
NJDEP Priorities

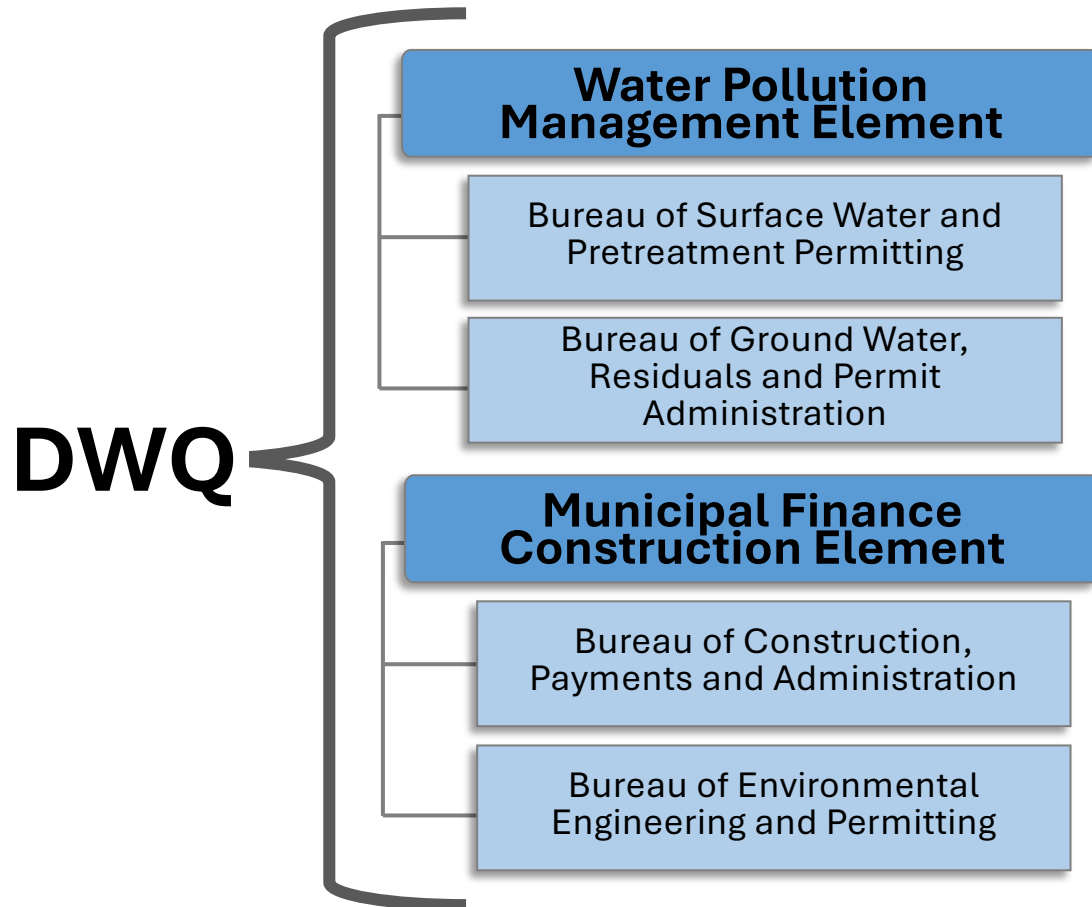
Division of Water Quality



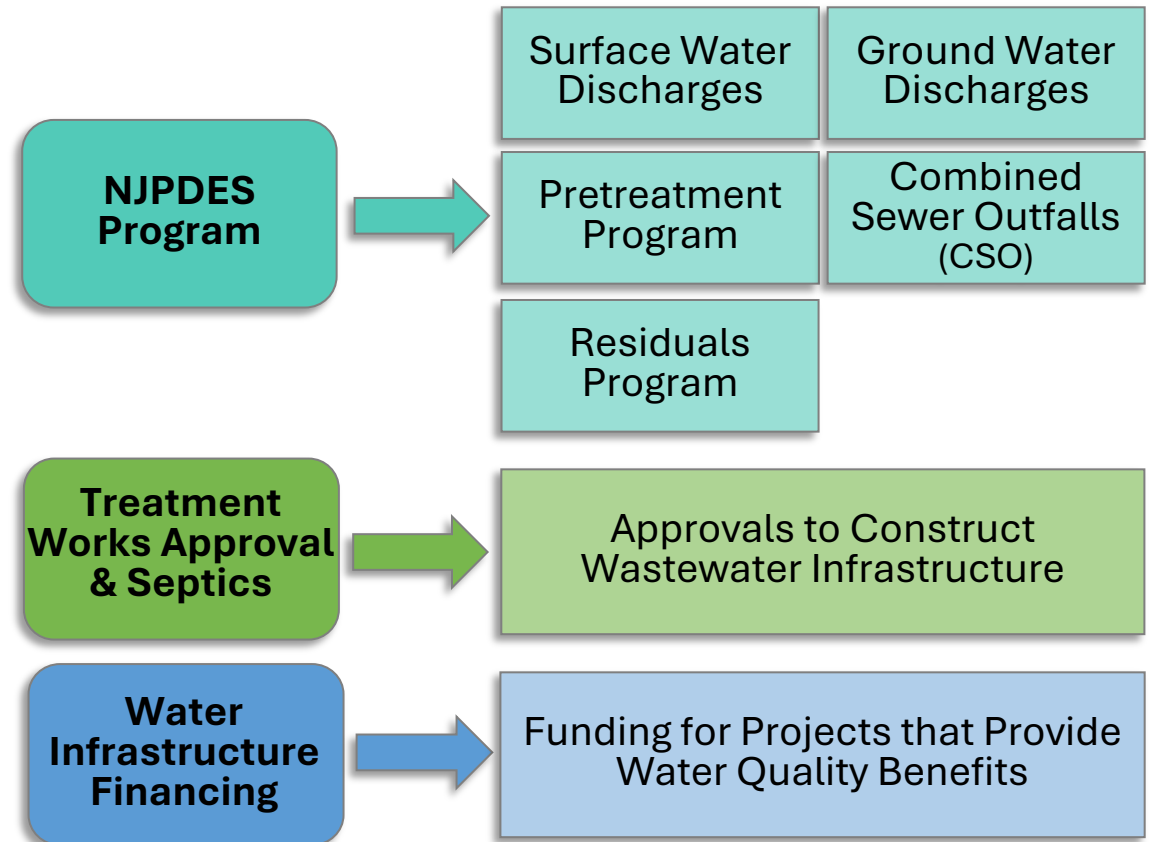
Susan Rosenwinkel
Director, Division of Water Quality | NJDEP
AEA Spring Meeting | April 23, 2026

Division of Water Quality

Who we are...



...and the work we do!



AGENDA



Combined Sewer Overflow Updates



PFAS Sampling for Delegated Local Agencies



Licensed Operator Update

- Accurate Licensed Operator Classifications for Wastewater Systems
- Licensed Operator Rule



Water Bank Program Updates



Questions

Combined Sewer Overflow Outfall(s)

