

FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND BEYOND





Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center

The Water Finance Center is an **information and assistance center**, helping communities make informed decisions for **drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure** to protect human health and the environment.



Research

Advise

Innovate

Network

www.epa.gov/waterfinancecenter



Sustainable Communities and Infrastructure Branch

EPA's Small Communities and Infrastructure Branch's mission is to **promote sustainable management and technological advancement** of wastewater systems, both centralized and decentralized, and to **provide construction funding to underserved communities.**



www.epa.gov/small-and-rural-wastewater-systems

EPA Resources

- Funding and Financing
 - Funding through targeted grants programs to specific eligible recipients
 - Financing through State Revolving Fund (SRF) and Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) programs
 - Resources for utilities and local decision-makers
- Training and Technical Assistance
 - Training for small and rural wastewater systems
 - Effective Utility Management
 - Regionalization collaboration
 - Water and Wastewater Utility Operation and Management for Small Communities





FUNDING AND FINANCING

Providing affordable financing to build water quality projects in communities and identifying new and innovative approaches to financing water infrastructure that help existing dollars work smarter and harder

Target Grant Programs for Communities

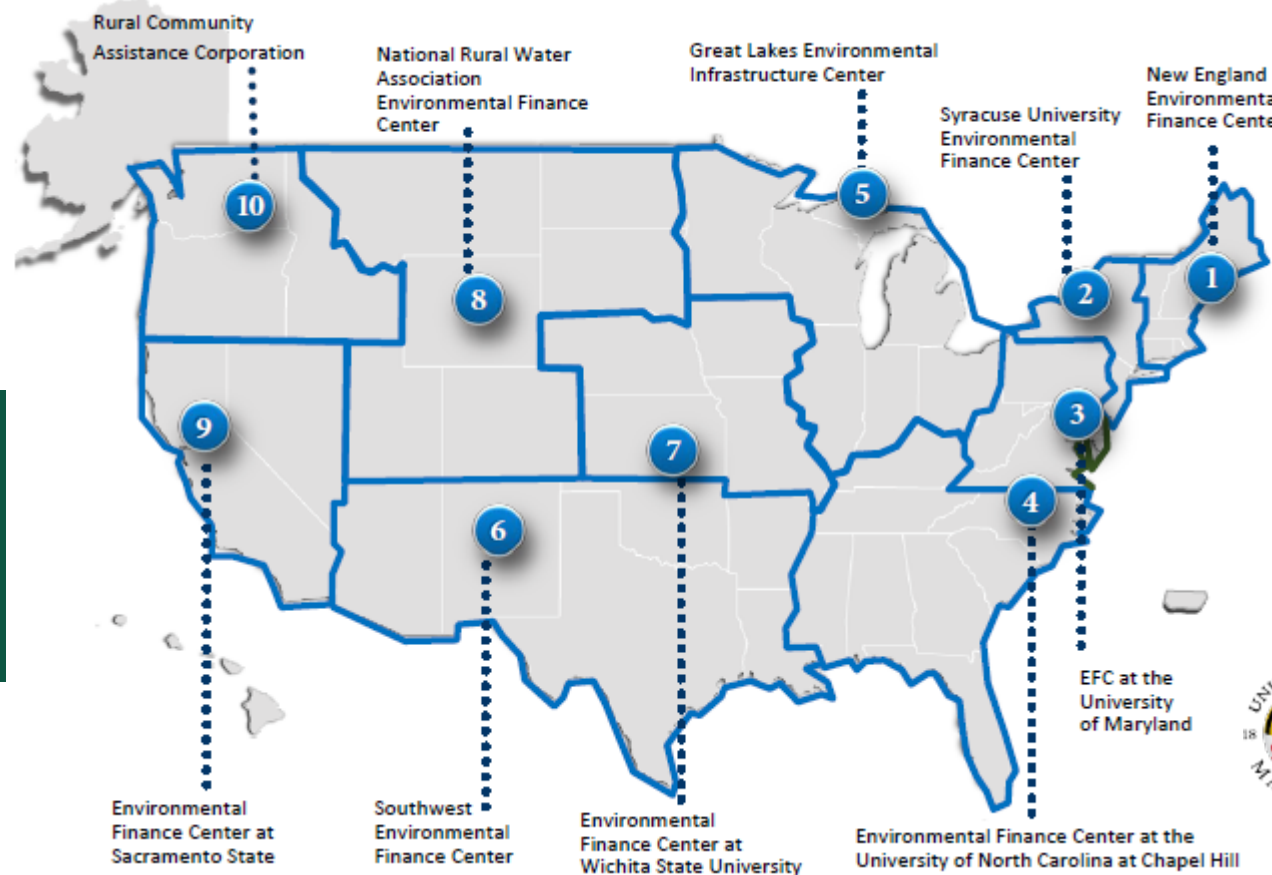
- Territories and D.C. Wastewater Construction Grants
 - Only communities in U.S. territories (except Puerto Rico) and D.C. eligible
- Clean Water Indian Set-Aside
 - Includes \$2 million for technical assistance and training
- Alaska Native Villages and Rural Alaska Infrastructure
 - Water and wastewater projects eligible
- US – Mexico Border
 - Water and wastewater projects benefitting US eligible

