioenergy Program for Advanced Biofuels (9005)
- ❑ 2014 Farm Bill reauthorized the energy programs
- ❑ 2018 Farm Bill reauthorized 3 of the 4, letting the Repowering Assistance program expire.



# *Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)*

## *Energy Audits/ Renewable Energy Development Assistance (EA/REDA) Grants*

REAP also assists in the development of Renewable Energy projects by providing grant funds through Renewable Energy Development Assistance.

Funding provided to perform technical assistance in conducting and promoting:

1. Energy Audits (EA)
2. Renewable Energy Development Assistance (REDA)



# ***Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)***

## ***Energy Audits/ Renewable Energy Development Assistance (EA/REDA) Grants***

### **What does this program do?**

Grantees assist rural small businesses and agricultural producers by conducting and promoting:

1. Energy Audits (EA)
2. Renewable Energy Development Assistance (REDA)
  - Implement Renewable Energy technologies
  - Renewable Energy Site Assessments

### **Who may apply?**

- State and local governments
- Federally-recognized Tribes
- A land-grant college or university, or other Institutions of Higher Education
- Rural electric cooperatives
- Public power entities
- An Instrumentality of a state, tribal, or local government

# *Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)*

*Energy Audits/ Renewable Energy Development Assistance (EA/REDA) Grants*

**Application Deadline January 31<sup>st</sup>**

Maximum Grant Assistance	<b>\$100,000</b>
Details	A grantee that conducts Energy Audits requires recipient to cost share a minimum of 25% of the Energy Audit cost.



# Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

Energy Audits/ Renewable Energy Development Assistance (EA/REDA) Grants



## Irrigation & Grain Dryers



Energy efficient glass roof, radiant heat, fans, vents, & computerized controls



- \$38,870 Total Cost
- \$11,870 REAP EA Grant
- \$17,282 Applicant Contribution
- \$ 9,718 Recipient Contribution



- \$6,312 in Expect Annual Energy Savings

# Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

Energy Audits/ Renewable Energy Development Assistance (EA/REDA) Grants



## Solar and Wind



Provide technical assistance to 30 small to medium size feed yard operators within Colorado.



\$36,000 Total Cost

- \$6,000 REAP REDA Grant



- Conducted by Colorado State University



# ***Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)***

## ***Program Purpose***

***Rural Energy for American Program (REAP) provides  
Grants and Guaranteed Loan funding for  
Renewable Energy System Installations and  
Energy Efficiency Improvements for Agricultural  
Producers and Rural Small Businesses***

# Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

## Eligibility – Applicants

### Agricultural Producer



- **Individual or entity that receives 51 percent or more of their gross income from agricultural production** – crops, livestock, aquaculture, forestry operations, nurseries, dairies

### Rural Small Business





- **For-profit small business** - as defined by the Small Business Administration (SBA)
- **Rural area or non-metro community of  $\leq 50,000$**

# Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

## Grant Funding\*

Application Deadline March 30<sup>th</sup>

 Renewable Energy Systems		 Energy Efficiency Improvements	
Minimum Grant Request	<b>\$2,500</b> Total eligible project costs $\geq$ \$10,000	Minimum Grant Request	<b>\$1,500</b> Total eligible project costs $\geq$ \$6,000
Maximum Grant Request	<b>\$500,000</b> Total eligible project costs $\geq$ \$2 million	Maximum Grant Request	<b>\$250,000</b> Total eligible project costs $\geq$ \$1 million

\*Up to 25% of Total Eligible Project Costs



# Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

## Guaranteed Loan Funding\*

### Guaranteed Loan Applications Accepted Year-round















Minimum Loan Amount	<b>\$5,000</b> Total eligible project costs $\geq$ \$6,667
Maximum Loan Amount	<b>\$25 million</b> Total eligible project costs $\geq$ \$33.4 million
Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• USDA guarantees a commercial loan; applicant must have a willing lender.</li><li>• Terms are negotiated between the lender and borrower.</li><li>• Fees, appraisals, equity &amp; collateral requirements apply.</li></ul>

\*Up to 75% of Total Eligible Project Costs

# Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

## Eligible Technologies

### Commercially Available Technologies

Energy Efficiency		Renewable Energy	
	Lighting		Solar
	Heating		Wind
	Cooling		Small Hydroelectric
	Ventilation		Anaerobic Digesters
	Fans		Biomass
	Automated Controls		Geothermal
	Insulation		Wave/Ocean Power



# *Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)*

## *Project Costs*

### ✓ Eligible Project Costs

- **Equipment:**
  - Purchase & installation
  - New or refurbished
- **Post-application construction & facility improvements**
- **Retrofitting**
- **Professional service fees**
- **Permits & license fees**
- **Working capital, land acquisition (Guarantee loan ONLY with restrictions)**