CSOs are relief structures constructed in combined sewer systems to divert flows in excess of the peak design flow of the sewage treatment plant. They were developed as overflow valves to reduce the risk of sewage backing up during heavy rainfall. CSOs are common in older US cities.





Combined Sewer Overflow Permit Status

Final Permits - No Administrative Compliance Agreement (ACA) needed

- ✓ Trenton
- ✓ North Bergen Woodcliff & Guttenberg

Final Permits - ACA signed

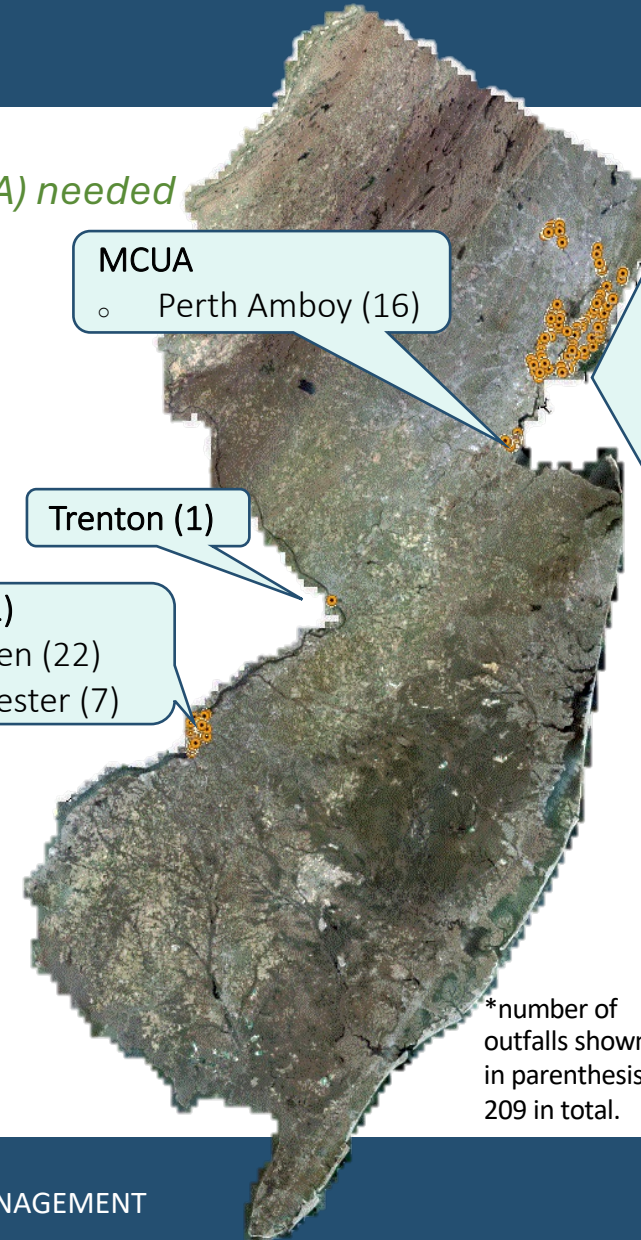
- ✓ North Hudson Adams Street
- ✓ CCMUA, Camden & Gloucester
- ✓ BCUA, Fort Lee, Hackensack & Ridgefield Park
- ✓ JMEUC & Elizabeth

