

- Joint Webinar -

# U.S. EPA and USDA Funding to Assist Schools and Child Care Facilities with Lead Testing and Remediation in Drinking Water

July 14, 2021 || 1:00 – 2:30 PM ET

Hosted by the US EPA Office of Water, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water



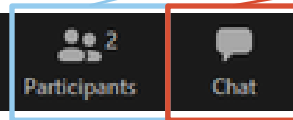
# Zoom Orientation

Use the navigation bar at the bottom of your screen to access controls in Zoom.

Click the microphone to mute/unmute, the video camera to start/stop your video, the participants list to see other attendees, the chat bubble to see posted resources and submit questions, and reactions to react or raise your hand.

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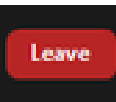


## Participant List

*When you click on "Participants" in the navigation bar at the bottom of your screen, a list of meeting participants will show up in a pop-up box in Zoom.*

## Meeting Chat

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# Agenda



- ❑ U.S. EPA 3Ts – Training, Testing and Taking Action program
- ❑ U.S. EPA Grants under the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN Act)
- ❑ USDA Grants and Loans under the Community Facilities Programs
- ❑ USDA Grants and Loans under the Water and Environmental Programs
- ❑ State Case-study - Pennsylvania's Program on Providing Voluntary Lead Testing in Drinking Water to Childcare Facilities and Schools

## Panelists: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Office of Water/Office of Ground Water & Drinking Water/  
Protection Division, Washington, D.C.



- ❑ **Cindy Y. Mack**, Senior Program Manager | [mack.cindy-y@epa.gov](mailto:mack.cindy-y@epa.gov)  
3Ts and MOU on Reducing Lead Levels in Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities Office Water
- ❑ **Yvonne Gonzalez**, HQ WIIN grants Team Lead | [Gonzalez.Yvonne@epa.gov](mailto:Gonzalez.Yvonne@epa.gov)
- ❑ **Ying Tan**, HQ Lead State Program | [Tan.Ying@epa.gov](mailto:Tan.Ying@epa.gov)
  - WIIN 2105 (Reducing Lead in Drinking Water)
  - WIIN 2107 (Lead Testing in School and Child Care Program)
- ❑ **Laura Montoya**, HQ Lead Tribal Program | [montoya.laura@epa.gov](mailto:montoya.laura@epa.gov)
  - WIIN 2105 (Reducing Lead in Drinking Water)
  - WIIN 2107 (Lead Testing in School and Child Care Program)

## Panelists: U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Agency, Washington, D.C.



- ❑ **Anita Lopez**, Asset Regional Risk Coordinator, Community Facilities Program, Rural Housing Service | [anita.lopez@usda.gov](mailto:anita.lopez@usda.gov)
- ❑ **Lorrie Davis**, Community Program Specialist, Water and Environmental Program, Rural Utilities Service | [lorrie.davis@usda.gov](mailto:lorrie.davis@usda.gov)

# Panelists: The Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST)

## Case Study State Program



- ❑ **Brent Sailhamer**, PENNVEST, Legislative and Media Relations Specialist  
[bsailhamer@pa.gov](mailto:bsailhamer@pa.gov)
  
- ❑ **Joe Luchette**, Terraphase Engineering, Associate  
[joseph.luchette@terrphase.com](mailto:joseph.luchette@terrphase.com)
  
- ❑ **Scott Renneisen**, Terraphase Engineering, Principal Hydrogeologist  
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# U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)





# Sources of Lead



Lead Industry



In the air



In the soil



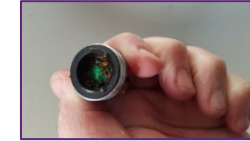
In consumer products



Sources of lead exposure include the lead industry, lead-based paint (e.g., paint chips or dust), lead in water, lead in the air, lead in soil, and lead in consumer products and food.

## Lead in Drinking Water

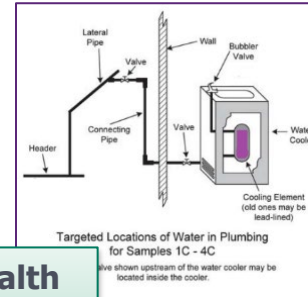
- Lead gets into drinking water as it comes into contact with plumbing materials containing lead.
  - Interior lead pipe and lead solder (commonly used until 1988),
  - brass fittings, valves and
  - various drinking water outlets (e.g., water fountains and faucets)



Lead-based paint



In water



**“Even when water entering a facility meets all federal and state public health standards for lead, older plumbing materials in schools and child care facilities may contribute to elevated levels lead in their drinking water.”**



# Background: Federal Regulations and Programs



- **1986 - The Lead Ban:** A requirement that only “lead-free” materials be used in new plumbing and in plumbing repairs.
- **1988 - The Lead Contamination Control Act (LCCA):** The LCCA aimed at the identification and reduction of lead in drinking water at schools and child care facilities, including the recall of drinking water coolers with lead lined tanks.
- **1991 - The Lead and Copper Rule:** A regulation to control the amount of lead and copper in water supplied by public water systems.
- **2006 - *3Ts for Reducing Lead Levels in Drinking Water in Schools toolkit*** developed. Intended to assist in the voluntary testing of drinking water for lead in schools and child care facilities.
- **2011 - The Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act:** Further reduces lead levels and redefines “lead-free” under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA).

# Background: Federal Regulations and Programs



- **2016 - Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN)**, required EPA to establish a voluntary lead testing grant program.
- **2018 - *3Ts for Reducing Lead Levels in Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities*** revised to align with WIIN Act.
- **2019 - Congressional appropriation** of WIIN grants funds.
- **2021 - Lead and Copper Rule Revisions** published and includes requirements for PWSs to test drinking water in schools and licensed child care facilities.

# Memorandum of Understanding - Partners -



1. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Water
2. **U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Rural Development Agency**
3. U.S. Dept. of Education, Office of Safe and Supportive Schools
4. U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Agency for Children and Families' Office of Head Start and Office of Early Childhood Development
5. U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
6. U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service
7. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education
8. American Water Works Association
9. American School Health Association
10. Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies
11. Association of State Drinking Water Administrators
12. Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc.
13. National Association of Water Companies
14. National Rural Water Association
15. Rural Community Assistance Partnership
16. United South and Eastern Tribes



# U.S. EPA 3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities TRAINING – TESTING – TAKING ACTION



3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water  
in Schools and Child Care Facilities  
*A Training, Testing, and Taking Action Approach*  
Revised Manual

← 3Ts Manual

3Ts 7-Module Toolkit →

**Training** school and child care officials to raise awareness of lead in drinking water.

**Testing** drinking water in schools and child care facilities to identify potential lead problems.

**Taking action** to reduce lead in drinking water.



View  
School-specific  
Resources

View  
Child Care-specific  
Resources

View  
Additional  
Resources

# 3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water

## Establishing a Lead Testing Program

### The 3Ts Checklist

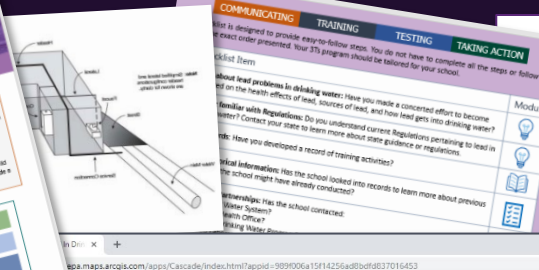
**Establishing a Lead Testing Program**

The 3Ts toolkits assist you with the steps needed to create a program to reduce children's exposure to lead in drinking water. Using the 3Ts Toolkit along with your communication plan will help ensure a successful lead in 3Ts program.

Before sampling, facilities should establish a plan on how they will respond to their sample results to protect the school or child care facility program from lead in drinking water. You should consider potential barriers, funding options, and how frequent testing will occur.

- 3Ts Toolkit**
- <http://epa.gov/3ts/toolkit>
- Module 1: Learning About Lead in Drinking Water
  - Module 2: Sampling for Lead in 3Ts Program
  - Module 3: Communicating Results
  - Module 4: Sampling and Analyzing Results
  - Module 5: Responding

The steps in the checklist are intended to help you learn about lead in drinking water, develop a program, test for lead, communicate the results, and take remediation actions if needed. The checklist includes things to consider in the TRAINING, TESTING and TAKING ACTION sections of the 3Ts, as well as important COMMUNICATION and REMEDIATION items. This checklist is designed to promote easy-to-implement steps that lead to compliance at the steps or below the DELBIS in the exact order presented in the program. Your 3Ts program should be tailored for your school or child care facility.



