



**Homes and
Community Renewal**

CDBG Housing Program and Infrastructure in Support of Existing Housing

**NYS Rural Housing Coalition
Annual Conference
September 24, 2024
Fort William Henry Hotel and Conference Center
Lake George, NY**

Good afternoon, everyone.

Let me begin by thanking the Rural Housing Coalition for the opportunity to talk with you about the NYS CDBG funding for housing activities.

For today's session, I will be talking about the role of CDBG in this and priorities that will be given to the potential 2025 funding round.

NYS Homes & Community Renewal

- Division of Housing & Community Renewal (DHCR)
- Housing Trust Fund Corporation (HTFC)
- Housing Finance Agency (HFA)
- State of New York Mortgage Agency (SONYMA)
- Affordable Housing Corporation (AHC)

Development Offices:

- **Office of Community Renewal (OCR)**

“Local” grant programs – awarded through municipalities & not-for-profits

NYS Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Program, New York Main Street (NYMS), the Neighborhood and Rural Preservation programs, Access to Home, MMHR, RESTORE

- **Office of Finance and Development (F&D)**

Multi-family development – direct award and oversight

HOME Capital, Federal and State Low Income Housing Tax Credits, tax exempt bonds, and state sources include HTF and CIF.



The agency has two general development areas:

The Office of Community Renewal & the Office of Finance and Development. The latter is primarily responsible for direct award and oversight of multi-family rental properties.

As an office within the NYS Homes & Community Renewal, the Office of Community Renewal (OCR) administers a variety of state and federal resources to empower local governments and not-for-profit organizations to build on the unique and historic character of New York's communities through housing, infrastructure, and job creation activities.

Grants and Local Program Administration



OCR's grant programs operate using what NYS Homes & Community Renewal refers to as a Local Program Administrator (*or LPA*) approach.

- HCR provides grants to municipalities and not-for-profits who become the Local Administrators and are then responsible for administering the grant locally.
- They then grant or loan the funds to individual property owners or businesses.
- The LPAs make local funding decisions and are responsible for compliance with program rules.
- This structure is different than other parts of the agency where the agency is interacting directly with the

end user. However, it allows the state to reach a high volume of users for its grant resources.

OCR Programs



- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- HOME - Local Programs



- Access to Home Programs
- Affordable Housing Corporation (AHC)
- Healthy Homes Program
- Mobile and Manufactured Home Replacement (MMHR) Program
- New York Main Street Program
- RESTORE Program
- Targeted Home Improvement Program



OCR administers a portfolio of federally-funded and state-funded programs.

In addition to the NYS CDBG Program, which is the focus of this presentation, OCR administers the federally funded HOME program and a portfolio of smaller, specialized state-funded grant programs.

CDBG Program Summary

CDBG Program Summary

Overview

Develop viable communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment principally for persons of low-and-moderate income.

NYS must ensure that at least 70% of its CDBG grant funds are used for activities that benefit persons of low-and-moderate income (at or below 80% of median) and meet one of the following National Objectives:

- Benefit low-and-moderate income persons or families; or
- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight; or
- Meet an urgent community development need



The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is a flexible program that provides communities with resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs.

Beginning in 1974, the CDBG program is one of the longest continuously run programs at HUD.

NYS receives CDBG funding with the intent of ensuring that communities throughout the state are viable by providing decent housing and suitable living environments for low- and moderate-income persons, and that at least 70% of NYS CDBG funds are used for activities benefiting low- and moderate-income persons (meaning that they are at or below 80% of the area's median income) and meets one of the following national objectives:

Benefits low- and moderate-income persons, aids in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight or meets an urgent community development need.

CDBG Program Summary

Overview

Housing Activities

- User defined area of need
- 25-month contract term
- Eligible Applicants: Units of Local Government with populations of less than 50,000 and counties with populations of less than 200,000
 - Refer to the [list of eligible communities](#) on the website, select Program Guidelines
 - Refer to the [LMI data tool](#) on the website
- A maximum of 18% can be requested for soft costs, maximum of 5% for grant administration.



Community Development Block Grant, or CDBG, housing applications are competitively reviewed in response to a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) and/or Request for Proposals (RFP) issued by the Office of Community Renewal. The contract term is 25 months, which must be taken into consideration when developing the local program. Try to be realistic about what can truly be accomplished in the little over two-year time frame permitted.

Incorporated Counties, Towns, Villages and Cities are eligible to apply, which includes:

- Units of Local Government with populations of less than 50,000 people
- Counties with populations of less than 200,000 people

Please refer to the link included on this slide for a list of eligible communities. Not-for-profits and individuals cannot apply directly for NYS CDBG assistance.

A maximum of 18% of the total awarded funding provided to the municipality may be used for program administration and program delivery, as well as engineering and architecture if applicable to the project. This is an allowance, and the administration and program delivery costs identified in the application must be reasonable.

In addition to the mentioned 18% cap on soft costs, requests for Program Administration funds may not exceed 5% of the total CDBG funds requested. An error message on the budget form will appear if the total request for program administration exceeds 5%. The budget section cannot be saved until this is corrected.