Final Permits - ACA in process

- ✓ PVSC & Municipalities
- ✓ North Hudson River Road

Draft Permits

- ✓ MCUA & Perth Amboy



BCUA

- Fort Lee (2)
- Hackensack (2)
- Ridgefield Park (6)

Joint Meeting

- Elizabeth (29)

North Bergen (1)

- Guttenberg (1)

North Hudson AS (7)

- North Hudson RR (2)

- Hoboken
- West New York
- Weehawken
- Union City

PVSC

- East Newark (1)
- Harrison (6)
- Bayonne (28)
- Kearny (5)
- Paterson (23)
- Jersey City (21)
- Newark (18)
- N Bergen MUA (9)

*number of outfalls shown in parenthesis. 209 in total.



Water Infrastructure Funding

The Water Bank (a partnership between NJDEP and I-BANK) provided financing for 130 Clean Water & Drinking Water projects representing over \$945 million in infrastructure financing for **state fiscal year (SFY) 2025**.



The Water Bank provided financing for 116 clean water projects and financing for 31 drinking water projects, totaling a combined \$1.078 billion in infrastructure financing in **SFY 2024**.

Water Bank CSO Funding and Principal Forgiveness Awarded by SFY2023-SFY2025

SFY	Total CSO Funding	Low Interest Loan	Principal Forgiveness
2023	\$110,717,046	\$59,037,952	\$51,679,094
2024	\$342,918,175	\$125,794,760	\$217,123,415
2025	\$251,911,816	\$196,330,029	\$55,581,787
TOTAL:	\$705,547,037	\$381,162,741	\$324,384,296

NEW!!

CSO Case Studies Webpage!

Open to feedback and additional photos!



CSO Case Studies

The NJPDES CSO permittees are reducing or eliminating discharges from CSO outfalls through the ongoing construction and/or completion of CSO LTCP projects. Members of the community can access information on the CSO LTCP projects that are happening in their municipality.

NEW!!

CSO Case Studies Webpage!!

Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority, Camden City, Gloucester City

Affected Permits: Camden City (NJ0108812), Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority (NJ0026182), Gloucester City (NJ0108847)

Draft Permit: 11/9/2023

Final Permit: 11/4/2023

LTCP Approved: Partially Approved 11/04/24

Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority (CCMUA) owns and operates a regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) that serves 36 municipalities in Camden City and Gloucester City, both of which have combined sewer systems. CCMUA has instituted wet weather improvements at the treatment plant to increase capacity from 100 million gallons per day (MGD) to 185 MGD, which enables the conveyance of significantly greater volumes of combined sewage to the WWTP. Camden and Gloucester have focused on the maintenance of collection systems and outfalls to optimize collection system functionality. Collectively, these efforts have significantly reduced street flooding.

Another major project will focus on sewer separation at the system's largest CSO outfall in Pennsauken, ensuring combined sewage is separated from stormwater before entering the treatment plant. This project will reduce street flooding in the Cramer Hill neighborhood and improve water quality upstream of Petty's Island.



Separation of the combined stormwater and sanitary sewer systems in Pennsauken Township.



Dredging Project to clear outfalls in Camden City to improve functionality.



Camden County

Fort Lee, Hackensack, and Ridgefield Park

Affected Permits: Ridgefield Park (NJ0109118)

