



Your Community Development Partner Jane Asselta, State Director

NJ League of Municipalities “Lunch and Learn”
March 16, 2023

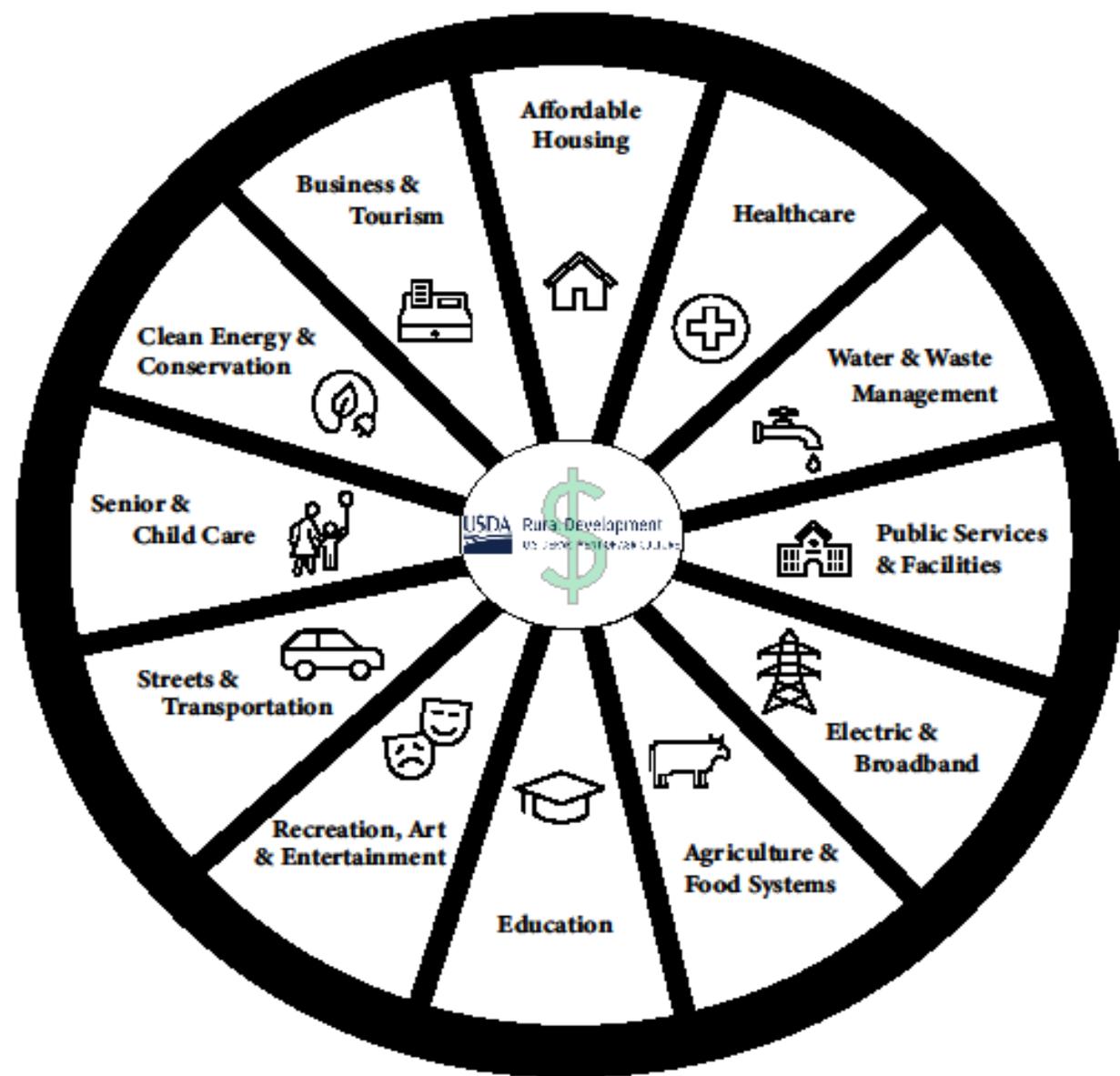
USDA Rural Development's Mission

- Rural Business Cooperative Service
- Rural Housing Service
- Rural Utilities Service