A cost is reasonable, in its nature and amount, when it:

- Does not exceed what would be incurred by a prudent person under the circumstances prevailing at the time

- Is consistent with sound business practices
- Is consistent with market prices for similar goods and services

The application must ensure that the maximum amount of CDBG funds is ultimately made available for program activities.

Please note that the Grant Administration Manual is available on the OCR website.

Eligible Infrastructure in Support of Existing Housing Activities

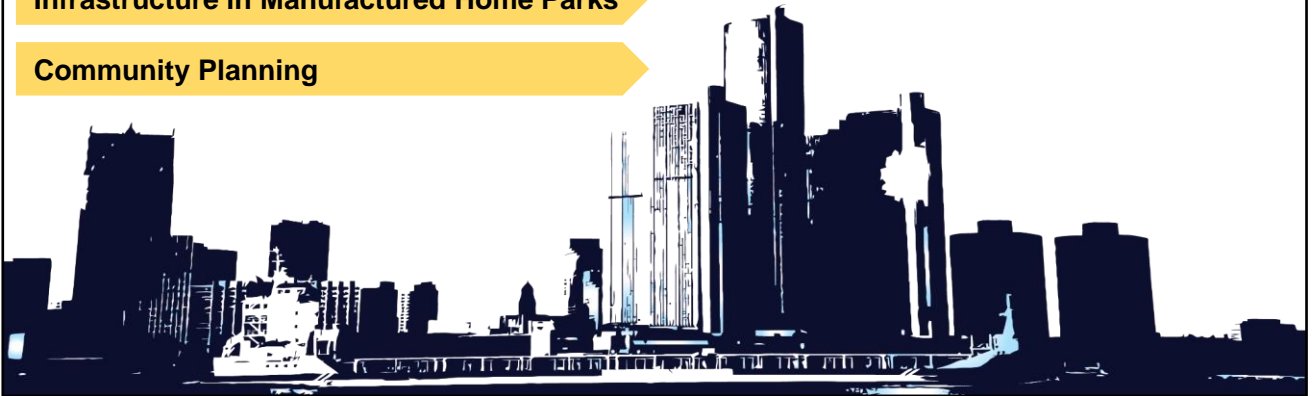
Eligible Infrastructure in Support of Existing Housing Activities

Wells and Septic Replacement

Water and Sewer Lateral Connections

Infrastructure in Manufactured Home Parks

Community Planning



Community Development activities help build stronger and more resilient communities.

To support Community Development, the NYS CDBG program funds a wide range of activities to benefit low- and moderate-income households and communities.

Eligible activities are identified through an ongoing process, and the current eligible activities may address needs such as:

- Private Water/Wastewater Systems, such as wells,

septic systems, laterals

- Updating infrastructure, such as laterals and septic systems, in a manufactured home park.

Federal support encourages systematic and sustained action by eligible State and local governments.

NYS CDBG funds are an important tool for helping local governments tackle serious needs and challenges throughout their community.

Next, the presentation will dig into some of these activity types and connect project needs to the grant programs that may be available to support those projects.

**Talking about sewer and
septic systems stinks,
but.....**



A survey conducted by the University at Urbana-Champaign found that 25% of participants with septic systems considered themselves very knowledgeable about system maintenance, and 42% considered themselves somewhat knowledgeable. Despite this, many participants lacked accurate information about maintenance responsibilities, such as the recommended frequency for septic system pumping. The US EPA suggests pumping every 3-5 years to ensure the system functions properly.

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Septic System Facts

Septic Systems



5-10% of phosphorous in lakes comes from failing septic systems



22% of NYS residents rely on onsite wastewater septic systems



Failing systems can leach pollutants directly into groundwater



A majority of system owners lack awareness of best practices to maintain their systems

5-10% of phosphorous reaching lakes comes from failing septic systems. This phosphorous can lead to harmful algae blooms, decrease oxygen levels and negatively impact aquatic life.