# Leaders in Reducing Lead In Drinking Water



# TAKING STEPS TO PROTECT CHILDREN FROM LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

**OUR PROGRAM**

Our training staff assist you with the practical aspects and health effects of lead in drinking water and providing them with the tools they need to protect children.

**TRAINING:** We can train you on testing drinking water in your school or child care facility. To identify potential problems, we use EPA's Lead Test Kit. To take corrective actions, we can help you understand the process.

**TESTING:** We can help you understand the process of testing drinking water in your school or child care facility. We can help you understand the process of testing drinking water in your school or child care facility.

**TAKING ACTION:** We can help you understand the process of testing drinking water in your school or child care facility. We can help you understand the process of testing drinking water in your school or child care facility.

**AVAILABLE RESOURCES:**

- Lead Test Kit
- Lead Test Kit
- Lead Test Kit

**UPCOMING TESTS OR TEST RESULTS:**

When you receive test results, you should contact your state or local health department for guidance. You should also contact your state or local health department for guidance.



**3Ts TRAINING, TESTING, TAKING ACTION**

**COMMUNICATION**

Module 1: Developing a Communication Plan

Developing a Communication Strategy

**Have a Plan**

At the heart of an effective communication strategy is preparation and identification of the relevant information on facility, performance and resources. The program and staff at your school and workplace engage you throughout the process and work to protect children and staff health. Lead in drinking water can be an emotional and sensitive issue, especially for parents who are concerned about their child's safety. Communicating early and often about your testing plan, results, and next steps will build confidence in your facility's ability to provide a safe environment.

**When developing your communication plan:**

- Take the initiative in providing information.
- Make sure your information is honest, accurate and comprehensive.
- Be open with the simplest option.
- Anticipate questions and concerns and address them proactively.
- Do positive and forthcoming.
- Keep any advance-up-to-date as new information becomes available.

**Helpful To:**

- To support engagement with the school community and staff, it is important to begin communication before testing begins.
- To keep any advance-up-to-date as new information becomes available.

Follow these steps and the timeline in Module 1 to develop a research and practice communication plan.

**STEP 1: Get Your Team Together**

Assemble a team with technical, advisory, and communication resources. Draw from internal resources and use professionals well-known in the community. Designate a program manager to make announcements, respond to questions, and conduct interviews in order to ensure the accuracy and consistency of public information.

The kit can be used in other ways: other school testing programs or the [Agency Health Hotline](#) under Section 8 of the 3Ts Program.



# 3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water

## in Schools and Child Care Facilities

### A TRAINING, TESTING, TAKING ACTION Approach



# 3Ts for Public Water Utilities

## A TRAINING, TESTING, TAKING ACTION Approach

**What are the 3Ts?**

The 3Ts toolkits were developed for schools and child care facilities to help them implement a voluntary program for reducing lead in drinking water. It includes a training, testing, and taking action approach.

**How does it differ from sampling under the Lead and Copper Rule?**

**Lead and Copper Rule (LCR)**

Required for all community and non-transient non-community water systems.

**3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water**

Voluntary Program: to assist schools with training, testing, and taking action.

**Sampling Protocol:** Only schools and child care facilities that own and/or operate a public water utility must meet the requirements of the LCR. Under the 3Ts, EPA recommends sampling and follow-up actions be taken at each individual facility. The 3Ts are not required for public water utilities.

# Clean Faucet Aerators Weekly

- Unscrew the end-piece of your faucet where the water comes out. This is the aerator. (Make note of how the pieces come off, to put back together. Partly vary.)
- Remove the screen and rinse out any dirt that has collected.
- Screw it back on.



PLACE STAMP HERE

Example

<Name of School/Child Care Center> wants you to know what we are doing to assure the quality of drinking water at our facility.

# 3Ts interactive tools and outreach products

## Published in 2020 - 2021

### 1) Reopening Factsheets

- [\*Ensuring Drinking Water Quality in Schools During and After Extended Closures\*](#) and
- [\*Ensuring Drinking Water Quality in Child Care Facilities During and After Extended Closures\*](#).

### 2) Communication Template Letter

- <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/3ts-module-1>

### 3) Data eTrackers (for recordkeeping of sample results and remediation actions; and reporting to the state if the facility is a WIIN grant recipient)

- <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/3ts-module-7>

### 4) CC 3Ts 101 Poster

- [https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2021-05/documents/3tschild\\_care\\_poster\\_508.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2021-05/documents/3tschild_care_poster_508.pdf)



# 3Ts interactive tools and outreach products



## **In Progress**

- 1) Sample Collection Video
- 2) Sample Collection Field Guide
- 3) Interpreting Sample Results Factsheet

# Potential Funding Sources for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities



- **Goal:** help schools and child care facilities identify potential funding sources for lead remediation and water quality-related projects.
- This guide includes:
  - 4 federal programs
  - 79 state programs
  - 115 foundations/companies providing funding opportunities.
- This document also provides information on national foundations, corporations, and state and federal agencies that have a strong commitment to supporting school and child care improvement initiatives.





# US EPA Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN) Grants



# **Yvonne Gonzalez**

## **WIIN Grant Team Lead**

# WIIN Grants Overview



The 2016 Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN Act) addresses, supports, and improves America's drinking water infrastructure and promote public health and the protection of the environment. **Each grant program has a tribal and state component.**

## **WIIN 2107 | Lead Testing in School and Child Care Program Drinking Water:**

Voluntary testing for lead contamination in drinking water at schools and child care programs.

**WIIN 2105 | Reducing Lead in Drinking Water:** Focuses on the reduction of lead in drinking water in disadvantaged communities through drinking water infrastructure, treatment improvements, and facility remediation in schools and child care facilities.

# WIIN Grants Priority Areas



- Disadvantaged communities
- Underserved Communities (lack household water or wastewater services)
- Small communities (population of less than 10,000 individuals and lacks the capacity to incur debt sufficient to finance a project)
- Low-income areas
- Schools with at least 50% of the children receiving free and reduced lunch and Head Start facilities
- Tribal elementary and child care facilities that primarily care for children six years and under.
- Older facilities that are more likely to contain lead plumbing
- Tribal communities and Indian Nations

**Ying Tan**  
State Program Lead

WIIN 2107 | Lead Testing in School and Child Care Programs  
WIIN 2105 | Reducing Lead in Drinking Water

- **Total Funds Allocated**

- ~\$43 million in FY 2019
- ~\$26 million in FY 2020
- ~\$26.5 million in FY 2021

- **Total Number of Grant Awarded**

- All 50 states, DC, and territories

- **Purpose of Grant**

- Reduce children's exposure to lead in drinking water

- **Who Receives Funding**

- States & Territories that have identified participation through a call for a *Notice of Intent to Participate*

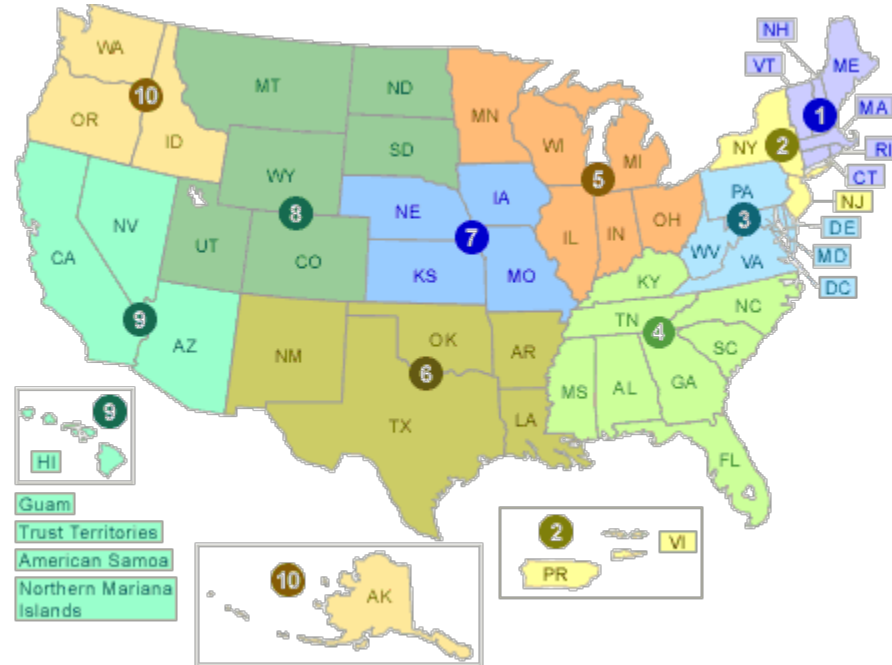
The goals of this program:

- 1) Reducing children's exposure to lead in drinking water
- 2) Utilize EPA's 3Ts model or model no less stringent to establish best practices
- 3) Encouraging efficient use of existing resources and exchange of information
- 4) Develop strategies to provide funding for schools unable to pay for remediation
- 5) Collaborate with partners and foster sustainable partnerships
- 6) Enhance community, parent, and teacher cooperation and trust

# Who is Eligible to Receive WIIN 2107 Funding?

Under the State WIIN 2107 Program:

- All 50 states and DC, Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands, and American Samoa
- Public/charter schools and child care facilities
  - Defined by the state
- Private schools, NOT eligible





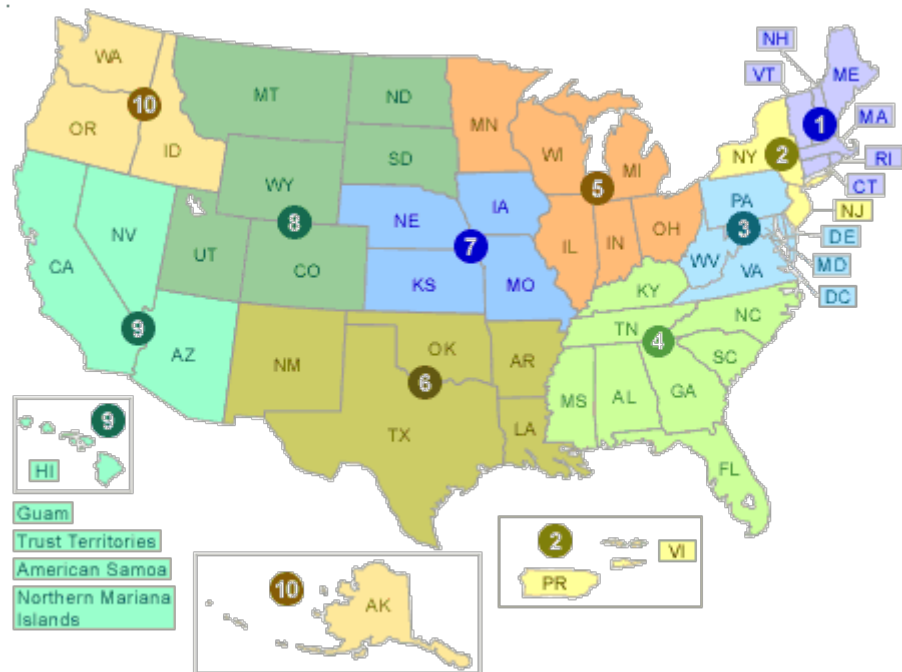
# What is Considered An Eligible WIIN 2107 Project?



- **Grant funds are to be used in accordance with:**
  - The EPA's *3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities* guidance or
  - Applicable state regulations or guidance regarding reducing lead in drinking water in schools and child care programs that are not less stringent.
  - The grant funding, up to 4%, can be used for administrative costs including management. The remaining funds can be used towards outreach, public education, staff conducting the direct sampling and lab results, travel for testing, and monitoring.
  - The grants are for the sole practice of testing activities and are not allowed for remediation or replacement actions.
- **Under this grant, local education agencies must also:**
  - Make available a copy of the results of any testing for lead in drinking water carried out using grant funds, if applicable, in the administration offices and, to the extent practicable, on the internet website of the local educational agency for inspection by the public and
  - Notify parent, teacher, and employee organizations of the availability of the results.

# WIIN 2107 Grant Funding Awarded

- 2018 – 2021 appropriations
  - States: > \$90 million



Regions	Awarded Amount (Millions)*
1	\$5.5
2	\$3.5
3	\$4.0
4	\$9.6
5	\$10.0
6	\$3.8
7	\$3.6
8	\$2.4
9	\$7.4
10	\$3.1

\* Awarded Funds FY 2018 – 2020

# National WIIN 2107 Program Progress – FY20 Report



	Total Number of Staff Trained	Total Number of Facilities Tested	Total Number of Facilities Exceeding PRT
Schools	600	900	400 (44%)
Child Cares	800	1,800	200 (11%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>2,700</b>	<b>600 (22%)</b>

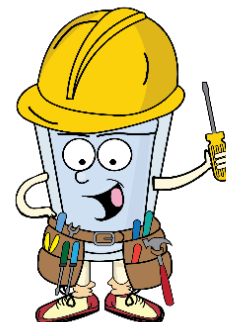
Note: Program Remediation Trigger (PRT) varies and is set by the state or school/child care facility  
Data Source: WIIN Grant 2107 Annual Reports FY 2020

# National WIIN 2107 Program Progress – FY20 Report



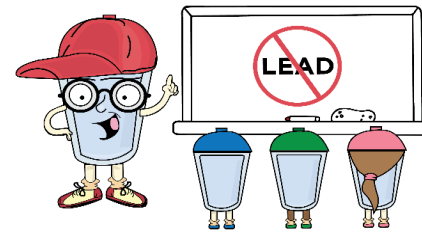
	% Follow Up Action	% Remediation Action	% Replacement Action
Schools	98%	97%	47%
Child Cares	97%	90%	51%
<b>Total</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>49%</b>

- **Follow-up:** Short-term measures (e.g., re-sampling, communication, do not drink orders, or temporarily placing fountains out of commission)
- **Remediation:** Short or long-term measures (e.g., routine maintenance, initiating flushing protocols, or turning off contaminated outlets)
- **Replacement:** Permanent, long-term measures (e.g., replace fixture or outlet, internal or external replacement)



Note: Program Remediation Trigger (PRT) varies and is set by the state or school/child care facility  
 Data Source: WIIN Grant 2107 Annual Reports FY 2020

# How to Access the WIIN 2107 Funding?



- EPA → State → Schools/Child care facilities
- States: submitted a Notice of Intent to Participate (NOIP) from governor's office, appointing a state agency for oversight of program
  - Participating states have drafted a workplan and budget narrative and sent this document to their EPA Regional contacts for review and approval
  - States submit final documents in their application on Grants.gov to process the award for funding to respective state programs for both schools and child care facilities.
- School/Child Care: Contacts for EPA and state agencies administrating the program to find more information on participation can be found at:

<https://www.epa.gov/dwcapacity/wiin-2107-lead-testing-school-and-child-care-program-drinking-water-state-grant-program>

# WIIN 2105 - Reducing Lead in Drinking Water



## **What Type of Funding is Provided?**

The funding is appropriated as a competitive grant.

In FY21, funding appropriations were announced at approximately \$21.5M.

## **Who is Eligible to Receive Funding?**

The grant eligible applicants under this competition are primary public sector institutions or partnerships including:

- Community water systems or Water systems located in an area governed by an Indian Tribe.
- Non-transient non-community water systems.
- Qualified nonprofit organizations servicing a public water system.
- Government entities.

## **What projects are eligible to receive funding?**

The grant focuses on reduction of lead in drinking water. Projects and activities that provide improvements through drinking water infrastructure, treatments, and/or facility remediation in schools and child care facilities qualify.

## **How to Access Funding?**

The funding is competed every fiscal year that Congress provides appropriations. EPA announces the competition for funding through Grants.gov and provides an application period (usually 90 days) for the applicant to apply.