Assist rural communities in creating prosperity so they are self sustaining and economically thriving

The Hub of Rural Communities

With more than 50 loan, grant and loan guarantee programs to stimulate economic development, USDA RD funding supports and benefits every aspect of a rural community's health, safety and vitality



Rural
Business
Cooperative
Service

Direct loans and grants
Public bodies & Non-Profits

Grants and Guaranteed Loans
Small Businesses & Agricultural producers

Guaranteed Loans
Businesses & Non-profits

Other Direct Loans and Grants
Relenders & electric cooperatives

USDA Rural Business Cooperative Service Loans

- Rural Energy for America Program Loan Guarantees
- Business & Industry Guaranteed Loans
- Food Supply Chain Guaranteed Loan Program
- Intermediary Relending Program
- Rural Microloan Assistance Program

USDA Rural Business Cooperative Service Grants

- Rural Energy for America Program
- Rural Business Development Grants
- Value-Added Producer Grants
- Rural Microloan Assistance Program
- Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Grant

Rural Business Cooperative Programs

- Rural = Communities < 50,000 and not in the urbanized area contiguous and adjacent to a town that has a population of more than 50,000.
- Agricultural producers located anywhere are eligible.

Community	Business Programs
Andover Township	Yellow
Boonton Township	Red
Clifton City	Red
Delaware Township	Green
Eagleswood Township	Yellow
Elmer Borough	Red
Evesham Township	Yellow
Franklin Township	Yellow
Glassboro Boro	Yellow
Haddon Heights Boro	Red
Hightstown Borough	Green
Knowlton Township	Green
Lacey Township	Yellow
Medford Township	Yellow
Mendham Township	Yellow
Montague Township	Green
Montgomery Township	Yellow
Newark City	Red
Oakland Boro	Yellow
Plumsted Township	Green
South Toms River Borough	Red
Sparta Township	Yellow
Trenton City	Red
Wantage Township	Green

Green = Eligible
 Yellow = Portions of Town Eligible
 Red = Ineligible

Rural Energy for America Program

Renewable Energy Systems & Energy Efficiency Improvements Program



Unionville Vineyards Renewable Energy System



Donaldson Farms Energy Efficiency Solar Curtain

Funding Available

Inflation Reduction Act provided additional funding and increased grant share to **40%** for all REAP projects

Maximum grant sizes increased for IRA funds:

- \$500,000 for energy efficiency grants
- \$1,000,000 for renewable energy system

Loan Guarantees can cover up to 75% of total eligible project costs

Combined grant and loan guarantee funding can cover up to 75% of total eligible project costs

Applicant Eligibility

Agricultural Producer



Individual or entity that receives 50% or more of gross income from agricultural products – crops, livestock, aquaculture, forestry operations, nurseries, dairies

Rural Small Business



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

Improve Profits for Rural Small Businesses or Farms with REAP

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

The technology must be commercially available. Research and development projects do not qualify.

REAP IRA | FY 2023 Timeline

March 31, 2023

Deadline for grants > \$20,000

Also, deadline for combination grant and loan applications

Spring 2023

Second FY 23 Notice is published in the Federal Register (Projects to establish quarterly funding cycle)

October 31, 2023

Deadline for grants <\$20,000

Rural Business Development Grants

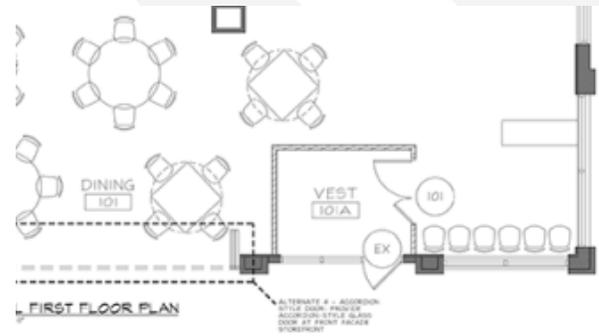
Applicants:

Public Bodies or Non-Profits

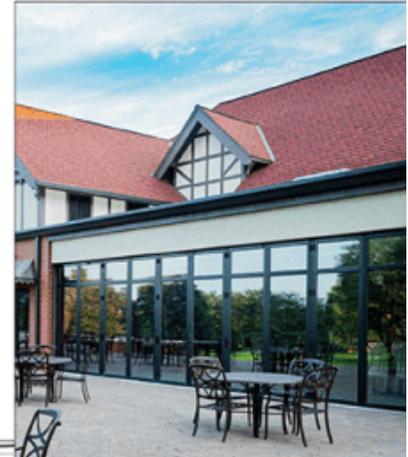
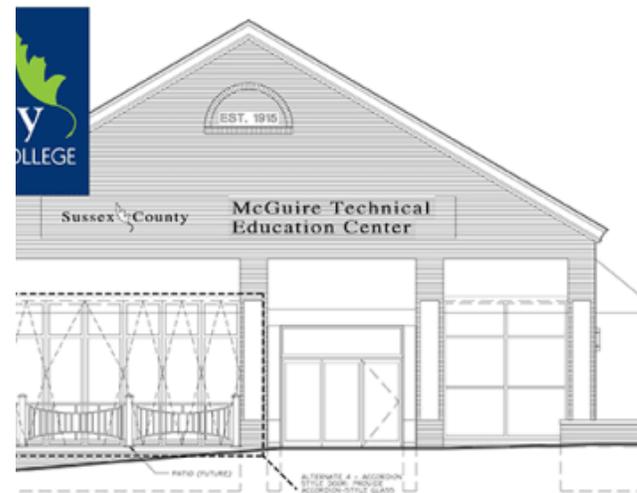
Purposes: To finance the development of small and emerging businesses in rural areas. The funds can be used for technical assistance, project planning and more.

Grants: up to \$30,000

Application Deadline: Closed for FY2023. Expected reopening in November 2023.



ACCORDION-STYLE GLASS DOOR (OPEN)



ACCORDION-STYLE GLASS DOOR (CLOSED)

Value Added Producer Grants

Applicants: Agriculture Producers

Purposes: The Value-Added Producer Grant (VAPG) program helps agricultural producers enter value-added activities to generate new products, create and expand marketing opportunities, and increase producer income.

Grant:

- Planning grants up to \$75,000
- Working capital grants to \$250,000

Value Added Producer Grants

Applicants: Salem Oak Vineyard

Purpose: To conduct a feasibility study on the viability of a potential value-added venture for vineyard

Planning Grant: \$25,000

Investment for expenses related to Feasibility Study related to business opportunity



Value Added Producer Grants

Applicants: Stony Hill Gardens, Chester

Purpose: Launch a new business
Producing apple juice and wines

Working Capital Grant: \$42,559
Investment covers expenses related to
labeling, packaging & promotional planning to



Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Program

- Launched December February 2022 www.rd.usda.gov/mppep
- To expand meat and poultry processing options, strengthen the food supply chain and create jobs and economic opportunities.
- Who is eligible to apply? Sole proprietor businesses or other entities that engage – or want to engage – in meat and poultry processing anywhere in New Jersey
- Coming Soon: Second Round

Rural Housing Service

Single Family Housing 502 Direct Loan Program

- Very low and low income homeowners

Single Family Housing Guaranteed Loans

- Moderate income homeowners

Single Family Housing 504 Grant/Loan Repair Program

- Very low and low income homeowners

Other Grants

Public Bodies and Non-profits

Single Family Housing

- Rural = Communities < 20,000 in population, are rural in character, and the home purchasers lack access to mortgage credit.