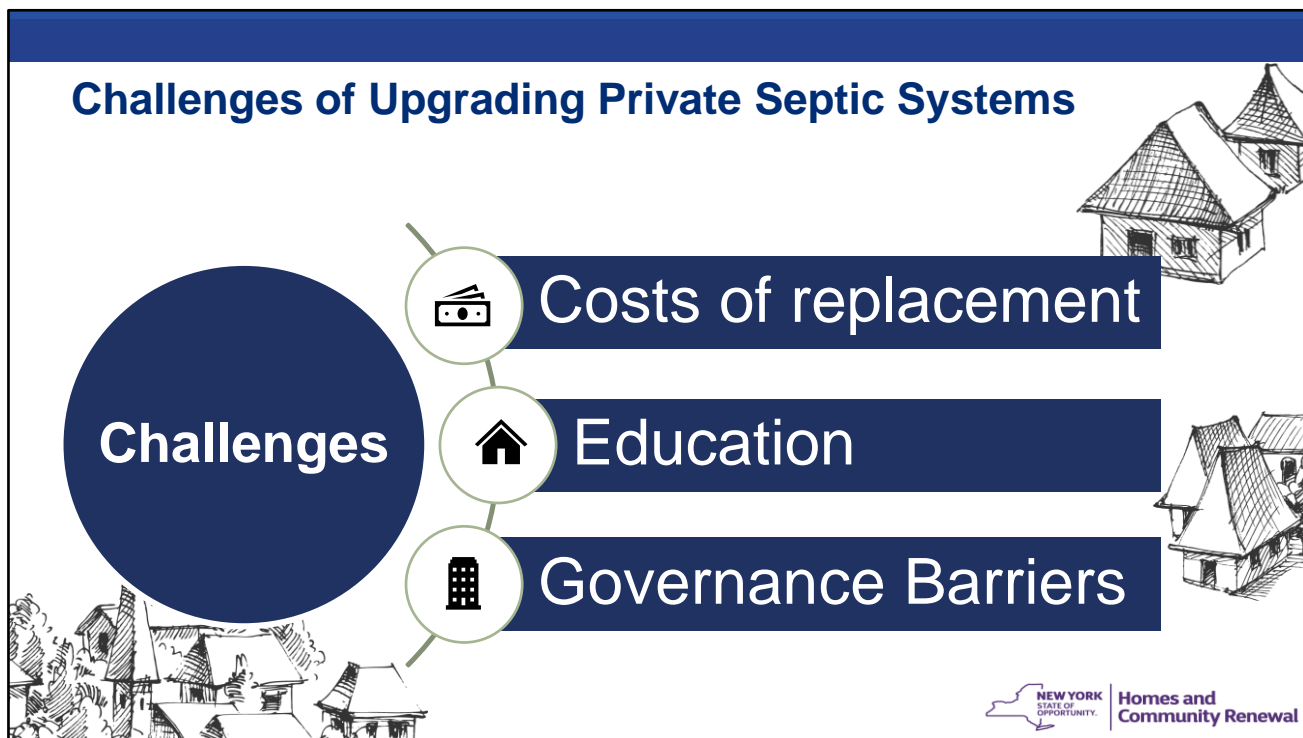
About 22 percent of New York State residents rely on onsite wastewater treatment, such as septic systems, to treat and dispose of household wastewater. Onsite systems are a critical component of wastewater infrastructure and treatment in New York State and nationally, representing a safe and effective alternative to centralized wastewater treatment infrastructure when connection is cost-prohibitive or geographically infeasible.

Septic systems can effectively treat wastewater by filtering and neutralizing common pollutants like phosphorus, nitrogen, and bacteria when they are functioning properly. However, watersheds are increasingly impacted by excess nutrients linked to failing or poorly maintained septic systems.

When septic systems fail, they can discharge directly into waterbodies or leach pollutants into stormwater or groundwater flows. This can be caused by activities like flushing non-degradable items, pouring fats or grease down the drain, or deferring regular pumping and maintenance. Eventually, as with all types of infrastructure, systems will reach the end of their useful life and require replacement. Existing surveys of homeowner septic system practices

suggest that a majority of system owners lack awareness of best practices to maintain their systems.

Ensuring the proper functioning of private septic systems is critical for safeguarding public health, protecting the environment, and furthering community resilience. However, achieving this goal requires more than the actions of individual property owners; it requires addressing financial, educational, and governance barriers that persist in onsite wastewater management.



The costs associated with septic system maintenance and replacement can be a barrier for many homeowners. Septic tank replacement in particular can require a significant financial investment, including expenses for system design, installation, and permitting.

Lack of awareness and understanding about the importance of proper septic system maintenance and the risks associated with aging or failing systems can contribute to reluctance among homeowners to undertake improvements. Some homeowners may underestimate the environmental and public health impacts of malfunctioning septic systems, leading to deferred maintenance or neglect of necessary upgrades.

As important as these programs may be to improve the overall environment and quality of life in our communities, municipalities frequently encounter the following challenges when undertaking a well and septic program:

*Lack of Data. Without comprehensive data on the locations and conditions of septic systems, authorities struggle to monitor and manage them effectively, making it difficult to detect malfunctioning systems or risks to water quality.

*Inspection and Maintenance Gaps. The absence of regular inspection and maintenance programs that ensure systems are operating correctly and

meeting environmental standards can result in unnoticed and unresolved issues, leading to environmental and health risks.

*Cost Barriers. Compliance with regulations can be costly for homeowners, including fees for inspections and system upgrades or replacements. These costs can deter proper maintenance, particularly if there is a lack of financial assistance or incentives to offset these costs.

*Resource Constraints. Local regulatory bodies responsible for overseeing septic systems may face limitations in staffing, funding, and technical expertise. Limited capacity can hinder their ability to enforce regulations, conduct inspections, provide guidance to homeowners, and respond promptly to complaints or environmental concerns.

If you are considering submitting an application to the OCR for this type of CDBG program, we recommend scheduling a technical assistance call to address these and other potential difficulties before the 2025 funding round.

Drinking and Wastewater Activities

Drinking and Wastewater Lateral Connections

Let's Get
the Lead
Out



NEW YORK
STATE OF
OPPORTUNITY
Homes and
Community Renewal

The CDBG program offers as a standalone lateral replacement program through the housing program. Assistance for the installation of lateral connections to low- and moderate-income households from the public water/sewer mains can be undertaken.

This activity covers full replacement from the curb stop to the house and any internal plumbing modifications that might be required.

The EPA and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) encourage and support communities to prioritize infrastructure improvement

projects, including those that remove lead service lines and reduce lead exposure.

It is estimated that there are between 6-20 million lead service lines in the Country.