Draft Permit: 8/17/2023

Final Permit: 1/30/2025

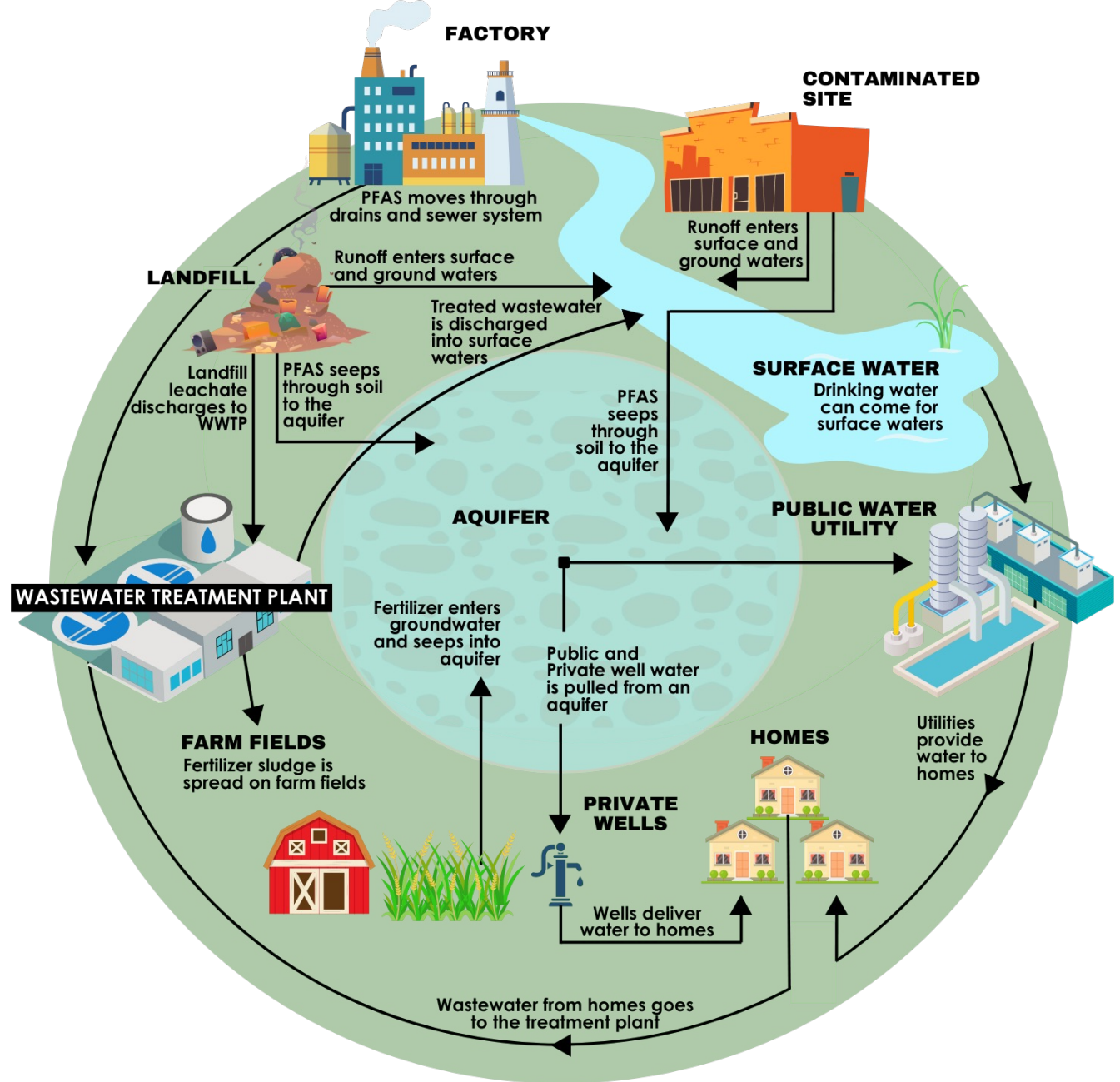
LTCP Approved: 1/30/2025

The Village of Ridgefield Park's combined sewer collection system is hydraulically connected to the Bergen County Utilities Authority (BCUA) Water Pollution Control Facility. Ridgefield Park has proactively begun to implement sewer separation projects, thereby reducing the amount of stormwater that enters the combined sewer system. Ridgefield Park continues to implement additional sewer separation projects.



Installation of catch basins to control the flow of storm water as part of Ridgefield Park Village's long term control plan to address CSO's