### ⊘ Ineligible Project Costs

- **Residential energy projects**
- **Equipment:**
  - Farm tillage equipment
  - Used equipment
  - Vehicles
- **Pre-application construction & facility improvements**
- **Application preparation or grant writer fees**
- **Line of credit**
- **Lease payments**
- **Payment to the applicant/business owner, beneficiary, or relative**

# ***Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)***

## ***Renewable Energy Systems (RES)***



# Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) Renewable Energy Systems (RES)

## Renewable Energy System: Solar Array



### Veterinary Hospital

Rooftop solar panels



- \$148,050 Total Cost
- \$ 20,000 REAP Grant
- \$128,050 Applicant Funds

30-40% reduction in operating expenses



# *Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)*

## *Renewable Energy Systems (RES)*

### Renewable Energy System: Solar Array



#### Electric Cooperative

#### Community Solar Project



- \$784,792 Total Cost
- \$ 20,000 REAP Grant
- \$764,791 Applicant Funds
- Production of 443 mWh annually

# Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) Renewable Energy Systems (RES)

## Renewable Energy System: Anaerobic Digester



### Small Energy Company & Dairy Farmers

1 MW Anaerobic digester



- \$4.15 Million Total Cost
- \$100,000 REAP Grant
- \$2.65 Million REAP Guarantee