CDBG funds, as stated, can be used to replace lines from the curb stop to the house for LMI households.

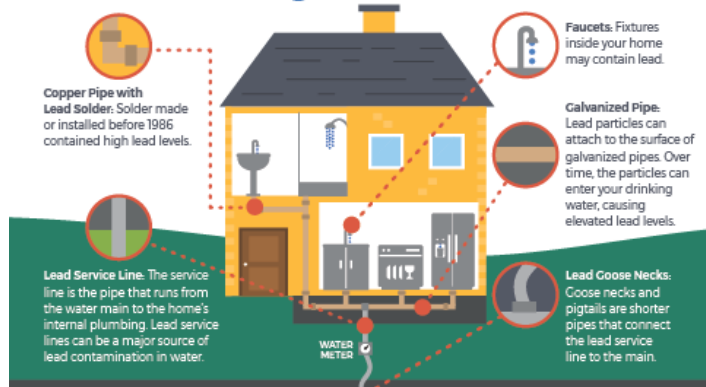
This can also include any engineering and design that may be required.

Applications for funding of lateral connections can be stand-alone projects or can be part of a larger public infrastructure project, such as a Lead Service



CONCERNED ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER?

Sources of LEAD in Drinking Water



There is no level of lead that is considered safe. Lead can enter drinking water from a variety of plumbing materials. The most common sources of lead in drinking water are lead pipes and brass or bronze faucets and fixtures. A service line is the pipe that connects the water main to the plumbing in a home or building. When any part of that pipe is made of lead, it is called a lead service line (LSL).

Lead service lines were installed primarily during the late 1800s through the 1940s. Knowing the locations of lead service lines is challenging for many communities due to poor recordkeeping and long histories of repairs.

Given the public health risks, there is a need to identify lead service lines on both public and private property so that they can be removed.

MAIN WATER LINE

Reduce Your Exposure To Lead

- Use only cold water for drinking, cooking and making baby formula. *Boiling water does not remove lead from water.*
- Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator).
- Consider using a water filter certified to remove lead and know when it's time to replace the filter.
- Before drinking, flush your pipes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes.

To find out for certain if you have lead in drinking water, **have your water tested.**

Replace Your Lead Service Line

- Water systems are required to replace lead service lines if a water system cannot meet EPA's Lead Action Level through optimized corrosion control treatment.
- Replacement of the lead service line is often the responsibility of both the utility and homeowner.
- Homeowners can contact their water system to learn about how to remove the lead service line.

Identify Other Lead Sources In Your Home

Lead in homes can also come from sources other than water. If you live in a home built before 1978, you may want to have your paint tested for lead. Consider contacting your doctor to have your children tested if you are concerned about lead exposure.

For more information, visit: epa.gov/safewater

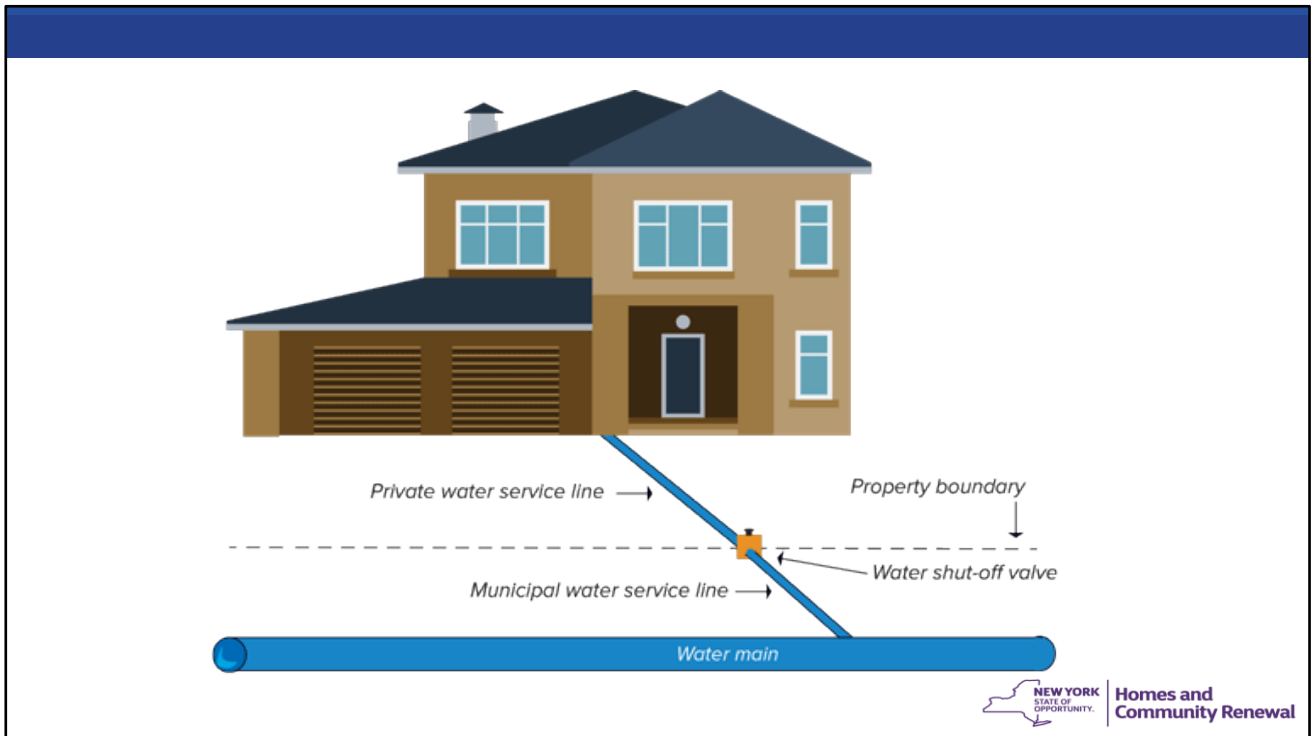
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Lead Service Line Identification and Replacement Research

