



United States Department of Agriculture

---

## Rural Development

# USDA Rural Development Programs Offering **Drought Assistance**

Rural Development, an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), delivers a number of programs to help improve the quality of life in rural communities throughout the nation.

These programs may also help rural communities, businesses and individuals impacted by California's ongoing drought conditions. Opportunities include assisting rural communities whose water supply is at risk, homeowners that need help drilling a well or connecting to a water system, food banks that anticipate increased demand and ag producers wanting to offset ag irrigation costs among others.

Please contact us for additional resources and information on applying for any of these programs. Local contacts are listed throughout this brochure, or visit us online at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ca>.



# Drought Assistance for Rural Communities

## Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant (ECWAG) Program

Description, Limits & Terms	Eligible Applicants and Purposes
<p>USDA provides a grants to help eligible rural communities recover from or prepare for emergencies that result in a decline in capacity to provide safe, reliable drinking water for households and businesses.</p> <p>Privately owned wells are NOT eligible.</p> <p>Funds are exhausted for fiscal year 2014, however applications are accepted year-round in anticipation of funds in fiscal year 2015.</p>	<p>Applicants include most state and local government entities, nonprofit organizations and federally recognized Tribes.</p> <p>Grants up to \$150,000 for repairs to breaks or leaks in existing water lines and related maintenance.</p> <p>Grants up to \$500,000 for construction of new water source, intake and/or treatment facility or waterline extensions.</p> <p>Projects must be located in rural areas and towns of up to 10,000 in population with a MHI less than \$62,883</p>

## Community Facilities (CF) Program

Description, Limits & Terms	Eligible Applicants and Purposes
<p>USDA provides loans and a limited amount of grant funding to help develop essential community facilities for public use in rural areas.</p> <p>Grants cannot exceed 75% of project cost, and availability is based on population and income.</p> <p>Long-term fixed-rate loans. The length of term depends on the type of facility being improved or equipment installed and its useful life.</p> <p>Applications accepted year-round.</p>	<p>Applicants include most state and local government entities, nonprofit organizations and federally recognized Tribes.</p> <p>Funds may be used to help food banks and other food distribution facilities that experience an increased demand due to drought. Projects can include facility construction, renovation or the purchase and installation of necessary equipment, including food storage and distribution.</p> <p>Projects must be located in rural areas and towns of up to 20,000 in population.</p>

## Contacts

Staff	Area Covered (counties)	Email/Phone
Mike Colbert	Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Tehama	mike.colbert@ca.usda.gov   530-233-4137 x 112
Kevin DeMers	Siskiyou, Trinity	kevin.demers@ca.usda.gov   530-842-6123 x 112
Reef Atwell Quinn Donovan	Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Napa, San Francisco, Sonoma	reef.atwell@ca.usda.gov   707-526-6797 x 103 quinn.donovan@ca.usda.gov   707-526-6797 x 105
Michael Velez	Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Nevada, Placer, Sierra, Sutter, Yuba	michael.velez@ca.usda.gov   530-885-6505 x101
Doug Colucci	El Dorado, Sacramento, Solano, Yolo	doug.colucci@ca.usda.gov   916-714-1104 x 106
Frank Risso	Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Contra Costa, Mono, San Joaquin	frank.risso@ca.usda.gov   916-425-4768
Katie Schmitt	Alameda, Monterey, San Benito, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz	kaitlin.schmitt@ca.usda.gov   831-757-5294 x 130
Jose Guardado	Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Stanislaus, Tuolumne	jose.guardado@ca.usda.gov   209-538-3783
Sally Tripp	Fresno	sally.tripp@ca.usda.gov   559-276-7494 x 132
Lisa Butler	Kings, Tulare	lisa.butler@ca.usda.gov   559-734-8732 x 103
Teresa Hogan	Inyo, Kern	teresa.hogan@ca.usda.gov   661-336-0967 x 125
Al Correale	San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura	al.correale@ca.usda.gov   805-928-9269 x119
Daniel Cardona Luis Andrade	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	daniel.cardona@ca.usda.gov   760-352-4418 x 107 luis.andrade@ca.usda.gov   760-352-4418 x 108