## **Laura Montoya** **Tribal Program Lead**

WIIN 2107 | Lead Testing in School and Child Care Program  
WIIN 2105 | Reducing Lead in Drinking Water

# Tribal WIIN Grants

**WIIN 2107 | Tribal Lead Testing in School and Child Care Program**

**WIIN 2105 | Tribal Reducing Lead in Drinking Water**



## Background

Tribal Communities are a priority within each grant allowing for a percentage of the grant allocation to be set aside for these communities. Indian Nations and Tribal Communities face many challenges

- Multiple socioeconomic and community capacity indicators to address water related challenges
  - Underrepresented and underserved
  - Economically distressed areas
  - Dispersed rural populations often poorly informed or excluded from water management decisions
- Unique water-related challenges such as
  - Dependence on a single water source
  - Drought impacts on private wells
  - Aging infrastructure
  - Low capacity to repair systems due to a shortage of skilled engineers



### Who is eligible to receive funding?

- The FY20 only tribal consortia were eligible to receive the funding

### FY18 to FY20 Allocation - \$4.3M

- Seven consortia will participate in the program, 871 tribal schools and child care facilities will be targeted.
- Funding in FY21 is currently under development

### What projects are eligible to receive funding?

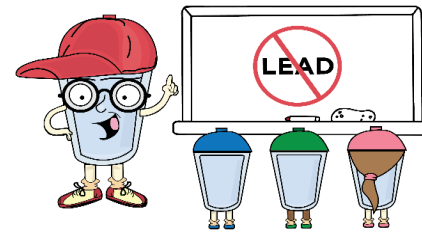
Schools and child care centers that serve predominately tribal populations to test facilities for lead

### The FY20 Non-Competitive Grant Process

- Grant was announced July 2020
- *A Notice of Intent to Participate* (NOIP) was required from tribal consortia interested in participating
- The NOIP Response deadline was August 2020
- Initial program applications were due for submission via grants.gov – Dec 2020

# WIIN 2105

## Tribal Reducing Lead in Drinking Water



### How to Access the WIIN Funding?

- FY18/19/20 funding included \$3M were awarded to the Indian Health Service via an Interagency Agreements focusing on projects across EPA regions
- FY21 funding will be \$1M and will be awarded to the Indian Health Service via an Interagency Agreements focusing on lead remediation projects across the EPA regions.
- This funding targets projects and activities that support lead exposure reduction in drinking water infrastructure and schools/child care facilities in tribal communities through infrastructure improvements, corrosion control treatment, and remediation/replacement in schools and child care facilities
  - In future years, it can be used in to address remediation issues found in testing results from the WIIN 2107 Voluntary Lead Testing for schools and childcare facilities in tribal communities.

# US EPA Resources

- WIIN Email: [WIINDrinkingWaterGrants@epa.gov](mailto:WIINDrinkingWaterGrants@epa.gov)
- WIIN Grant Webpage: <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/grants>
- 3Ts Email: [3Ts@epa.gov](mailto:3Ts@epa.gov)
- 3Ts Webpage: <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/3Ts>
- EPA Lead Info: <https://www.epa.gov/lead>
- Funding Sources for Schools and Child Care Facilities: <https://www.epa.gov/dwcapacity/funding-sources-schools-and-child-care-facilities>
- EPA Healthy School Environments: <https://www.epa.gov/schools>
- Federal Action Plan to Reduce Childhood Lead Exposure and Association Health Impacts: [https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-12/documents/fedactionplan\\_lead\\_final.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-12/documents/fedactionplan_lead_final.pdf)



# U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Agency





# Community Facilities Programs

EPA/USDA Joint Webinar – July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021

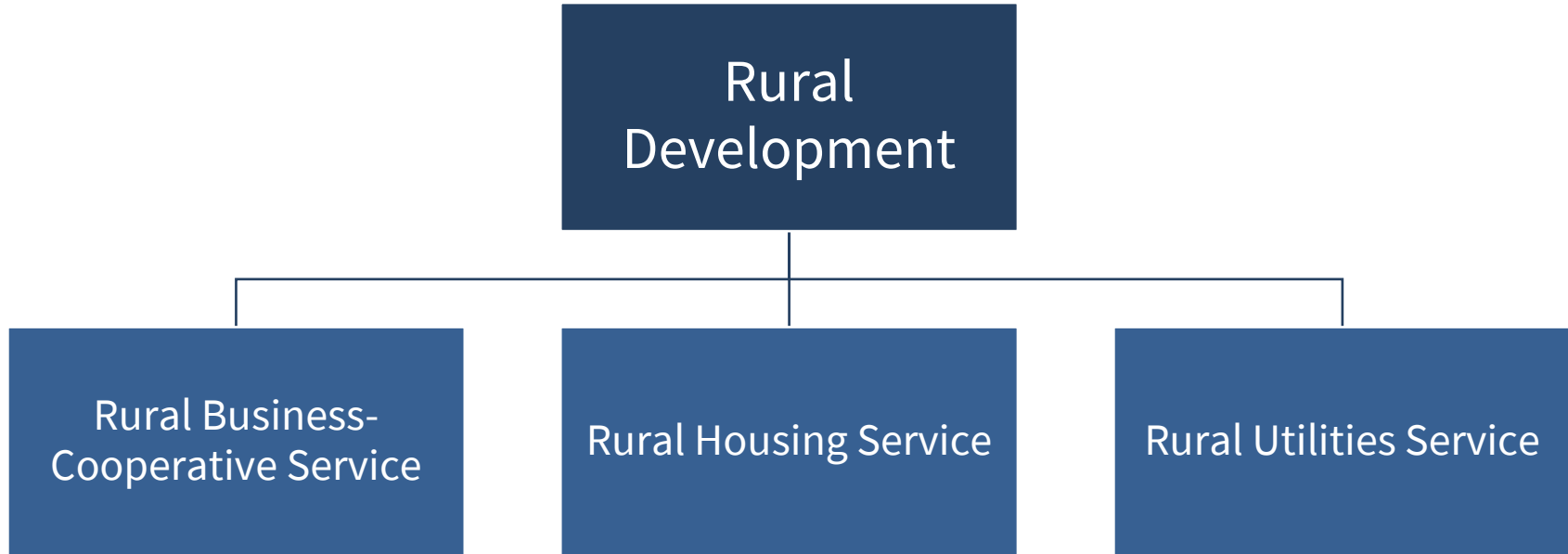
Anita Lopez, Regional Asset Risk Coordinator

National Office

# Rural Development – Mission

- Rural Development is a mission area within USDA that is the only Agency in the U.S. Federal government with the primary responsibility of serving rural America. Rural Development's mission is to create economic prosperity and improve the quality of life in rural America.
- Rural Development remains focused on helping rural communities build robust and sustainable economies. Rural Development programs can literally help build a community from the ground up by providing access to capital and funding for critical community infrastructure to attract new business, quality jobs and spur economic growth.

# Rural Development Offices



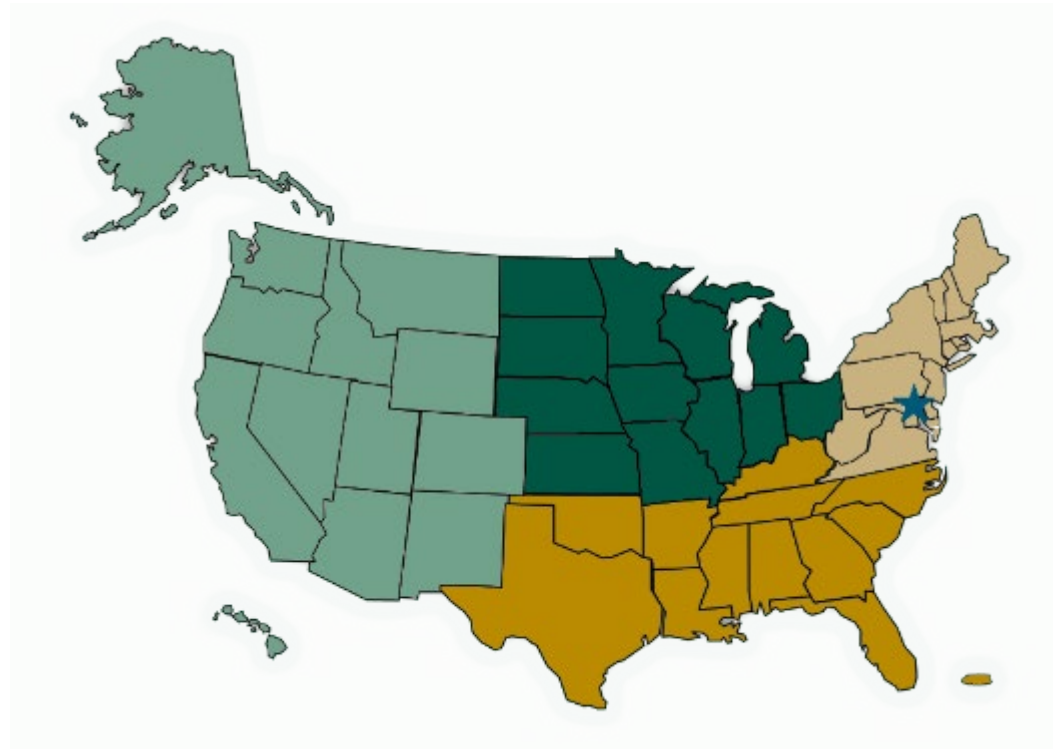
# Rural Development Offices

4 Regions

47 State Offices

400 Area Offices

1 National Office in DC







## Community Facilities

- Hospitals, health clinics
- Schools
- Daycares
- Fire houses, first responder vehicles and equipment
- Community centers and more.