EPA, its federal partners at the Departments of Health and Human Services (or HHS), Housing and Urban Development (or HUD), and private organizations have conducted and used lead research and applied science for a variety of science activities and technical products. This research eventually led to a new type of program called the Lead Service Line Replacement Accelerators.

Lead Service Line Replacement Accelerators

Through the Lead Service Line Replacement (or LSLR) Accelerators, the EPA is providing hands-on support to guide 40 communities across Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin through the process of lead service line removals from start to finish. This includes support in conducting inventories to identify lead pipes, developing lead service line replacement plans, increasing community outreach and education efforts, and supporting applications for [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding](#). As a result, more communities will be able to access their fair share of federal funds to secure a lead-free future.



New York’s Clean Water Infrastructure Act of 2017 (Act) amended Public Health Law to require the New York State Department of Health to implement a Lead Service Line Replacement Program (LSLRP). Municipalities do not need to apply to the program as eligibility has been pre-determined by the Department based on criteria contained in the Act.

Why was the LSLRP created?

Drinking water can be a source of lead exposure. Service pipes that contain lead can corrode, causing lead to enter drinking water. This occurs especially where the water has characteristics such as high acidity or low mineral content that corrode pipes and fixtures. Corrosion also occurs often in brass or chrome-plated brass faucets and fixtures with lead solder causing significant amounts of lead to leach into the water, especially hot water.

The presence of a lead service line does not always mean a home has a lead issue. However, lead in drinking water can be a problem:

- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that drinking water

contaminated with lead can contribute to 20 percent or more of a person's total exposure to lead.

- Infants who consume mostly mixed formula can receive 40 percent to 60 percent of their total exposure to lead from drinking water.

What will the LSLRP do?

LSLRP funds will be used to replace the entire length of residential lead service lines, from the municipal water main to the residence, in an effort to reduce the amount of lead in drinking water.

LSLRP-awarded municipalities will work with homeowners to confirm the presence of a lead service line and the need to have it replaced. Municipalities will coordinate the replacement of the lead service line and submit project related vouchers/invoices to the State for reimbursement.

For municipalities that are awarded the LSLRP funds, allowable costs include:

- Engineering fees (planning, design and construction)
- Legal fees
- Municipal administration fees
- Construction (materials, equipment, workforce), and
- Site/property restoration

Drinking and Wastewater Lateral Connections

- [Planning and Conducting Lead Service Line Replacement](#)
- [Lead Service Line Replacement Requirements](#)
- [Discouraging Partial Lead Service Line Replacement](#)
- [Strategies to Achieve Full Lead Service Line Replacement](#)



The EPA offers resources on lead service line replacement on their website.

Planning and Conducting Lead Service Line Replacement

The most common sources of lead in drinking water are lead pipes, faucets, and fixtures.

In homes with lead pipes that connect the home to the water main, also known as lead services lines, these pipes are typically the most significant source of lead in the water.

Replacing lead service lines reduces lead exposure by removing this source.

Lead Service Line Replacement Requirements

The Lead and Copper Rule established requirements for water systems to replace lead service lines under certain circumstances.

The [2021 and Copper Rule Revisions](#) strengthens these requirements and mandates that only full (not partial) LSLR counts towards requirements.

EPA is currently developing a new regulation, the [Lead and Copper Rule Improvements](#) that may include changes to requirements related to LSLR.

Discouraging Partial Lead Service Line Replacement

The EPA Science Advisory Board report, [Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Partial Lead Service Line Replacements](#), from September 2011, advises against partial lead service line replacement and notes that other pipe materials, including galvanized pipe, can also become compromised if only partially replaced.

Projects funded by the [Drinking Water State Revolving Fund \(DWSRF\)](#) Lead Service Line Replacement Funding must replace the entire LSL, not just a portion, unless a portion has already been replaced.

Strategies to Achieve Full Lead Service Line Replacement

In 2019, EPA compiled LSLR challenges and best practices.

These are being made available to assist states and utilities with the implementation of proactive LSLR programs.

The document includes discussions on funding sources, communication, LSLR considerations, and case studies.

Users can view the EPA's analysis, [Strategies to Achieve Full Lead Service Line Replacement \(pdf\)](#)

Infrastructure in Manufactured Home Parks



Manufactured housing has experienced significant growth since the onset of the pandemic, emerging as a viable solution for the ever-growing need for affordable housing.

While manufactured home communities seem to only occupy fringe portions of the residential sector, some 20 million people live in such a home, according to the 2013 U.S. Census.

Infrastructure in Manufactured Home Parks

Did you know?