PFAS Water Cycle

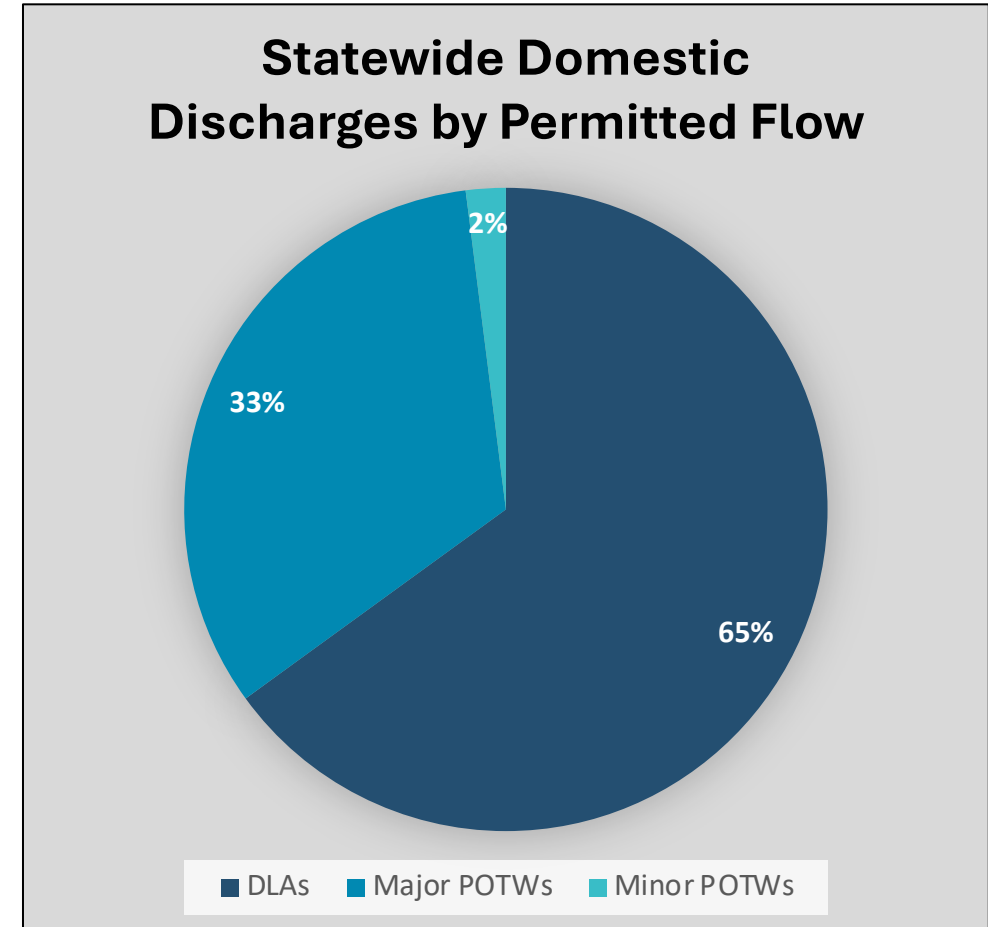




Understanding PFAS Contributions from Delegated Local Agencies (DLAs)

- ❑ **DLAs are responsible for the implementation of their own pretreatment program**
 - Collectively accept wastewater from over 630 industrial users

- ❑ **NJDEP Issues a Request for Information Letter on November 20, 2025:**
 - Request 12 effluent samples in 2026 (monthly) to ensure sufficient data for effluent limitations development upon adoption of standards
 - Progress reports to update NJDEP on efforts to reduce PFAS incoming from industrial users. Progress report template is available on our website.
 - Suggest best management practices for industrial users per EPA guidance



Licensed Operator Update



Christine Enright
Executive Assistant, Water Pollution
Management Element



Wastewater Licensed Operator Classifications

What is a Licensed Operator?

A Licensed Operator is an individual approved by the NJDEP to manage the operation, maintenance, and effectiveness of a specific water system.

Applicable systems include:

- Industrial Wastewater Treatment System (N License)
- Public Wastewater Collection System (C License)
- Public Wastewater Treatment System (S License)
- Public Water Distribution System (W License)
- Public Water Treatment System (T License)
- Very Small Water System (VSWS License)

Wastewater Licenses



Eligibility for a Licensed Operator license in New Jersey requires a combination of experience, educational course prerequisites and passing an exam.



Wastewater Licensed Operator Classifications

License Types & Classifications For Wastewater

C License:

Public Wastewater Collection System

Collection system classification based on population served.

- C1 - 251 to 1,500
- C2 - 1,501 – 15,001
- C3 - 15,000 – 50,000
- C4 - 50,001 +

S License:

Public Wastewater Treatment System

Treatment system classification based on points system assigned for design flow, effluent discharge, treatments, solids handling and disinfection.

- S1 – 30 points or less
- S2 – 31 to 55 points
- S3 – 56 to 75 points
- S4 – 76+ points

N License:

Industrial Wastewater Treatment System

Treatment system classification based on points system assigned for toxicity, receiving water, hydraulic load, treatments and sludge handling/disposal.

- N1 – 6 to 19 points
- N2 – 20 – 49 points
- N3 – 50 to 69 points
- N4 – 70+ points



Licensed Operator Rule Update

➤ Rule proposal is currently under NJDEP review!