# Community Facilities Programs Overview

- Direct loans, loan guarantees and grants to develop or improve essential public services and facilities in communities of <20,000 for Direct loans and <50,000 for Guaranteed loans.
- Eligible Applicants: Public Bodies, Non-Profits, Indian Tribes
- Eligible Purposes:
  - Construct, expand, renovate, or improve facilities
  - Purchase vehicles and major equipment
  - Refinance debt when <50% of total project costs
  - Associated project expenses



# Community Facilities Programs Overview

## CF Direct Grant

- Matching program
- Maximum amount up to 75% of eligible project costs
- Based upon population and Median Household Income
  - 75%, 55%, 35% and 15%
- Average grant is approximately \$30,000
- Each state receives an annual allocation and administers the program within their state.

# Community Facilities

## **Emergency Rural Health Care Grants Sec 1002, American Rescue Plan Act**

## **\$500 million for Emergency Grants for Rural Health Care:**

- (1) increase capacity for vaccine distribution;
- (2) provide drugs or medical supplies to increase medical surge capacity;
- (3) reimburse for coronavirus-related expenses and lost revenue to maintain capacity during the coronavirus pandemic;
- (4) increase telehealth capabilities, including underlying healthcare information systems;
- (5) construct temporary or permanent structures for vaccine administration or testing;
- (6) support staffing needs for vaccine administration or testing; and
- (7) engage in any other efforts determined to be critical to address the coronavirus pandemic, including nutritional assistance to vulnerable individuals, as approved by the Secretary.

*Statute allows for pre-award costs*

## **Eligibility** *(similar to existing CF programs):*

Public bodies, nonprofits, federally-recognized Tribes

Located in & primarily serve rural areas per Sec 343(a)(13)(C) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (20,000 population, exclusion of incarcerated population, limited exclusion of military base population)

MHI and population of project location impacts the applicable percentage grant that an applicant is eligible for (as determined under section 3570.63(b) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations)

## **Other Requirements** *(different from existing CF programs):*

- Construction work completed with grant funds shall meet the condition set forth in section 9003(f) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8103(f)) i.e. Davis Bacon wage requirements.
- Credit elsewhere requirements do not apply

## **Implementation Timeline:**

Emergency grant pilot program to be established 150 days after enactment, i.e. issue a NOFA no later than August 8, 2021

Anticipate providing applicants with at least a 60-day application window

Funds available till September 30, 2023

**Grant Funds:** RHS will issue a NOFA specifying eligibility, award uses, and application procedures for a minimum of \$475 million in grant funds. Most funds will be allocated to State Offices. National Office will maintain a reserve for projects awarded by National Office and to provide additional funds to states utilizing their full allocation.



# Community Facilities Programs Overview

## **CF Direct Loan Rates and Terms**

- Interest rates currently at 2.25% (Interest rates changed quarterly)
- 40-year term or useful life
- Adequate security to protect the interest of the Govt
- Repayment ability/feasibility
- Unable to obtain other commercial credit

# Community Facilities Programs Overview

## **Application Process/Timeline**

- Preapplication: Eligibility – Applicant, purpose, rural area, other credit
- Application: Feasibility, Environmental, Architectural Report
  - Financial Feasibility Report
  - Environmental – Consult on the applicable level of review early
  - Preliminary Architectural Report – Cost Estimates, etc.
  - Security Package: Appraisal
- BEST PRACTICES:
  - Planning – start early – develop a project team, strategic plan/timeline, etc.
  - Consult with your Rural Development State Office at concept/as early on as possible. Staff are very willing to guide and assist you through the entire process and structuring the request.

# Community Facilities Program FY 21 Appropriations

- Community Facilities Direct Loans:  
\$2 Billion
- Community Facility Guaranteed Loans:  
\$400 Million (\$175 Million can fund  
projects exceeding 20,000 population NTE 50,000)
- Community Facility Regular Grants:  
\$30 Million
- RCDI: \$6.5 Million
- Tribal College Grants: \$5 Million
- TAT Grants: \$1.5 Million
- Strategic Economic Community  
Development (SECD) 10% set aside
- Persistent Poverty areas 10% set  
aside

# Community Facilities Program Portfolio

CF Loan Portfolio Utilization as of 2/1/2021

SECTOR	UNPAID PRINCIPAL BALANCE (millions)	Percentage of Portfolio	# OF LOANS	Percentage of Loans
Health Care	\$5,755,082,627	47%	2,359	15%
Cultural & Educational	\$3,611,343,479	30%	2,598	17%
Public Bldgs & Improvements	\$1,225,035,701	10%	2,997	19%
Fire, Rescue & Public Safety	\$1,014,648,656	8%	5,916	38%
Other	\$540,094,917	4%	1,571	10%
TOTAL	\$12,146,205,380	100%	15,441	100%

# Community Facilities Programs Support Transportation Infrastructure

America's rural communities are an important link in the nation's transportation network. Coast-to-coast, border-to-border, city-to-city, and farm-to-market, rural transportation systems connect our country.

USDA Rural Development's flexible Community Facilities Programs can help bring needed resources and innovation to create a framework for rebuilding transportation infrastructure in rural America. This resource provides information on how the Community Facilities Program can support rural transportation infrastructure.

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



Community Facilities Programs  
Rural Transportation  
Infrastructure: Information  
and Guidance

Together, America Prospers

# Community Facilities Direct Loan Program Guidance Book for Applicants

Community Facilities Direct Loan Program Guidance Book for Applicants is a step-by-step guide to help applicants apply for a Community Facilities Direct loan.

This guidebook outlines the application process, financial feasibility requirements, construction and closing of an essential community facility for small towns and rural areas.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/all-programs/community-facilities-programs> (scroll down a little)



Community Facilities  
Direct Loan Program  
Guidance Book  
for Applicants

Together, America Prospers



# Water Environmental Programs

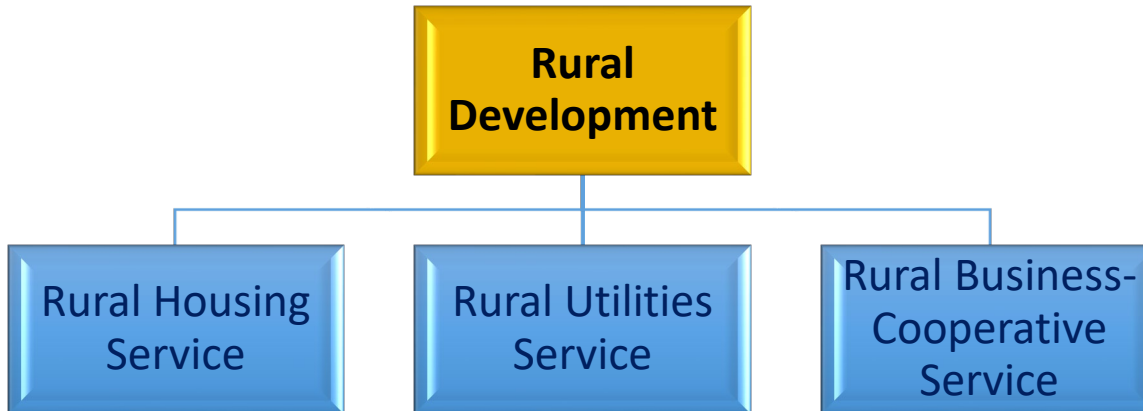
EPA/USDA Joint Webinar – July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Lorrie Davis, Community Program Specialist

National Office – USDA Rural Utilities Service

# Rural Development's Mission

*To assist rural communities in creating prosperity so they are self-sustaining and economically thriving through investments that create ladders of opportunity, build regional resilience, and support the growth of emerging markets. Rural Development's credit portfolio is approximately \$235 billion.*





# Water and Environmental Programs (WEP) Overview

## Water and Waste Disposal Programs

- WEP finances water, sewer and solid waste utilities to provide affordable services to rural communities with populations of 10,000 or less.
- WEP can finance the acquisition, construction or improvement of:
  - Drinking water sourcing, treatment, storage and distribution
  - Sewer collection, transmission, treatment and disposal
  - Solid waste collection, disposal and closure
  - Storm water collection, conveyance and disposal
- The Engineering & Environmental Staff (EES) Division provides engineering and environmental support to RD programs, including RUS WEP, Telecom, and Electric.