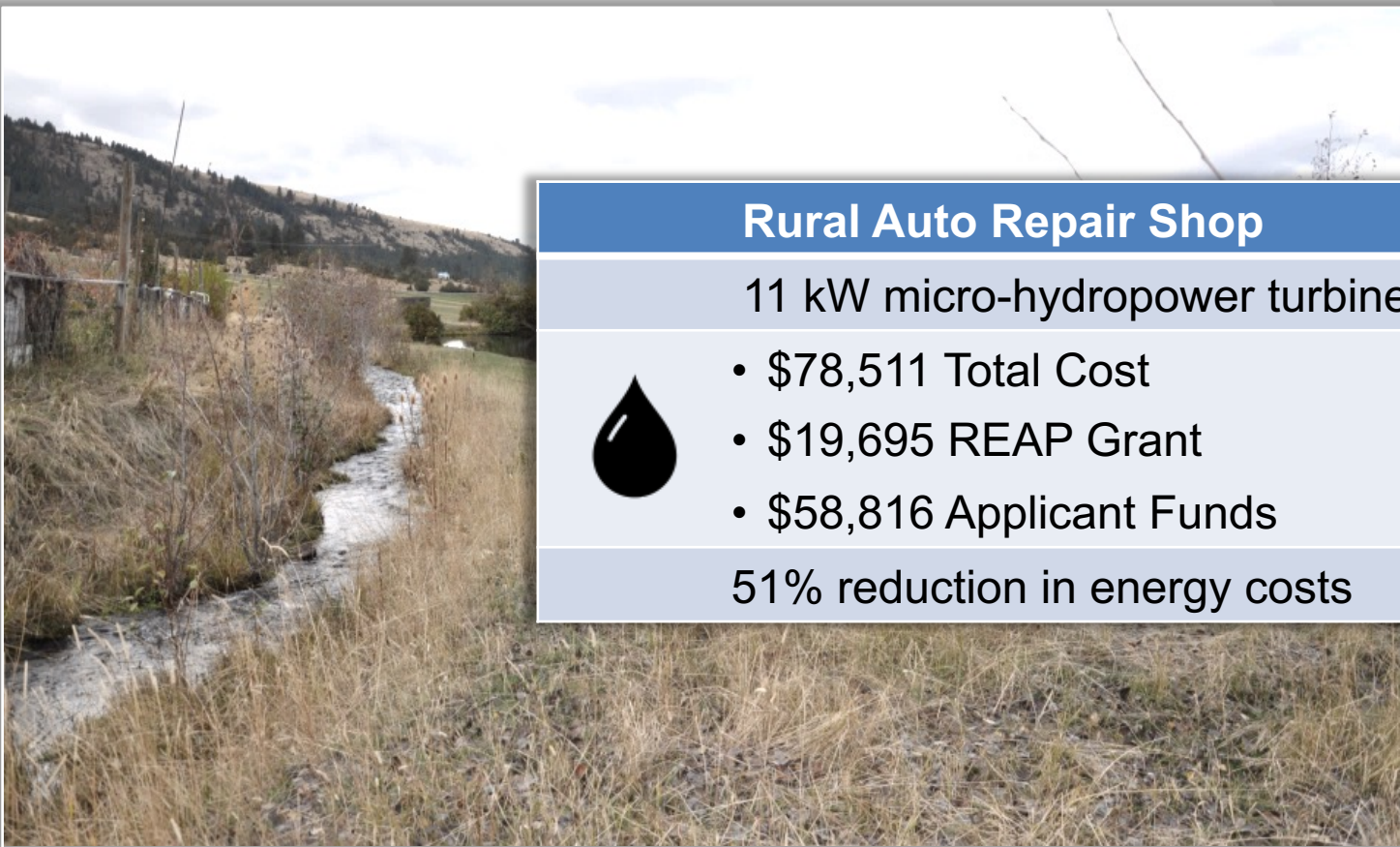
Powers an equivalent of 700 homes/year



# *Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)*

## *Renewable Energy Systems (RES)*

### Renewable Energy System: Hydropower



#### Rural Auto Repair Shop

11 kW micro-hydropower turbine



- \$78,511 Total Cost
- \$19,695 REAP Grant
- \$58,816 Applicant Funds

51% reduction in energy costs





# Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) Renewable Energy Systems (RES)

## Geothermal & Energy Efficiency Improvements



### Grocery Store



Geothermal heat, energy efficient coolers & lighting



- \$198,600 Total Cost
- \$ 49,650 REAP Grant
- \$148,950 Commercial Loan



40% reduction in energy costs

# *Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)*

## *Renewable Energy Systems (RES)*

### Renewable Energy System: Solar Array



#### Michigan Winery

- \$104,088 REAP grant



- 148 kW Solar
- Estimated replacement of 40% energy usage
- Will generate estimated 172,351 kWh of electricity per year, or enough electricity to power 15 homes



# *Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)*

## *Renewable Energy Systems (RES)*

### Renewable Energy System: Solar Array

#### On Farm Solar

- \$19,984 REAP grant
- 28.5 kW Solar
- \$79,936 Total Project Cost
- Estimated payback of 9 years





# *Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)*

## *Renewable Energy Systems (RES)*

### Renewable Energy System: Solar Array

#### On Farm Solar

- \$47,762 REAP grant
- 54 kW Solar
- \$191,048 Total Project Cost
- Estimated replacement of 65% of the farm's energy usage



# *Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)*

## *Energy Efficiency Improvement (EEI)*

### Energy Efficiency Improvement: Maple Syrup Operation

#### Maple Ledge Farm

New energy efficient reverse osmosis equipment

- \$43,500 Total Cost
- \$10,875 REAP Grant
- \$32,625 Applicant Funds

50% reduction in energy costs

Enough savings to power 4 homes for a year





# *Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)* *Energy Efficiency Improvement (EEI)*

## Energy Efficiency Improvement: Maple Syrup Operation



### Sweet Bear Farm

Installing a steam-away to reduce their energy load and increase production

- \$14,096 Total Cost
- \$ 3,185 REAP Grant
- \$10,911 Applicant Funds

40% reduction in energy costs



# *Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)*

## *Application Priority Deadlines\**

<b>October 31st</b>	➤ Set Aside Fund Competition-Grant Request \$20,000 or less
<b>January 31st</b>	➤ EA/REDA Grant applications
<b>March 31st</b>	➤ Set Aside Fund Competition-Grant Request \$20,000 or less ➤ Unrestricted Grant Request > \$20,000
Continuous Application Cycle	➤ Guaranteed Loans

# *Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)*

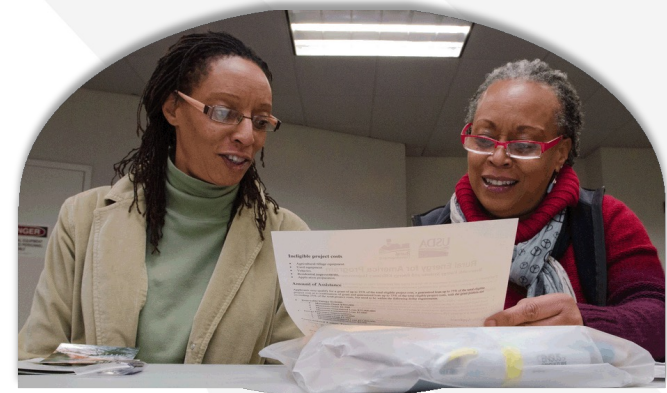
## *How to Apply?*

- Contact the USDA Rural Development Energy Coordinator in your state for application materials and resources:

[https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/RBS\\_StateEnergyCoordinators.pdf](https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/RBS_StateEnergyCoordinators.pdf)