Clean Water SRF and WIFIA

- Clean Water SRF
 - Largest water infrastructure funding program
 - EPA awards grants to state-managed infrastructure banks
 - States select projects and set loan terms
 - Eligible projects include POTWs, nonpoint source projects, estuary projects, planning/design, and capital construction
- WIFIA
 - New water infrastructure federal credit program for regionally and nationally significant water infrastructure projects
 - EPA selects projects, sets loan terms, and manages payments
 - Projects eligible for SRF also eligible for WIFIA
 - Projects must be greater than \$5 million for small communities

Environmental Finance Centers

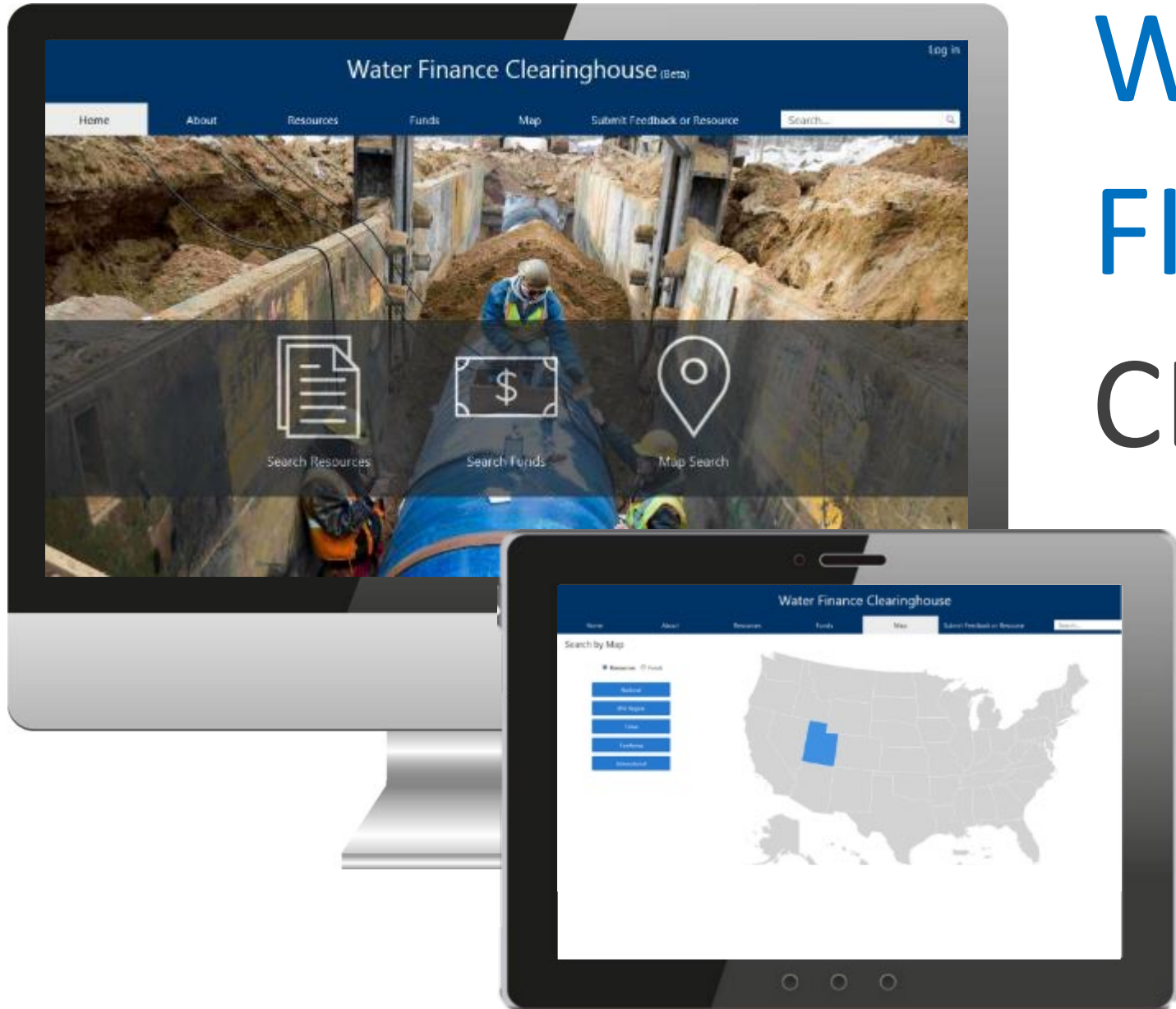
- Environmental Finance Center Network (EFCN) creates innovative solutions to difficult how-to-pay issues of environmental protection and improvement
- EFCN works with public and private sectors to promote sustainable environmental solutions while bolstering efforts to manage costs
- Focus:
 - Protecting natural resources and watersheds by strengthening the capacity of local decision-makers to analyze environmental problems
 - Develop innovative and effective methods of financing environmental efforts
 - Educate communities about role of finance and economic development in environmental protection