Manufactured housing has experienced significant growth since the onset of the pandemic, emerging as a viable solution for the ever-growing need for affordable housing.

While manufactured home communities seem to only occupy fringe portions of the residential sector, some 20 million people live in such a home, according to the 2013 U.S. Census.

Infrastructure in Manufactured Home Parks

- Drinking water and sanitary sewer
- Storm water management
- Electrical and gas utility improvements
- High speed internet and Wi-Fi
- Road repairs and improvements



Residents of manufactured home parks have been identified as having a disproportionately higher risk of impact from floods, hurricanes, and other natural disasters. For example, manufactured home parks are more likely to be in flood zones compared to other types of housing, and mobile homes are more easily damaged or destroyed when exposed to intense windstorms relative to conventional housing, with about 45% of all tornado fatalities in the US from 1985 to 2010 occurring in mobile homes.

Park owners must maintain good working conditions for all underground systems. This may require upgrading old water/sewer systems like cast iron and clay tile to a PVC or PEX system.

Electrical systems are often neglected and insufficient for today's needs and can create safety hazards and power failures.

Parks may also lack a modern necessity: Wi-Fi and high-speed internet access.

When talking about community infrastructure within manufactured housing properties,

a pain point that comes to mind is roads, which tend to be the most neglected, mainly because of high maintenance costs.

Road improvement is one of the first aspects investors should tackle after purchasing a property, especially if the seller was a long-term, private owner—and most roads require substantial investments. There is a consensus among manufactured housing operators that roads are the costliest element of infrastructure.

Manufactured home communities offer a stable and affordable housing option for many families.

Infrastructure in Manufactured Home Parks

- Maintaining Water Pipes and Valves
- Rules for Sanitary Sewer
- Other Utilities



Water Pipes and Valves

A three-quarter-inch riser pipe must be installed on each site and have at least 20 pounds psi of water pressure at all times. Sites must be connected to a service box that has a shut-off valve and is installed below the frost line. Surface water must divert from the connection, and the riser pipe must have a watertight seal when it is not connected to a mobile home.

Park operators are responsible for maintaining the riser pipe and shut-off valve, unless the occupant has been made responsible for the riser pipe via a formal written agreement. The agreement must be available for review by the official that issued the permit.

Rules for a Mobile Park's Sewage System

The park must provide and maintain a system for the treatment and disposal of sewage. Facilities must be constructed, designed and maintained according to the Departments of Health or Environmental Conservation. Construction of new or modified sewage facilities cannot begin without approval unless the agency

with jurisdiction gives approval to the operator in writing.

The construction must be according to approved plans. Each site must have a minimum 4-inch sewage pipe below ground and a 4-inch riser pipe. It must also have a non-collapsible and semirigid connecting pipe from the home to the riser pipe that is a minimum 3-inch in diameter. These connections must be watertight.

The riser pipe must have a watertight seal when it is not connected to a mobile home. Inadequately treated sewage on the ground's surface is prohibited. Park operators are responsible for maintaining the sewage system and riser pipe, unless the occupant has been made responsible for the riser pipe through a formal written agreement, which must be available for review by the official issuing the permit.

Additional Utilities in Mobile Home Parks

Electrical systems, including a mobile home's service equipment and feeder assembly, and oil and gas systems must operate in accordance with state and local regulations.

Park operators are responsible for maintaining these systems unless the occupant has been made responsible in a formal written agreement, which must be available for review by the official issuing the permit.

Best Practices

CDBG Best Practices

Petoff Apartments, Fulton County

2023 Program Year

NYS CDBG Infrastructure in Support of \$748,343

Local Funds \$ 30,000

Total Project Cost \$778,343



Fulton County was awarded 778,343 in NYS CDBG funding to assist Petoff (Pet-off) Garden Apartments, an affordable senior multifamily apartment complex, install connections to the new public sewer system and make needed water system improvements at the property.

This project will replace the on-site septic system with a new public system and make improvements to the water system. Sixty-four low-income households will benefit.

CDBG Best Practices

Chautauqua County, Well and Septic Replacement

2019 Program Year	
NYS CDBG Grant	\$204,500
AHC	\$ 25,000
Total Project Cost	\$ 229,500

2021 Program Year	
NYS CDBG Grant	\$238,000
AHC	\$ 25,000
Total Project Cost	\$263,000



Through a comprehensive planning process, Chautauqua County determined that protecting and improving the County's waterways is a primary goal. The County has 43 income-eligible households on their waiting list residing with substandard clean water and wastewater systems.

With \$238,000 in NYS CDBG funds, the County will aid 20 low-to-moderate income households with the replacements of their failing wells or septic systems.

CDBG Best Practices

Steuben County Woodlands Community

2020 Program Year	
NYS CDBG Grant	\$998,796
Total Project Cost	\$998,796



The Woodlands Community, Inc., located in Hornellsville, NY, currently struggles with an outdated electrical system. The residents of the Woodlands Community have either reached or exceeded the limits of reliable, safe and effective use. Continued corrosion has left the electrical distribution and site lighting systems in major disrepair. The layout of the current lighting system is also inadequate and does not provide efficient lighting where needed. As a result, the County has partnered with the Woodlands Community, Inc. to improve conditions in this manufactured home park.