Community	HOUSING
Andover Township	Green
Boonton Township	Green
Clifton City	Red
Delaware Township	Green
Eagleswood Township	Green
Elmer Borough	Green
Evesham Township	Red
Franklin Township	Green
Glassboro Boro	Red
Haddon Heights Boro	Red
Hightstown Borough	Green
Knowlton Township	Green
Lacey Township	Green
Medford Township	Green
Mendham Township	Green
Montague Township	Green
Montgomery Township	Green
Newark City	Red
Oakland Boro	Red
Plumsted Township	Green
South Toms River Borough	Red
Sparta Township	Green
Trenton City	Red
Wantage Township	Green
Green = Eligible Red = Ineligible	

Single Family Housing 502 Direct Loan

100% financing is available to Very Low and Low-Income Households

Home financed must be in a rural area.

502 Direct Loan Program is subsidized. Currently, FIXED interest rate is 4%. The promissory note is modified with payment assistance to reduce the interest rate to as low as 1% for some borrowers.

Loan term for most loans is 33 year. 38 years if income is less than 60% of NJ Median Household Income

Not credit score driven, however, must meet certain credit criteria

Home purchase with repairs is permitted

Single-Family Home Repair Loans and Grants

- Access for persons with disabilities
- Roofs and septic tanks
- Energy-saving upgrades, and more.



Single Family Housing 504 Loan & Grant Repair Program

Purpose: To repair, improve, or modernize the dwelling to remove health and safety hazards

Eligibility: Very-Low Homeowner-occupants

Loans: Up to \$40,000 with 20-year terms at 1% which is \$4.61 for every \$1,000 borrowed.

Grants: Available to homeowners who are 62 years old or older and cannot repay a loan. Maximum lifetime grant is \$10,000 which is forgiven after 3 years if the property is not sold or changed title

Housing Preservation Grant

Grants to sponsoring organization for repair or rehabilitation of home occupied by low and very-low-income people

Eligible applicants are State and local government entities, non-profit organizations, and federally recognized tribes

Funds can be used to assist rental property owners if they agree to make units available to low and very low-income families

Eligible expenses include: (1) Repairing or replacing electrical wiring, foundations, roofs, insulation, heating systems, and water/waste disposal systems (2) Handicap accessibility (3) Labor and materials (4) Administrative expenses

Housing Preservation Grant—Gloucester County





Community Facilities

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

Community Facilities Program

- Rural = Communities < 20,000
- Grant possible Median Household Income < \$82,218
- Term up to 30/40 years dependent on useful life
- Interest Rates- Poverty, Intermediate, Market

Community	COMMUNITY FACILITIES DIRECT
Andover Township	Green
Boonton Township	Green
Clifton City	Red
Delaware Township	Green
Eagleswood Township	Green
Elmer Borough	Green
Evesham Township	Green
Franklin Township	Green
Glassboro Boro	Green
Haddon Heights Boro	Green
Hightstown Borough	Green
Knowlton Township	Green
Lacey Township	Green
Medford Township	Red
Mendham Township	Green
Montague Township	Green
Montgomery Township	Green
Newark City	Red
Oakland Boro	Green
Plumsted Township	Green
South Toms River Borough	Green
Sparta Township	Green
Trenton City	Red
Wantage Township	Green

Green = Eligible
Red = Ineligible

Community Facilities Grant Program Equipment and vehicle projects

Examples

- Equipment to control algae blooms,
- Electric vehicle charging stations
- Streetsweepers
- Trash receptacles
- Streetscaping/lighting
- Rainwater harvesting systems



NOTE : 4 Levels of grant based on MHI, Population & Financial Need/Obtain Credit

CF Technical Assistance & Training Grant (CF TAT)

PURPOSE

Assist communities in identifying & planning community facility needs:

- Prepare reports and surveys
- Prepare applications for financial assistance under Community Facilities
- Maximum grant award \$150,000 to a technical assistance provider or \$50,000 to an ultimate recipient
- Matching funds not required but preference is given for cash match
- Notice of Solicitation of Applications (NOSA) published annually with 60-day application window. FY 2023 NOSA not available yet.