For more information related to Licensed Operators please visit the website:



Water Supply and Geoscience

Home About Consumers Water Systems Wells Water Allocation Drought & Protection NJGWS Boards & Committees Resources News

Contact Us

Water & Wastewater System Operator Licensing

Home / Drinking Water Systems / Training & Certification / Water & Wastewater System Operator Licensing

A Licensed Operator is the individual approved by the DEP holding any local title, designation, or job description who is on-site at a system a significant amount of time, although not necessarily full time, and who has active involvement in and is responsible for the operation, maintenance, and effectiveness of the system, and who holds a license equal to or higher than that required for the system. Applicable systems include:

- Industrial Wastewater Treatment System (N License)
- Public Wastewater Collection System (C License)
- Public Wastewater Treatment System (S License)
- Public Water Distribution System (W License)
- Public Water Treatment System (T License)
- Very Small Water System (VSWs License)

Announcements

In-Person Licensing Examinations Update
Effective January 6, 2023, New Jersey will switch from the use of remotely proctored exams to exams administered at testing centers. [View more details](#)

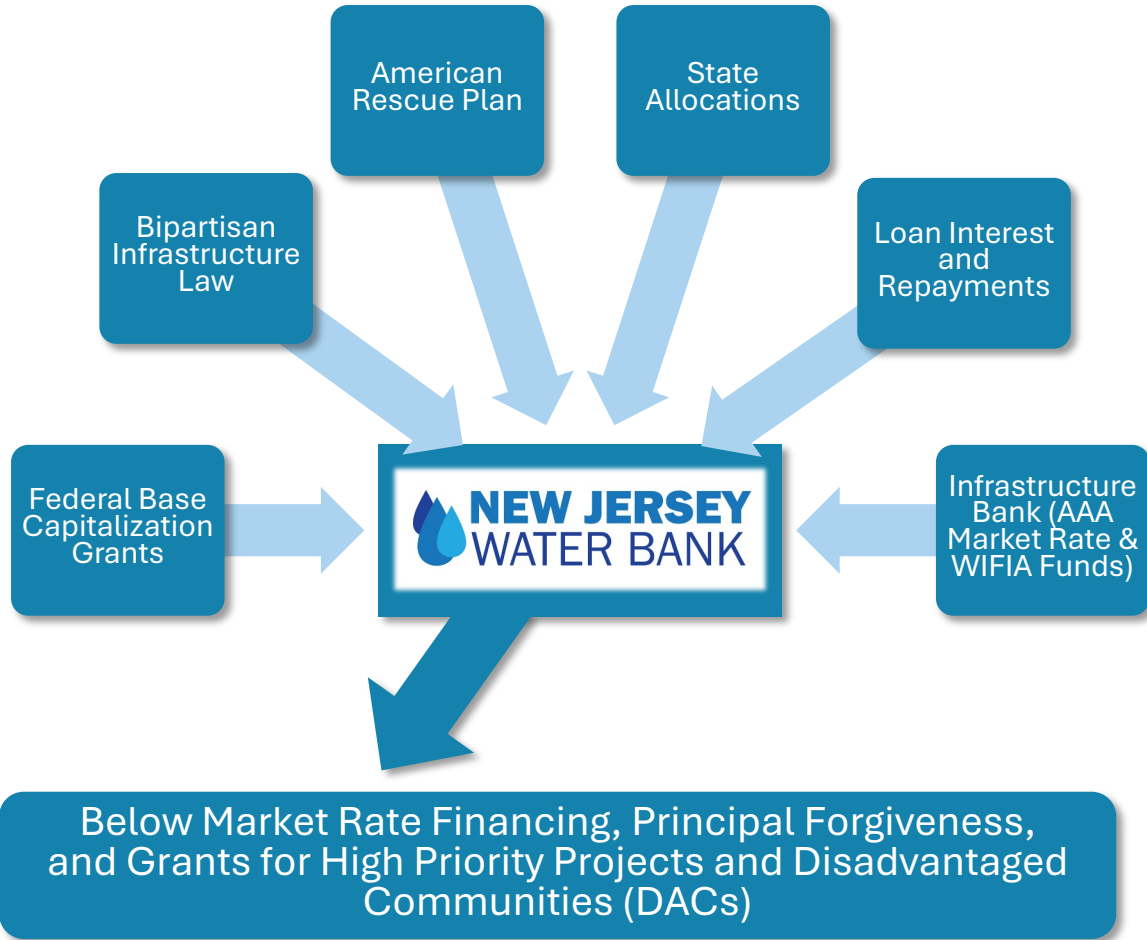
Training Contact Hour (TCH) Waiver for Licensed Operators
The NJDEP has issued a proportionate credit waiver for licensed water and wastewater operators for the current licensing cycle that ends on September 30, 2021. [View the announcement](#)