Steuben County proposes to use \$998,796 in NYS CDBG funding to make electrical system updates. The total project cost is \$998,796. The planned improvements will benefit 131 neighborhood residents, 81 of whom (or 62%) are low-and-moderate income.

CDBG Best Practices

Town of Harrietstown Housing Authority PNA

2023 Program Year	
NYS CDBG Grant	\$ 50,000
HHA	\$ 78,500
Total Project Cost	\$128,500



The Town of Harrietstown and the Harrietstown Housing Authority utilized \$50, 000 in NYS CDBG funds to support a physical needs assessment, detailed plumbing assessment, and plans for plumbing upgrades for the Harrietstown Housing Authority Lake Flower Apartments and Algonquin Apartments which collectively include 113 apartments for low-income households.

The two properties are aging and in need of a physical needs assessment to identify needed upgrades and the development of plans to undertake upgrades in 2024/2025.

The total project cost is \$128, 500 with \$78, 500 coming

from the Housing Authority.

The project is anticipated to benefit an estimated 180 persons.

Applying for Funds

Are YOU Prepared to Apply for a CDBG Grant?



Once a need is identified, such as rehabilitation for example, then outreach is conducted to determine if there is a demand for assistance. Demand is demonstrated by developing a sufficient pool of eligible and interested applicants to participate in the program. It is critical to the success of your application that the correlation between the identified housing need and the demand for housing assistance be clearly identified.

Some important questions to consider:

- Are there any other committed and available funding sources to use towards the project?
- Are there written commitments for these other funding sources?
- Is there a target area that would benefit most from this project, or would it be community wide?
- Does the municipality have the capacity to undertake the program on its own or will it require assistance from a consultant or subrecipient?
 - a. The roles of consultants and subrecipients are addressed in the OCR Grant Administration Manual

For applications that are not successfully awarded, the OCR will offer one-on-one application de-briefs. These de-briefs offer guidance on how to address deficiencies that prevented the application from being funded.

The municipality needs to review the steps indicated above and then make the determination if they are prepared to submit a successful application to the OCR.

CDBG Program Summary

Maximum Funding Limits

Infrastructure in Support of Existing Housing

County, City, Town, Village \$1,500,000

Single Unit and Multi-Unit Housing Rehabilitation

County, City, Town, Village \$ 750,000

Community Planning*

County, City, Town, Village \$ 50,000

*Community Planning is available through the CFA

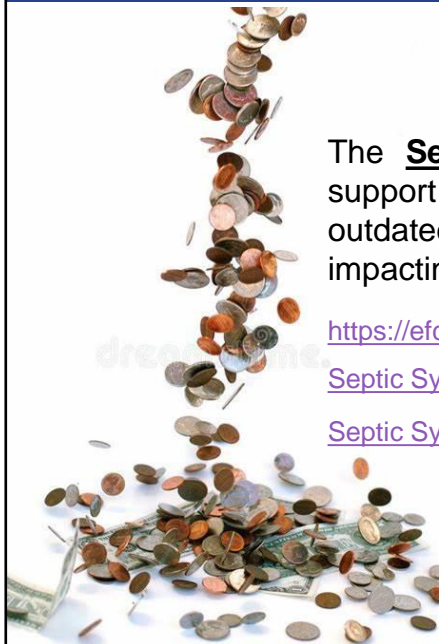


These are the current funding limits for 2024 housing projects.

Eligible municipalities can request up to \$750,000 in CDBG housing assistance for Single Family Housing Rehabilitation, Multi-Family Housing Rehabilitation, and up to \$1.5 million for Infrastructure in Support of Existing Housing

The total funds available through the Request for Applications (RFA) for Program Year 2024 is up to \$15,000,000.

A municipality should only submit one application for all proposed activities, provided the total amount across all applications requested does not exceed the funding cap.



The **Septic Replacement Fund Program** provides financial support to New York counties to help homeowners replace outdated cesspools and septic systems that are negatively impacting local water bodies.

<https://efc.ny.gov/septic-replacement#participating-counties>

[Septic System Replacement Fund Priority Waterbody List \(ny.gov\)](#)

[Septic System Replacement Fund | Environmental Facilities Corporation \(ny.gov\)](#)



The Septic System Replacement Fund Program focuses on improving water quality by providing funds to counties to help homeowners replace cesspools and septic systems that are adversely impacting designated waterbodies. Participating counties provide grants to reimburse property owners for up to 50% of the costs (up to a maximum of \$10,000) of their eligible septic system projects. The list of participating counties and their designated waterbodies was updated in April 2024.

The state Department of Environmental Conservation and the Department of Health determined priority geographic areas in which property owners are eligible to participate based on the following factors:

- Presence of a sole-source aquifer used for drinking water.
- Known water quality impairment linked to failing septic systems and the ability for septic system upgrades to mitigate water quality impairments.
- Waterbody Inventory/Priority Waterbodies List (or WI/PWL) segments that are listed as impaired or stressed for nutrients from septic systems.
- WI/PWL segments that have a public water supply intake located within the WI/PWL segment.

- Waterbodies that are Class A, AA, A-S, AA-S according to the WI/PWL segment.
 - Forest Preserve waterbodies.
- DEC and DOH will re-evaluate priority waterbodies in future rounds of funding.