### WEP Recipient Type



Public Bodies  
**Represent 80%  
of borrowers**



Non-Profit  
Organizations  
**Represent  
18% of borrowers**



Native American  
Tribes and  
Organizations  
**Represent 2% of  
borrowers**

# WEP Funding to Support Lead Reduction Projects & Training

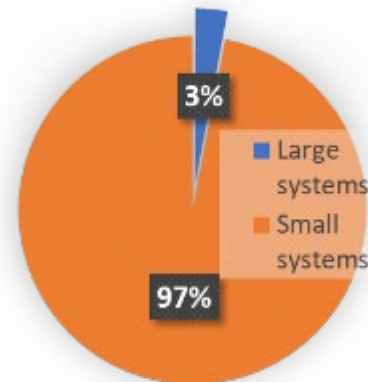
- Direct/Regular Loan and Grant Program
- Guaranteed Loan Program
- Native American/Colonias
- Rural and Native Alaskan Villages
- Technical Assistance and Training Programs
- Decentralized Water Systems (individual homes)
- Revolving Loan Funds
- Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants (ECWAG)
- Economic Development (Persistent Poverty, SECD)
- Planning Grants:
  - (SEARCH)
  - (PPG)



# WEP Partnership Opportunities to Support Lead Reduction

To support the MOU on Reducing Lead Levels in Schools and Childcare Facilities:

- WEP loans and grants may be used to remediate systems' drinking water contamination concerns in impacted rural communities, particularly through treatment system upgrades.



# Additional USDA Programs

- WEP also has an extensive network of technical assistance and training providers to support sustainability, resilience and responsible management of rural water and waste systems. Two primary national organizations lead these efforts:
  - ✓ National Rural Water Association (NRWA); and
  - ✓ Rural Community Assistance Partnership (RCAP).
- The Circuit Rider Contract provides technical assistance to rural water systems that are experiencing day-to-day operational, financial or managerial issues.

Thanks to EPA for the opportunity to make a difference. We are proud to be a partner!

*The USDA RD Team*

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# The Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST)



A close-up photograph of water flowing from a chrome faucet, creating a clear, arched stream. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue and green. The entire image is framed by a dark blue border.

# leadfree.pa.gov

**Pennsylvania's Case Study on  
Providing Voluntary Lead in  
Drinking Water Testing to  
Childcare Facilities and Schools  
using EPA WIIN Grant Funding**

Presented By:

**Brent Sailhamer**



and



**Joe Luchette, GISP & Scott Renneisen, PG**



# The Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST)

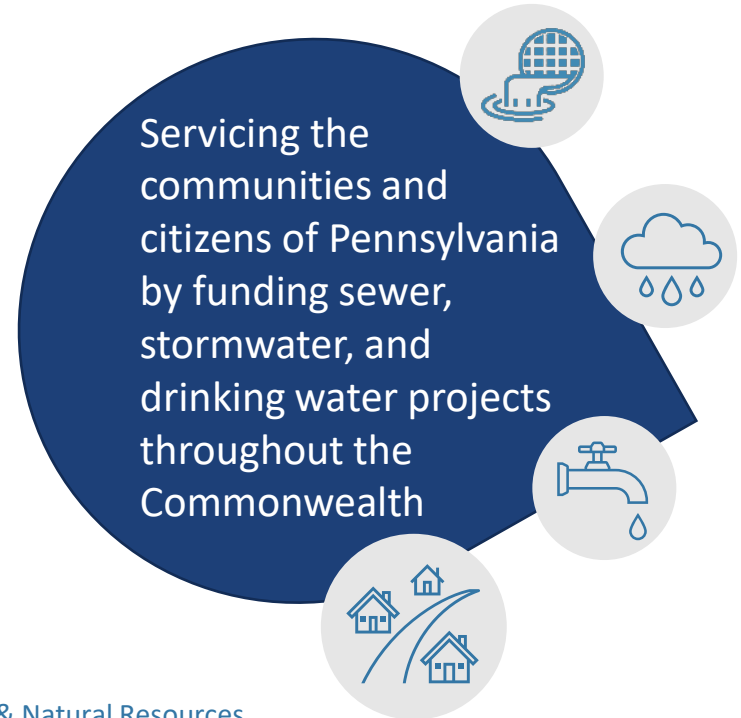
## Background:

- Created in 1988
- Quarterly meetings
- PENNVEST+DEP+DCED review
- Nearly \$10 billion in clean water financing awarded
- More than \$20 million awarded for lead line replacement in 2021

## Partners:

PA Dept. of Community and Economic Development  
Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources  
Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency



# Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN)

- The 2016 WIIN Act revised drinking water infrastructure policy in the U.S. and bolstered existing funding like the annual Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)
- A critical component for aging communities is Section 2107, providing funding for lead testing in drinking water
- In 2019, a multi-agency team in Pennsylvania received \$1.74 million through the WIIN Act for comprehensive lead testing
- 4% admin fee waived
- The Workplan is a result of a collaborative efforts between:
  - Department of Human Services (DHS)
  - Department of Health (DOH)
  - Department of Education (PDE)
  - Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
  - Office of Childhood Development and Early Learning (OCDEL)
  - PENNVEST



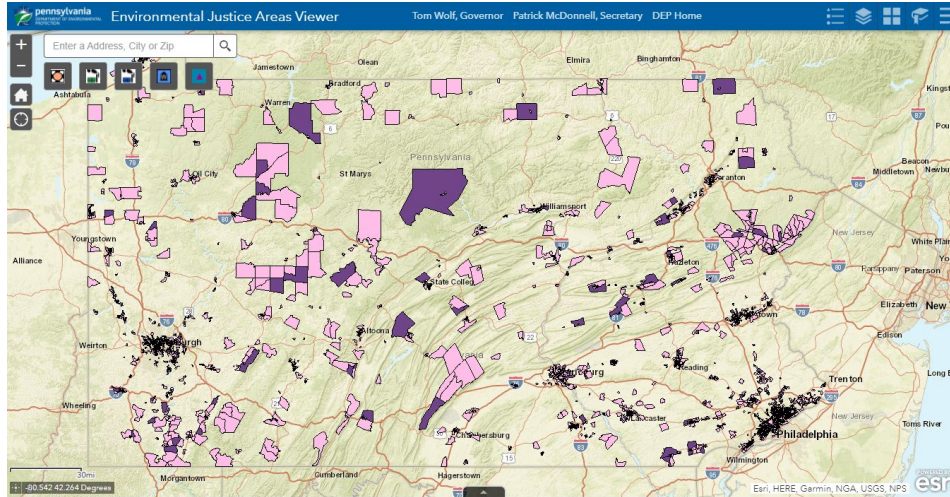
# WIIN-funded Voluntary Lead in School and Child Care Testing Program

While Pennsylvania was already working to map the extent of lead exposure on children through Act 39 of 2018 (mandating schools either test for lead in drinking water or discuss potential lead exposure), the full extent is unknown

- Lead administrator PENNVEST issues and maintains a competitive bidding process for public-private partnerships to address lead testing goals
- Terraphase was selected to interface with and achieve self-testing



# WIIN-funded Voluntary Lead in School and Child Care Testing Program



- Focused on at-risk and low-income populations:
  - 1,522 elementary schools (70%) are in low-income areas
  - 3,326 child care facilities (47%) are in environmental justice (EJ) areas
- Testing goals: structured to impact 66% of low-income elementary schools and 60% of EJ child care facilities
- Total testing: 3,300 facilities\*
- Overall program budget goal for 26,400 draws/tests but also includes all outreach/communications/training/reporting

# WIIN-funded Voluntary Lead in School and Child Care Testing Program

## Key processes include:

1. Outreach to schools and child care facilities
2. Creation of a portal to enroll (<http://leadfree.pa.gov>)
3. Providing training on 3Ts
4. Administering self-testing kits
5. Coordinating with laboratories
6. Communicating results and strategy back to Facilities
7. Reporting to PENNVEST and EPA



# Terraphase Brings Hands-on 3T Expertise to PENNVEST

Since 2017 - Hundreds of schools/thousands of samples collected by our dozens of staff



*join the movement*

*#doit4AMthekids*

**KIPP:**

# Terraphase's Holistic Approach

“its more than just  
putting water in  
bottles”



# Emphasis on Outreach



## State Subcommittee on Outreach

- Information dissemination started from the State departments and Gov Office
- Follow-ups come from Terraphase