NJ Water Bank



Charles Jenkins
Assistant Director, Municipal Finance
Construction Element

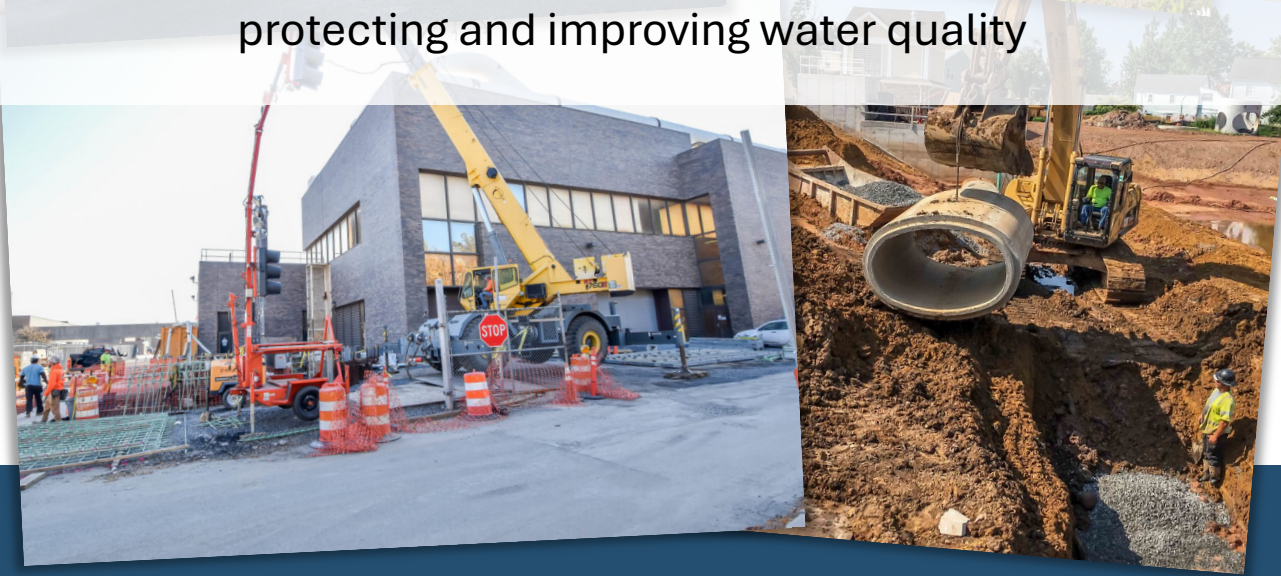
Funding New Jersey Water Infrastructure



New Jersey Water Bank

The NJ Water Bank is a partnership between the NJDEP and the NJ Infrastructure Bank (I-Bank)

Provides low-cost financing for the planning, design, construction & implementation of projects aimed at protecting and improving water quality





Intended Use Plans (IUPs)

For the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds

- Annual EPA Requirement
- Open to public comment
- Establishes funding eligibilities and terms
- Establishes DEP priorities
- Interactive Links
- Pictures, charts, and graphics



Affordability Criteria

The Department is reserving funds and providing principal forgiveness loans for any eligible clean water project sponsored by applicants that meet the clean water Affordability Criteria (AC). Funding packages are tiered based on the project Affordability Score. This tiered principal forgiveness is intended to provide the most disadvantaged communities with additional funding to move these projects through the NJWB. The Department's loan origination fee is 1% of the principal forgiveness portion of Affordability loans. A total of \$40 million in principal forgiveness is available for Affordability projects in SFY25.

The Department is offering tiered principal forgiveness packages for projects meeting the Affordability Criteria. For projects with an Affordability Score of 66 to 80 (AC2), financing consists of 100% principal forgiveness (PF capped at the equivalent of 75% interest free DEP loan and 25% I-Bank's AAA Market Interest Rate loan) for remaining project costs. For projects with an Affordability Score of 65 and under (AC1), financing consists of 100% principal forgiveness (PF capped at \$3 million) and the equivalent of 75% interest free DEP loan and 25% I-Bank's AAA Market Interest Rate loan funding for remaining project costs. Principal forgiveness funds will be available for Affordability projects on a readiness to proceed basis.

Affordability Score of 66 to 80 (AC2)

Remaining Loan Share	
DEP Loan Share (No Interest)	I-Bank Loan Share (AAA Market Rate)
75%	25%

Affordability Score 65 and under (AC1)

Remaining Loan Share	
DEP Loan Share (No Interest)	I-Bank Loan Share (AAA Market Rate)
75%	25%

Tiered Affordability Packages

AC2- Water Systems with an Affordability Score of 66 to 80 or meet the Environmental Justice Economic OBC Criteria

AC1- Water Systems with an Affordability Score 65 and under

For the Affordability category with an Affordability Score of 70 would

Project Name	DEP Loan Share (Interest Free)	I-Bank Loan Share (AAA Market Rate)
Project A	\$0M	\$0M
Project B	\$17.25M	\$5.75M
Project C	\$17.25M	\$5.75M

Additional Document Content:

Brownfields

The cleanup of abandoned and contaminated industrial sites is eligible for financing if a local or county government assumes the repayment obligation for the loan. The Water Bank will finance the removal of contaminated soil, site-capping, and the installation of stormwater controls.