Rural Utilities Service

Water and Environmental Program

- Rural = Communities < 10,000
- Grant possible Median Household Income < \$91,354
- Term up to 40 years
- Interest Rates- Poverty, Intermediate, Market

Community	WATER & ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECT
Andover Township	Green
Boonton Township	Green
Clifton City	Red
Delaware Township	Green
Eagleswood Township	Green
Elmer Borough	Green
Evesham Township	Red
Franklin Township	Red
Glassboro Boro	Red
Haddon Heights Boro	Green
Hightstown Borough	Green
Knowlton Township	Green
Lacey Township	Green
Medford Township	Red
Mendham Township	Green
Montague Township	Green
Montgomery Township	Green
Newark City	Red
Oakland Boro	Red
Plumsted Township	Green
South Toms River Borough	Green
Sparta Township	Green
Trenton City	Red
Wantage Township	Green

Green = Eligible
Red = Ineligible



Water and Waste Disposal Loans and Grants

- Improve infrastructure
- Support public health and safety or
- Promote economic development

Flemington Borough

\$3,758,000 loan and \$1,142,000 grant funds were used to install a new elevated water storage tank with approximately 300,000-gallons of capacity.

Additional site improvements included the installation of a booster pump station that will allow for the filling of the tanks, an emergency generator to allow for continued operation of the system in case of power outages, and a SCADA system for operational control of the water system.



Paulsboro Borough

\$5,377,000 loan and \$2,156,000 grant funds were used to install a new elevated water storage tank with approximately 300,000-gallons of capacity to ensure compliance with the New Jersey Safe Drinking Water Standards, as well as protect the health and safety of the general public.

This facilitated connection to the nearby marine terminal, which will boost economic activity in the area and replaced connections to existing residential users.



EMERGENCY COMMUNITY WATER ASSISTANCE GRANT (ECWAG)

- Assist Rural Communities that have a decline in quantity/quality of drinking water due to an emergency
 - Long Beach Twp. \$500k
 - National Park \$1 million
- <10,000 in population, MHI <\$91,354
- Demonstrate financial need
- Grants may be 100% of total project cost
- Max Grant \$1 million to construct a water source, intake or treatment facility or up to \$150,000 for distribution waterline extensions, repairs, maintenance