The **Lead Service Line Replacement Program** provides financial support to eligible municipalities with grants and loans.

- Grants up to 70% of eligible project costs to communities that meet State's criteria for disadvantaged communities
- All other communities eligible for 0% loan
- Funding is available through the Bi-Partisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and administered by Department of Health Water Division



[Lead Service Line Replacement Program \(LSLRP\) \(ny.gov\)](https://www.ny.gov/lead-service-line-replacement-program)



New York's Clean Water Infrastructure Act of 2017 (Act) amended Public Health Law to require the New York State Department of Health to implement a Lead Service Line Replacement Program (LSLRP).

Municipalities do not need to apply to the program as eligibility has been pre-determined by the Department based on criteria contained in the Act.

Why was the LSLRP created? Drinking water can be a source of lead exposure.

Service pipes that contain lead can corrode, causing lead to enter drinking water.

This occurs especially where the water has characteristics such as high acidity or low mineral content that corrode pipes and fixtures.

Corrosion also occurs often in brass or chrome-plated brass faucets and fixtures with lead solder causing significant amounts of lead to leach into the water, especially hot water.

The presence of a lead service line does not always mean a home has a lead issue. However, lead in drinking water can be a problem:

- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that drinking water contaminated with lead can contribute to 20 percent or more of a person's total exposure to lead.
- Infants who consume mostly mixed formula can receive 40 percent to 60 percent of their total exposure to lead from drinking water

LSLRP funds will be used to replace the entire length of residential lead service lines, from the municipal water main to the residence, in an effort to reduce the amount of lead in drinking water.

LSLRP-awarded municipalities will work with homeowners to confirm the presence of a lead service line and the need to have it replaced.

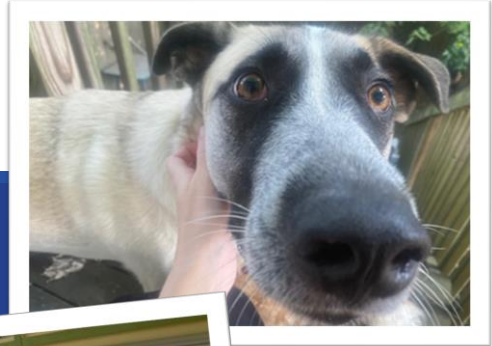
Municipalities will coordinate the replacement of the lead service line and submit project related vouchers/invoices to the State for reimbursement.

For municipalities that are awarded the LSLRP funds, allowable costs include:

- Engineering fees (planning, design and construction)
- Legal fees
- Municipal administration fees
- Construction (materials, equipment, workforce)
- Site/property restoration

Question and Answer

Our assistants are
standing by...



External Resources links

EPA Tools

[NEPAssist](#) and guide [NEPAssist | US EPA](#)

HUD Exchange

[Basically CDBG](#)

[Guide to National Objective and Eligible Activities](#)

[CPD Income Calculator](#)

[CDBG Income Survey Toolkit](#)

[CDBG Crosscutting Issues Toolkit](#)

[Webinars and Virtual Trainings](#)

[Lead Safe Housing Webinar Series](#)



While OCR has compiled most key information and requirements into the agreement, the Manual, and its web site, HUD also has a web site – known as the HUD Exchange – that offers a wealth of products and tools that implementers of CDBG programs find to be very valuable. EPA also has an assist tool to provide assistance with navigating and creating supporting documentation including maps to be in compliance with NEPA.

The HUD Exchange is a resource for:

- The CDBG and HOME regulations – Local recipients are responsible for full compliance with CDBG rules at 24 CFR Part 570. When a rule reference is mentioned – usually referred to as “Part 570” or “570.____” – recipients should check the rule to ensure they have fully complied.
- CPD Notices – These are guidance documents issued by HUD to guide recipients in various CDBG issues. Check the HUD Exchange for any notices that pertain to your activity.
- Basically, CDBG manual/slides – The “Basically CDBG” manual and slides are the core CDBG training program offered by HUD. You may find it useful to read the chapters that pertain to your particular activity, perhaps use the related slides to train officials and staff in the basic requirements.
- Guide to National Objectives and Eligible Activities for the CDBG Program –

commonly referred to as the “desk guide”, this gives you an overview of how to qualify activities as eligible and meeting the national objectives, both of which must be documented to prove compliance. Use it to identify the options and requirements for your activity.

- CPD income calculator – This optional online calculator can be used to calculate and document income eligibility.
- Toolkits – There are a variety of toolkits – for example, on cross-cutting federal requirements – that provide additional background to help you comply.
- Webinars and Virtual Training – There is also a variety of training modules that HUD offers free of charge- including CDBG best practices and Lead based Paint sub-part J & K .

You are encouraged to explore the resources available at the HUD Exchange. There may be samples and tools that help you achieve full compliance. And, remember that you are responsible for compliance with CDBG regulations.

Homes & Community Renewal Resources (Links)

[Affordable Housing Corporation](#)

[Access to Home Program](#)

[CDBG Program](#)

[CDBG Economic Development](#)

[HOME Program](#)

[New York Main Street Program](#)

[RESTORE Program](#)

[MMHR Program](#)

HCR Contact Information

OCRINFO@hcr.ny.gov