## Ongoing Notifications Through Trusted Groups

- Child care & school board associations
- Grass-roots organizations





# Effective Training Platform

## Web-Based Video Training with Multiple Choice Section Quizzes

- 20-30 minutes (efficient process - these are very busy and stressed businesses/schools)
- Includes downloads for templates/checklists/supporting docs
- Bilingual

Course curriculum		
1	Unit 1: Introduction	▼
2	Unit 2: Sampling Protocols	▼
3	Unit 3: Sampling Plan and Outlet Selection	▼
4	Unit 4: Communication	▼
5	Unit 5: Corrective Action Plans	▼

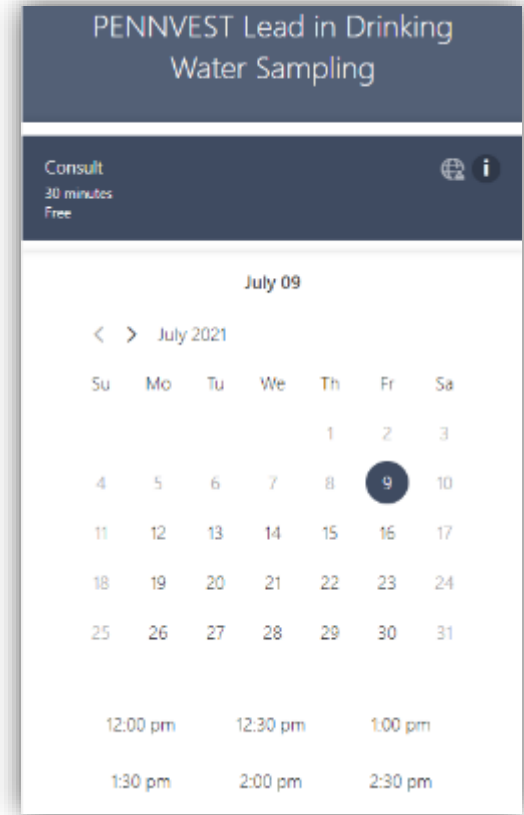
*“Anyone with access to those videos can confidently complete this program”*

*--Childcare Center in North Philadelphia*

# Consultation Sessions

## 30 Minute Phone/Teams Calls Booked Online

- Post training and sample plan draft
- Staffed by 5-10 trained specialists; 8-5 p.m.
- Sample plan review, digitized outlet list
- Bottle orders placed with lab