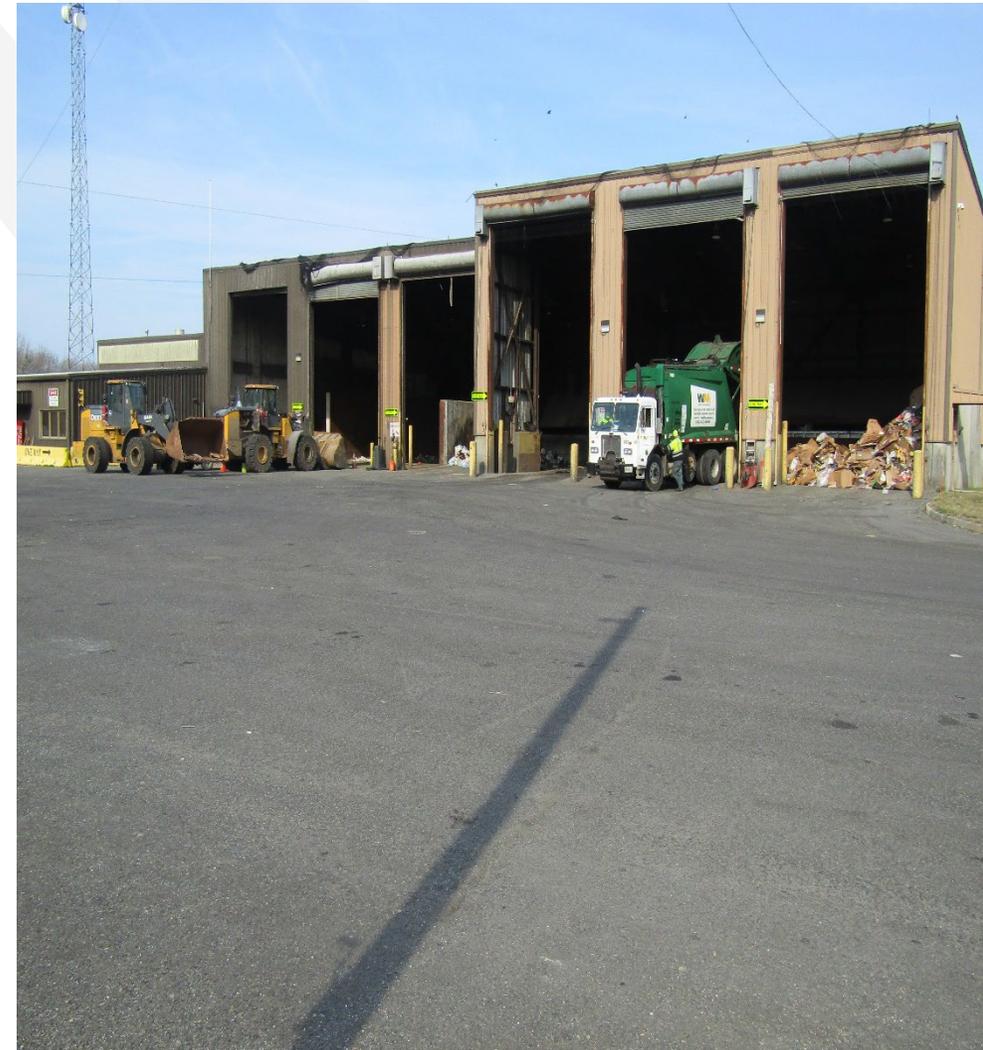


Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Communities & Households (SEARCH) & Predevelopment Planning Grants (PPG)

SEARCH	PPG
Pay for feasibility studies, preliminary design assistance, TA for financially distressed communities	Pay for Preliminary Engineering Report & Environmental Report or other costs associated with developing a complete application
To find solutions to water, sewer, storm water, and solid waste management.	To implement solutions to water, sewer, storm water, and solid waste management.
Proposed service area has MHI < \$73,083 and population < 2,500	Proposed service area has MHI < \$73,083 and population < 10,000
Maximum Grant - \$30,000	Maximum Grant - \$30,000 or 75% of eligible costs whichever is less
No required match – 100% of TPC	Grant Repayment – only if additional funds are approved for the project

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT GRANTS

- Evaluate current landfill conditions to identify threats to water resources.
- Provide technical assistance/training to enhance operation and maintenance of active landfills.
- Provide technical assistance/training to help communities reduce amount of solid waste coming into a landfill.
- Provide technical assistance/training to prepare for closure and future use of a landfill site.



Assistance Available with NJDEP Partners

- NJDEP issued a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) to assist New Jersey municipalities in upgrading their MS4 Stormwater Programs to comply with the requirements of the 2023 Tier A MS4 Permit renewal, which was issued on November 30, 2022, with an effective date of January 01, 2023. The municipalities eligible for this NOFA are the former Tier B municipalities that were reassigned to Tier A for \$75,000 and the previously designated Tier A municipalities for \$25,000. [NJDEP | Watershed and Land Management |](#)
- NJ-TAP (New Jersey Technical Assistance Program) will prioritize aid to communities identified as disadvantaged or overburdened to identify lead service lines, develop asset management and capital improvement plans, and identify sources of state and federal funding to assist with important water-quality improvement projects. [NJDEP | Water Infrastructure Investment Plan | Technical Assistance Request Form](#)
- USDA RD water and environmental direct loans and grants can be part of the future plans your community may have to fund projects that come about from utilizing the above grants. We also can leverage our funds with NJDEP and iBank, so you may benefit from our low interest loans/grants as well as theirs.

USDA Rural Development NJ Contacts

Jane Asselta, State Director

856-787-7770

Jane.Asselta@usda.gov

Maryann Tancredi, Business Programs Director

856-787-7752

Maryann.Tancredi@usda.gov

Christine Schmelzle, Community Programs Director

856-787-7751

Christine.Schmelzle@usda.gov

Geraldine Manganaro, Housing Programs Director

856-787-7721

Geraldine.Manganaro@usda.gov

Janis Rega, Area Director, Hackettstown

908-441-7523

Janis.Reg@usda.gov

www.rd.usda.gov/nj

Questions?

Thank you!



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.