Environmental Financial Advisory Board

- Environmental Financial Advisory Board (EFAB) provides ideas and advice to EPA on ways to lower costs of and increase investments in environmental and public health protection
- EFAB's work focuses on:
 - Lowering the cost of environmental protection
 - Removing financial and programmatic barriers that raise costs
 - Increasing public and private contribution in environmental facilities and services
 - Building state and local financial ability to meet environmental laws

WATER FINANCE CLEARINGHOUSE



Meeting the Needs of Key Stakeholders

The Water Finance Clearinghouse is an **easily navigable web-based portal** that helps communities locate **information** and **resources** that will assist them in making **informed decisions** for their drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure needs.

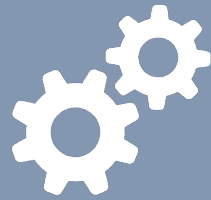
www.epa.gov/wfc

EPA's Water Finance Clearinghouse



ALL ON ONE SITE

Coalesce all funding information – federal, state, local, etc., into one online database



UPDATE IN REAL TIME

Design can be maintained throughout the year



SEARCHABLE

Users should be able to narrow their search results to meet their needs



MODERN & EASY TO USE

Easy to navigate and have a modern look to inspire confidence in the user that the site is up-to-date

Types of Clearinghouse Accounts

GENERAL USERS

Users interested in:

- Favoriting resources and funding sources for quick access at any time
- Subscribing to receive email updates for new additions/edits to specific filters options

CONTRIBUTORS

Users interested in editing or adding information to the Clearinghouse

- Contributors can suggest:
 - Edits to existing information in the Water Finance Clearinghouse
 - Additions of new resources and/or funding sources
 - Removal of resources and/or funding sources

Clearinghouse Content

- Funding/Financing Sources
 - Current federal, state, local, private, or other sources of funding/financing for water infrastructure projects
 - Searchable by eligible recipient, location, system size, funding/financing source, and more
- Resources
 - Reports, websites, trainings, and other types of information about water infrastructure financing
- Learning Modules
- Wastewater Technology

CLEARINGHOUSE

LEARNING MODULES

The Water Finance Center is developing step-by-step interactive guides on specific water finance topics that will be housed in the Water Finance Clearinghouse.

Launched:

- WIFIA 101
- Financing decentralized wastewater systems
- SRF 101

Future Topics:

- Alternative project delivery
- Water loss financing
- Disaster recovery and resiliency financing for water and wastewater utilities
- Stormwater financing
- Financing municipal watershed partnerships with agriculture



Wastewater Technology Clearinghouse

- Technology Clearinghouse
 - AWIA Section 4102 mandates EPA to set up a wastewater technology clearinghouse to update and disseminate information on cost effective and alternative waste water treatment technologies including onsite and decentralized wastewater systems
 - Phase 1: Update existing alternative technologies webpage and add technology component of Water Finance Clearinghouse
 - Next phase: Outreach to non-profit organizations, utilities, academia, and States to improve the Clearinghouse and invite them to become contributors
 - Goal: To create a discussion platform for individuals to ask questions and assist others with engineering and design challenges (Community of Practice)