- Submit applications any time of year.
- Applications compete for funding based on score throughout the year.
- Rural Locator Tool – Location Eligibility

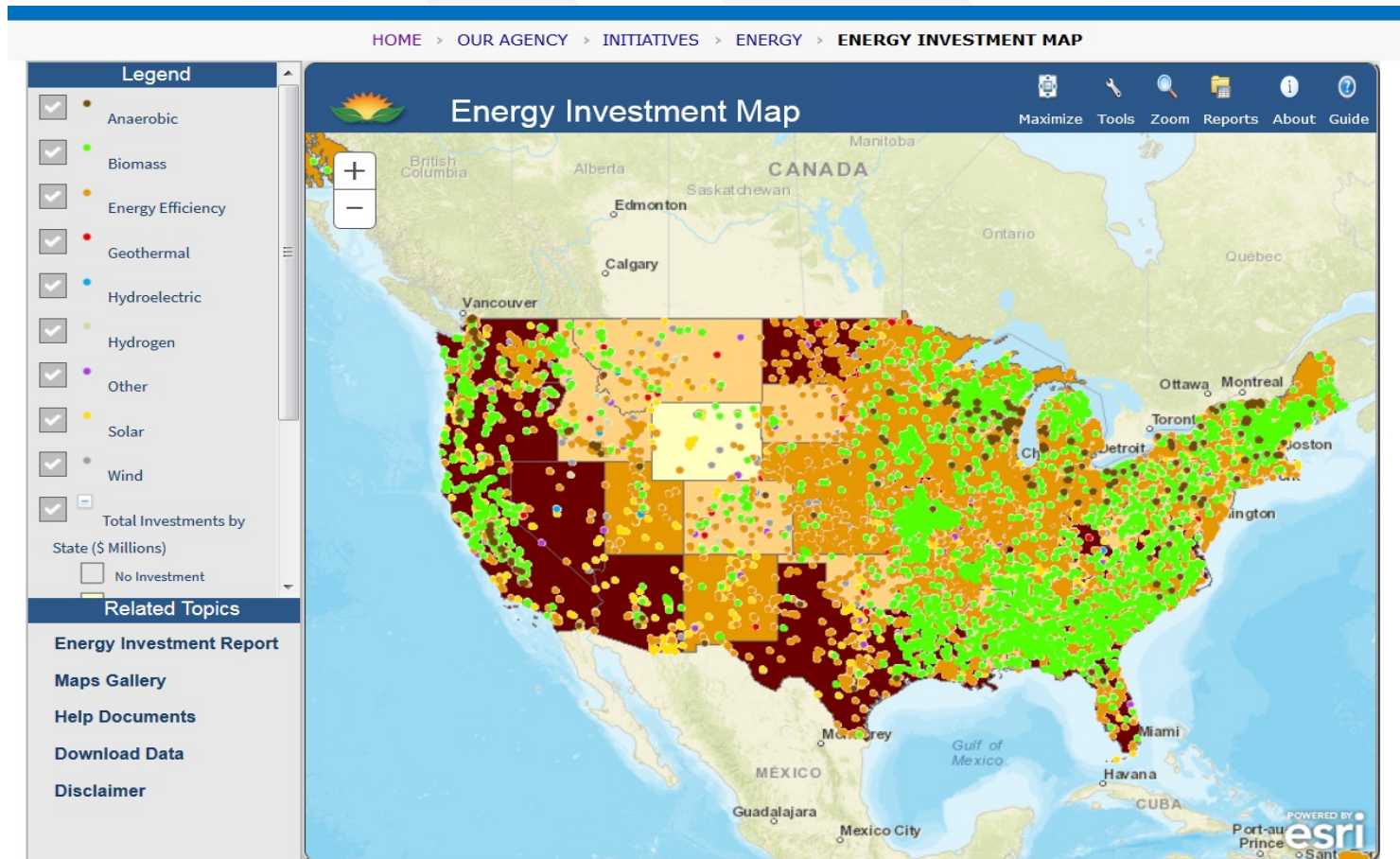
<https://eligibility.sc.egov.usda.gov/eligibility/welcomeAction.do?pageAction=RBSmenu>



# USDA Energy Investment Map

<https://www.usda.gov/energy/maps/maps/Investment.htm>

- Provides information on USDA programs that support renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.
- The map displays investment location, type of energy, assistance provided and the associated USDA program.
- The energy investment data is summarized by state, county and congressional districts by total number of investments and total dollar amounts.





# Contact Information

## Energy Programs

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/all-programs/energy-programs>

# [www.rd.usda.gov](http://www.rd.usda.gov)



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**QUESTIONS???**



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