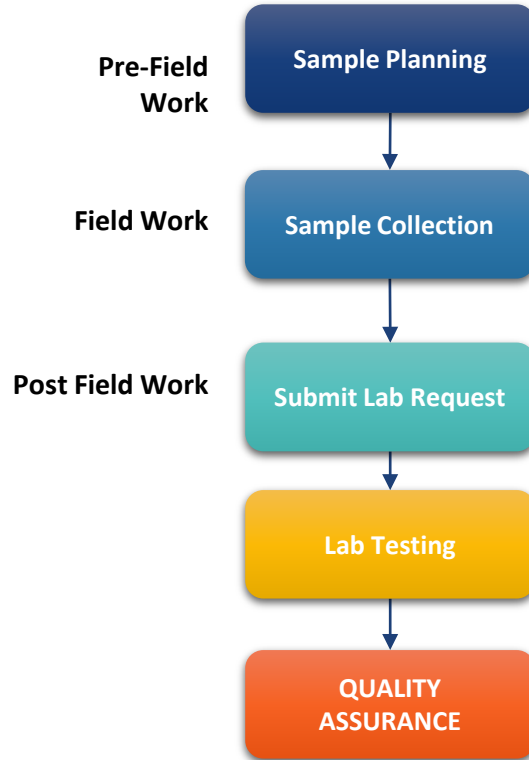
# Data Management Lifecycle

## Key Documentation is Stored in the Data System

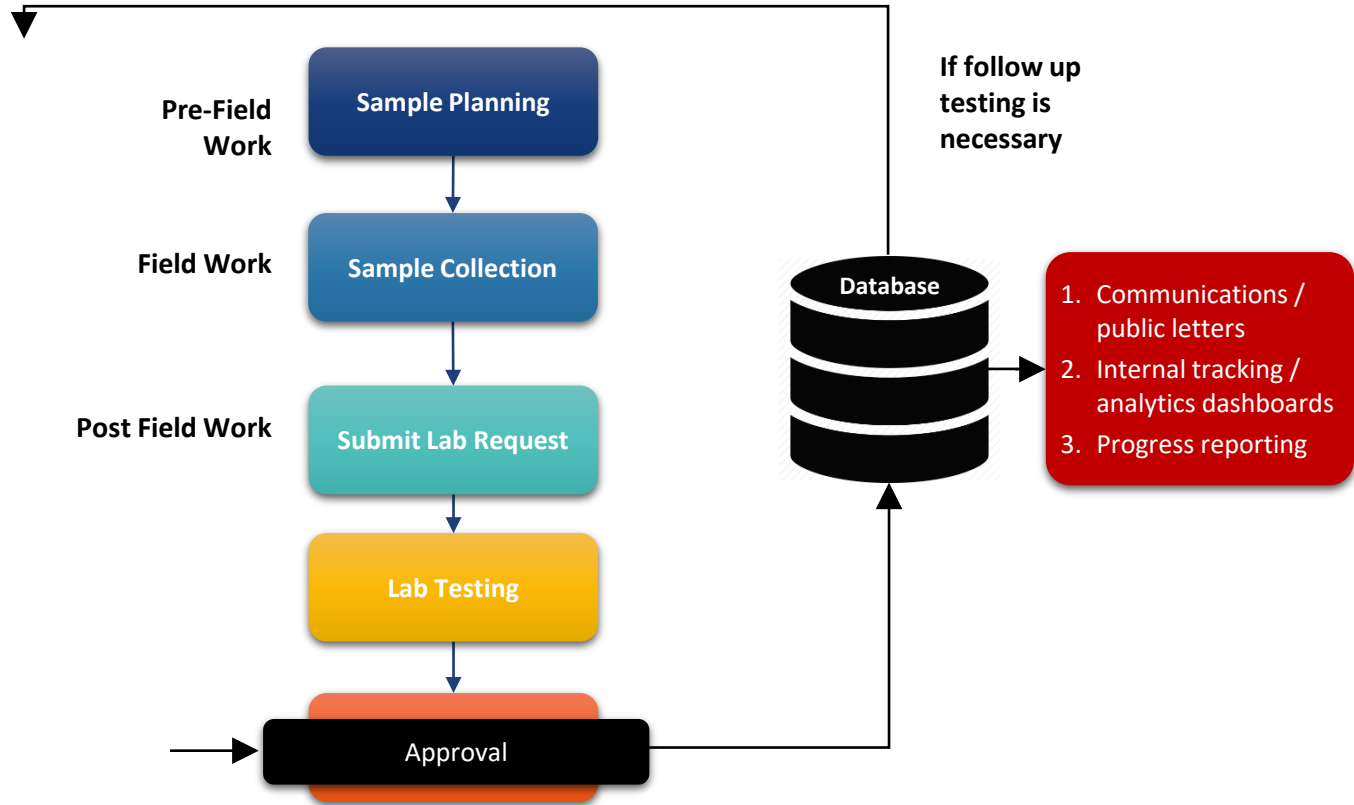


Outlet list and map  
reviewed prior to live  
virtual consultation

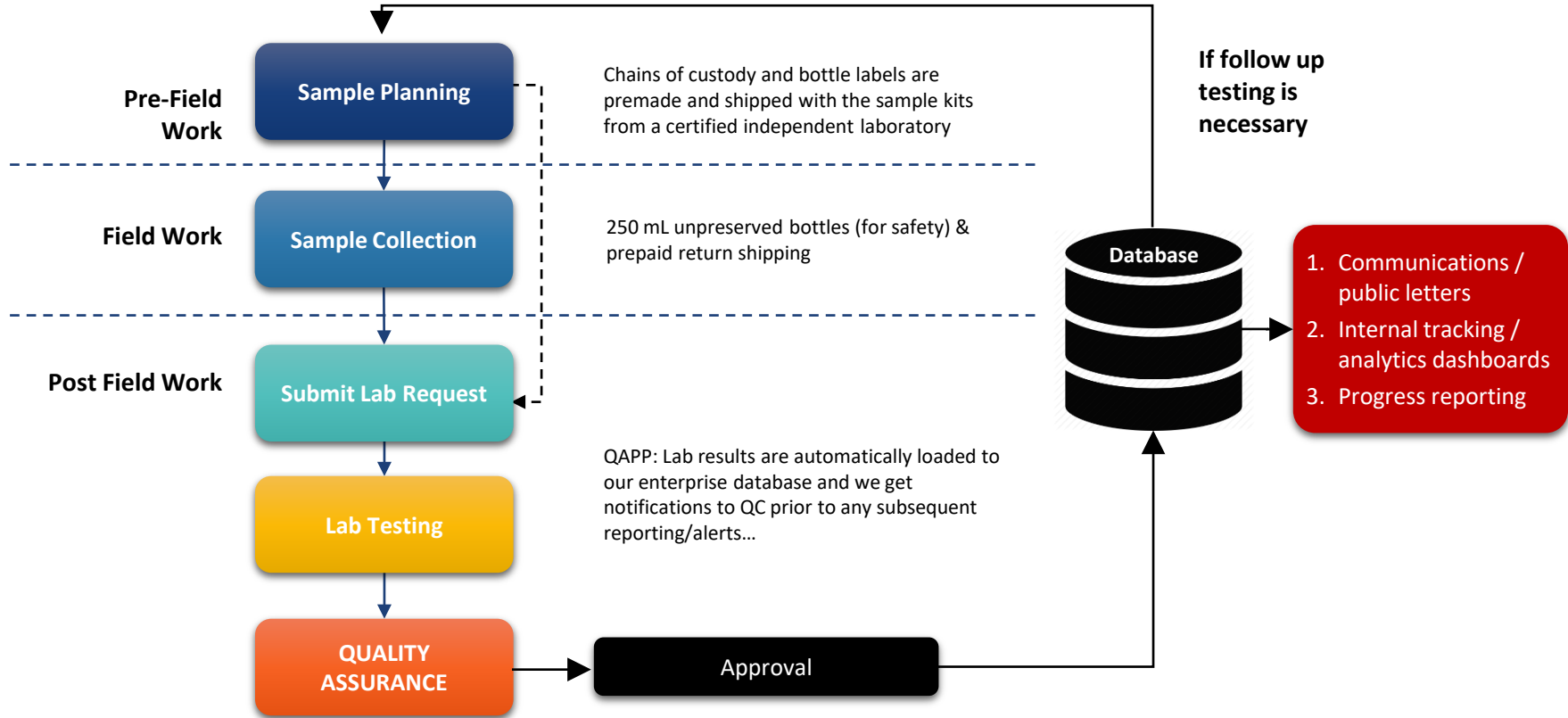
# Data Management Lifecycle



# Data Management Lifecycle



# Data Management Lifecycle



# Communications and Reporting

## Data Summaries and Narratives

- Lab reports are QC'ed and delivered to facility inboxes with simple instructions and follow-up consult information - not an overly complicated process

## Live Data Dashboard and Project Analytics

- Used to report to PENNVEST and EPA Administrator

Dear Jane Doe from Example Child Care Facility:

The lab results from your lead in drinking water sampling event have arrived. There were 6 samples collected at your facility. 1 sample was shown to have a lead in water at **concentrations above the action limit of 15 ppb**.

Proceed with your communication plan and then Schedule a follow-up consultation to discuss results and next steps with an expert.

Sample Results

Sample Date	SampleID	Outlet Description	Lead Result (ppb)	Action Limit (15 ppb)
06-23-2021	678	Water Fountain ; Pre-School Hallway; Floor 1	< 1	Below
06-23-2021	679	Water Fountain ; In Hallway, Across from RM 17; Floor 1	< 1	Below
06-23-2021	680	Classroom Faucet; Pre-School RM; Floor 1	< 1	Below
06-23-2021	681	Kitchen Faucet; Floor 1	24.4	<b>Above</b>
06-23-2021	682	Water Fountain ; Hallway, Floor 2	< 1	Below
06-23-2021	683	Kitchen Faucet; Kitchen; Floor 2	3.7	Below

Notes:  
 < - not detected above detection limit  
 ppb - parts per billion

The laboratory analytical report is attached for your reference. All available resources (templates, guidance documents and signage) can be downloaded [here](#).

**PENNVEST**  
PENNSYLVANIA INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AUTHORITY

**Program Enrollment Dashboard**

345 enrollment

779 Samples | 131 Sample Events | 553 Lab Results

Participating Facilities

ID	EntityID	Entity Type	Prio	Ver	Created
401	00174460	ECC Provider	False	False	7/12/2021 7:44:00 AM
400	10355373...	ECF Provider	False	False	7/17/2021 7:07:00 AM
399	05CH0109...	Head Start/Early ...	True	False	7/17/2021 6:46:00 AM
398	05CH0109...	Head Start/Early ...	True	False	7/12/2021 6:46:00 AM
297	02762_120	ECL Provider	False	False	1/9/2021 1:00:00 PM
395	00195254	ECL Provider	False	False	7/9/2021 12:32:00 PM

# PENNVEST Lead Program Snapshot

## Data (as of July 12, 2021)

- Children 6 and under
- 345 Enrolled facilities; 22% Elementary; 52% Child Care; 25% Head Start
- 780 samples planned; Avg 10 per school & 5 per Child Care; 5% Head Start
- 553 lab results 219 lead detections (40%)
- 22 lead action level exceedances (4%)

## Remediation

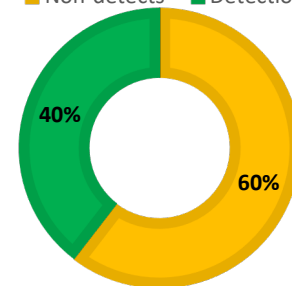
- Low-cost and no-cost options are presented and discussed

## Challenges

- Ongoing Outreach
- Funding (or lack thereof) for Remediation
- Sampling: 8- to 18-hour window (not deemed a major challenge)
- Action Level Discussions\Repercussions

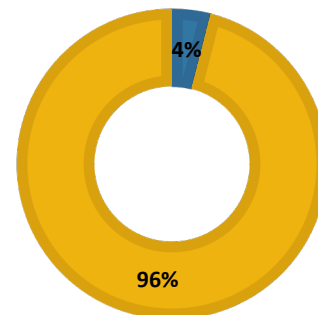
## OUTLET DETECTION RATE

■ Non-detects ■ Detections



## OUTLET FAILURE RATE

■ Exceedances ■ < 15ppb action level





# Never Stop Improving

- Beta tested everything: the website, training and reporting systems
- Microsoft forms/questionnaires sent to all facilities completing the program

*"[Your staff] was amazing to work with! They were so patient, knowledgeable and friendly!"*



*"I highly recommend this FREE program for all schools and childcare providers. The results gave our organization a sense of ease knowing there is minimum lead contamination in our water."*

*"Extremely easy and very informative."*

# Thank You

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Specialist

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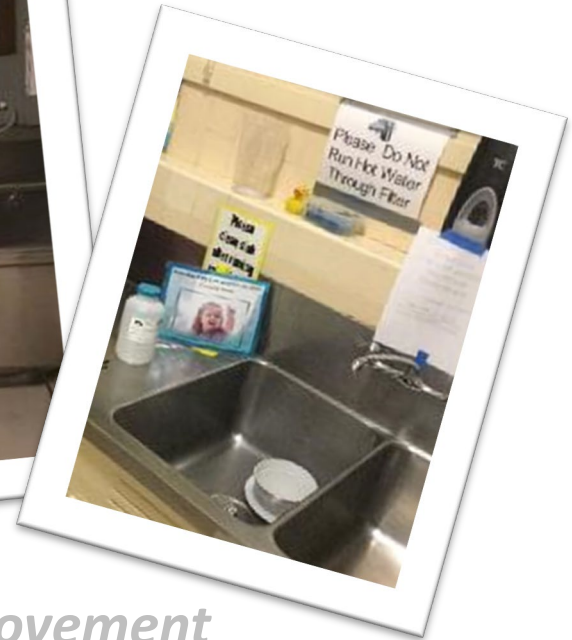
## **Terraphase**

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Principal Hydrogeologist

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215.297.3502 ext. 44



*join the movement*  
*#doit4AMthekids*

The background of the image is a vibrant blue gradient, transitioning from a lighter blue at the top to a deeper blue at the bottom. The top portion of the image is dominated by a thick, dark blue layer of water, from which numerous bubbles of various sizes are rising. These bubbles are rendered with realistic highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. The overall effect is one of freshness and movement.

**Q&A SESSION WITH  
THE PANELISTS**