Water Finance Clearinghouse

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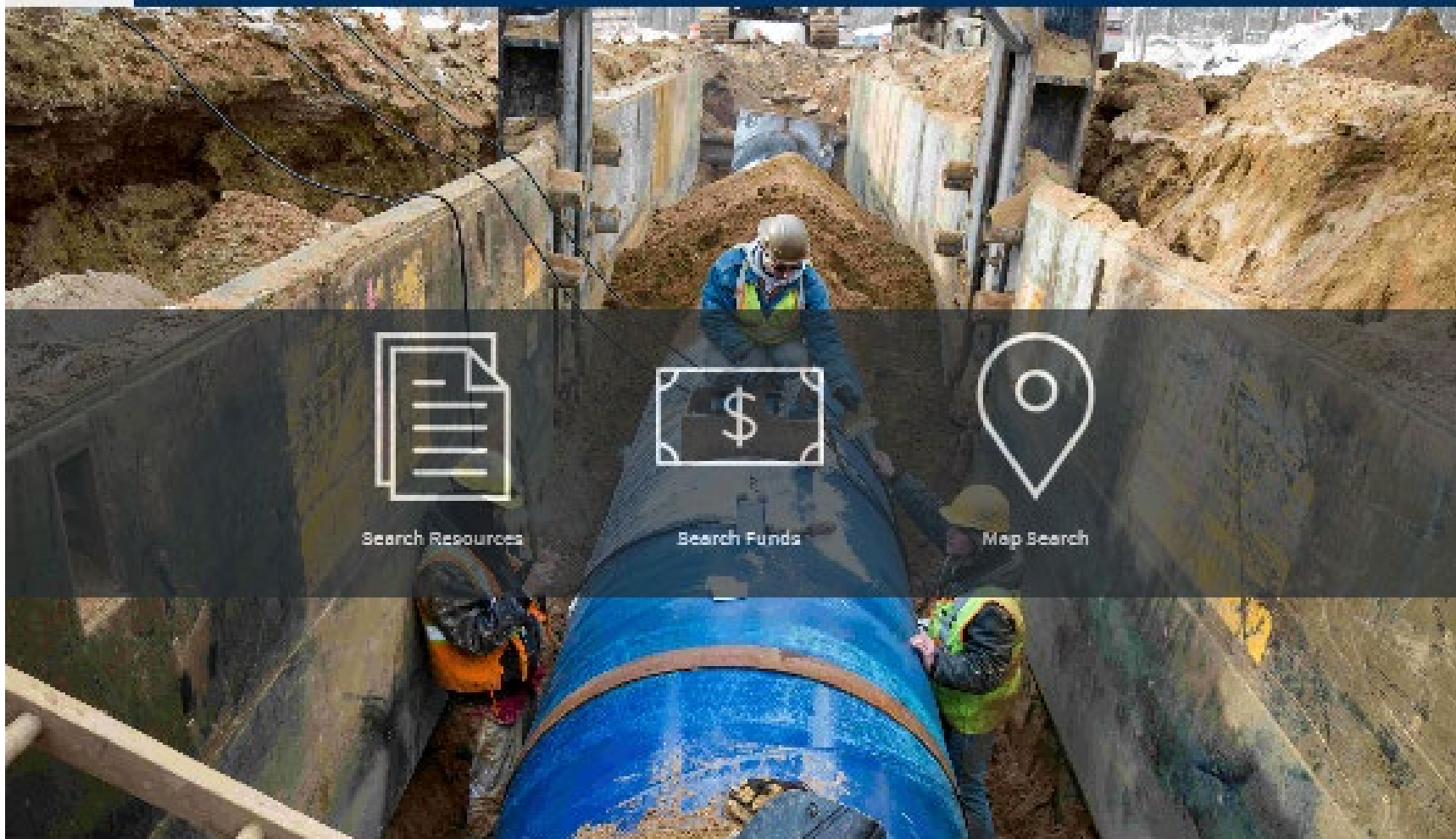
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Stormwater



Wastewater Treatment Technologies



State Revolving Funds



Case Studies



Webinars and Videos



Small Systems



TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Promoting best practices, technical assistance, guidance, and training to help states, industries, and communities make informed decisions about managing water resources.