Returning Brownfield sites to productive use protects and improves water quality and preserves open space. Every acre of Brownfield redevelopment spurs 4.5 acres of pristine land from development. Brownfield redevelopment also boosts local tax revenue, creates jobs, revitalizes New Jersey's cities and towns, and improves the quality of life for area residents. The Water Bank provides loans to municipalities, counties, and public authorities to support a wide range of cleanup and remediation activities necessary to restore the Brownfield site for re-use.

For additional information, see: NJDEP Site Remediation Links (<https://www.nj.gov/dep/landfill>)

Landfills

Construction activities at landfills that have a water quality benefit are eligible for Water Bank financing. Examples include:

- Capping systems
- Liners
- Leachate collection systems
- Treatment systems
- Sewer connections
- Barge shelters
- Containment booms
- Ullage fences
- Gas collection and treatment systems
- Monitoring wells
- Reclamation or reduction activities

Hoboken City Clean Water Project, Southwest Park & Underground Retention System

Camden County Phoenix Park replaces former landfill

15 | CWSRF IUP



Clean Water



Eligible Recipients:

- Local government units, municipal utilities authorities, counties, regional water authorities that own stormwater or wastewater collection and treatment works
- Private entities (through public conduit borrowers above)
- Private colleges and universities (nonpoint source only)

Not Eligible for Assistance:

- Federally-owned stormwater or wastewater collection and treatment works (i.e. military bases or prisons)
- Privately-owned wastewater and stormwater collection and treatment works

Wastewater Infrastructure

- Treatment Plants
- Sewer Mains/ Interceptors
- Combined Sewer Overflow Control Facilities



Stormwater Management

- Conveyance or Treatment (Grey Infrastructure)
- Green Infrastructure
- Stormwater Management



Site Remediation

- Water Quality related components of Landfill, Brownfield, etc.



Wastewater Recycling and Reuse Facilities

- Beneficial reuse of wastewater treatment facility effluent



Equipment Purchases

- Street Sweepers
- Vacuum Trucks, etc.
- Security and Cybersecurity



Planning and Design

- Must result in a Capital Improvement Project





Drinking Water



Eligible Recipients:

- Privately-owned (including investor-owned) community water systems
- Publicly-owned community water systems (towns, boroughs, municipal utilities authorities, counties, regional water authorities, other local government units, etc.)
- Non-profit noncommunity water systems
- Projects that address human health issues and ensure adequate supplies of drinking water.

Not Eligible for Assistance:

- Federally-owned drinking water systems (i.e. military bases or prisons)
- For-profit noncommunity water systems

New Treatment Facilities or Upgrades to Existing Facilities



Uncovered Finished Water Reservoirs



Rehabilitation of Contaminated Sources to Address MCL Violations



Lead Service Line Replacement



Construction, Replacement, Rehabilitation of Water Mains



Resilience, Vulnerability, Security, and Cybersecurity





New Jersey Technical Assistance Program (NJ-TAP)



States have flexibility to use cap grant set asides for program implementation. NJDEP utilizes a portion of these funds towards technical assistance.

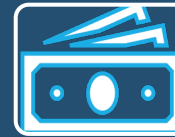
Focus to assist facilities that:

- **Serve Disadvantaged Communities** with Lead, PFAS, and SDWA compliance issues, CSOs, sewer infrastructure rehab and upgrades, and more.
- **May lack sufficient resources** to perform full assessment of needs (e.g. LSLIs, AMPs, CIPs)
- **May lack financial, managerial, and/or community support** for infrastructure projects and require assistance with stakeholder outreach & engagement.
- **May not be aware of funding opportunities or lack familiarity** and comfort with navigating Water Bank program application processes.
- **May need eventual engineering services** to assist with planning and design.

Under NJ-TAP, the NJ Water Bank Technical Assistance Program offers no cost assistance for pre-planning work!



Program Navigation



Financial and Needs Assessments



Community Engagement



Engineering Services (DW only)



NJ Water Bank Technical Assistance Program - *Grants and Principal Forgiveness*



Participants of the New Jersey Water Bank Technical Assistance Program qualify for up to \$2 million in grants for planning and design and guaranteed principal forgiveness for a resulting capital improvement project. Funds are sourced from State appropriations.



Planning and Design Grants

(\$60 million total) for Sponsors participating in NJ-TAP

100% Grant Funding

\$2 Million Cap per Fiscal Year



Construction Funds for Capital Improvement Projects

(\$60 million total) for Sponsors participating in NJ-TAP

100% Principal Forgiveness

\$2 Million Cap per Project

QUESTIONS?

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