Small Wastewater Systems Outreach and Education

- EPA Grants for Training and Technical Assistance for Small Systems
 - EPA and its partners developed tools and resources for planning, designing, constructing, and maintaining wastewater infrastructure for small and rural communities
 - AWIA authorized new additional grant funding specifically for technical assistance to small, rural, and tribal POTWs
- Sustainable Water Management/Effective Utility Management Workshops
 - EPA works with 6 national organizations supporting drinking water and wastewater utilities to promote effective utility management practices
 - EPA, with USDA, developed the Rural and Small Systems Guidebook and Workshop in a Box

Targeted Technical Assistance

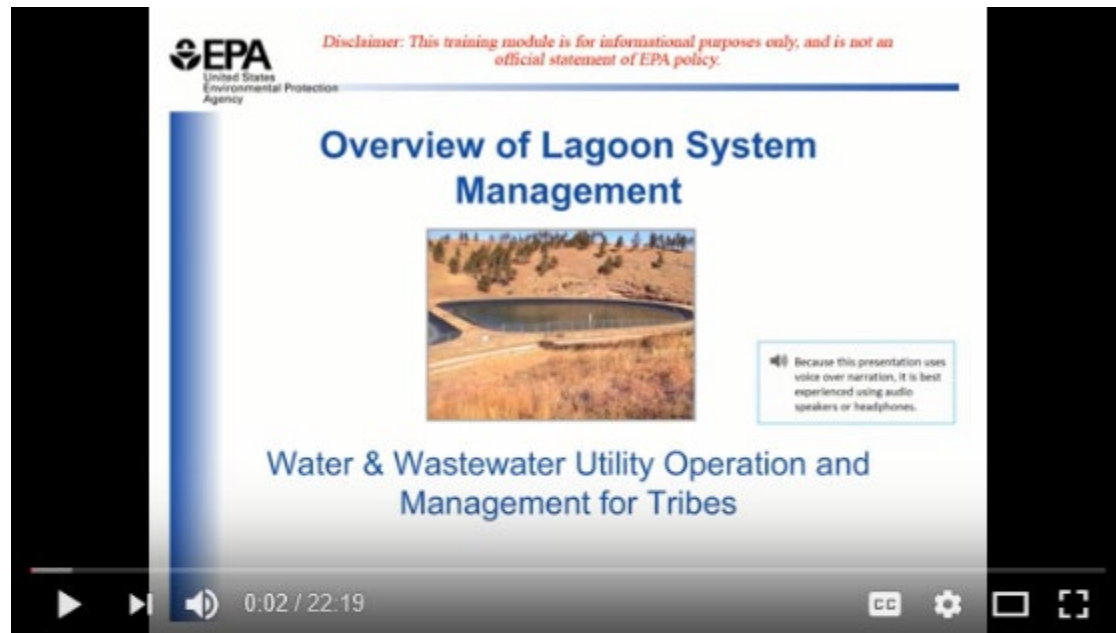
- Clean Water Indian Set-Aside Tribal Technical Assistance and Education
 - Interagency agreement with Indian Health Service to support onsite technical assistance and education
- Decentralized Systems
 - Memorandum of Understanding with 17 partner organizations
 - SepticSmart Week
- Wastewater technology experts providing assistance to states on issues relating to nutrients, emerging contaminants, water reuse, and more



EPA and Regionalization

- Partnerships provide opportunities to:
 - Increase system capacity by working together to solve compliance challenges
 - Share costs of operations and maintenance activities
 - Leverage other resources
- EPA meets with stakeholders across water sector to discuss ways to address challenges, focusing on three key priority areas:
 - Incentives for partnerships
 - Funding and financing
 - Outreach and communication
- EPA continues to work with states to raise awareness and promote partnerships

Water and Wastewater Utility Operation and Management for Small Communities



Wastewater Utility Operation and Management for Small Communities – Lagoon System Management



U.S. EPA

Subscribe 565

- Overview of Lagoon System Management
 - What a lagoon is and why they are used so frequently across US
 - Different lagoon and wastewater pond classifications as well as how these lagoons function
 - Performance of wastewater lagoons and how we can evaluate that through sampling and laboratory analysis
 - Main operation and maintenance tasks for operators of wastewater lagoons



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Water Infrastructure and Resiliency
Finance Center

www.epa.gov/waterfinancecenter

Water Finance Clearinghouse

www.epa.gov/wfc

Small & Rural Wastewater Systems

www.epa.gov/small-and-rural-wastewater-systems

Email

waterfinancecenter@epa.gov