# Drought Assistance for Rural Businesses/Ag Producers

## Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

Description, Limits & Terms	Eligible Applicants and Purposes
<p>USDA provides grants and loan guarantees to help rural businesses and agricultural producers purchase and install renewable energy systems or make energy efficiency improvements.</p> <p>Grants may not exceed 25% of eligible project costs.</p> <p>Applications accepted on annual basis - contact USDA staff below for details.</p>	<p>Applicants include rural businesses, farmers, ranchers and other agricultural producers.</p> <p>Funds can be used to help ag producers facing increased irrigation costs due to drought conditions develop energy efficient or renewable energy projects to reduce irrigation costs.</p> <p>Grants range \$1,500-\$250,000 for energy efficiency projects such as replacing inefficient water pumps with more efficient units.</p> <p>Grants range \$2,500-\$500,000 for renewable energy projects such as solar systems used to generate electricity for ag irrigation pumps instead of generators.</p> <p>Projects must be located in rural areas and towns of up to 50,000 in population.</p>

### Contacts

Staff	Email/Phone
Guadalupe Valdes	guadalupe.valdes@ca.usda.gov   209-722-4119 x 119
Steven Nicholls	steven.nicholls@ca.usda.gov   530-792-5805

# Drought Assistance for Farm Labor Workers

## Availability of Multi-Family Housing Units

Description, Limits & Terms	Eligible Applicants and Purposes
<p>USDA has a variety of options available to help farm labor workers maintain affordable rental housing during a drought disaster.</p>	<p>Anyone impacted by drought can receive a Letter of Priority Entitlement (LOPE) for USDA-financed properties</p> <p>Waive deposit, age restrictions and lease requirements</p> <p>Allow zero income applicants to live in apartments, offer available rental assistance, use imputed income from assets</p>

### Contacts

Staff	Area Covered (counties)	Email/Phone
Sandy Pedrotti	Del Norte, Humboldt	sandra.pedrotti@ca.usda.gov   707-443-6713 x 106
Janette Loper Dara Pellow	Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama, Trinity	janette.loper@ca.usda.gov   530-226-2587 dara.pellow@ca.usda.gov   530-226-2583
Zaldy Macam	Butter, Sutter, Yuba, Yolo	zaldy.macam@ca.usda.gov   530-792-5813
Michael Pope Wanda Thompson	El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sierra	michael.pope@ca.usda.gov   530-885-6505 x 102 wanda.thompson@ca.usda.gov   530-885-6505 x 110
Lorna Lorea	Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Contra Costa, Mono, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano	lorna.lorea@ca.usda.gov   530-792-5834
Jennifer Gooler	Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Solano, Sonoma	jennifer.gooler@ca.usda.gov   707-526-6797 x 102
Sara Brookes Diane Martinez	Fresno, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Stanislaus	sara.brookes@ca.usda.gov   209-491-9320 x 115 diane.martinez@ca.usda.gov   209-491-9320 x 130
Sylvia Barbosa Lupe Benavides	Alameda, Monterey, San Benito, San Francisco, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz	sylvia.barbosa@ca.usda.gov   831-757-5294 x 107 lupe.benavides@ca.usda.gov   831-757-5294 x 105
Carol Ernst	Kings, Tulare	carol.ernst@ca.usda.gov   559-734-8732 x 109
Armando Aparicio Stephanie Burgeis	Inyo, Kern, Santa Barbara, Ventura	armando.aparicio@ca.usda.gov   661-336-0967 x 135 stephanie.burgeis@ca.usda.gov   661-336-0967 x 126
Marcia Brooks Judy Twilley	Riverside, San Diego	marcia.brooks@ca.usda.gov   951-656-6800 x 102 judy.twilley@ca.usda.gov   951-656-6800 x 103
Edgar Ortega	Imperial	edgar.o.ortega@ca.usda.gov   760-352-4418 x 102

# Drought Assistance for Rural Homeowners

## Rural Repair and Rehabilitation Loan & Grant (Section 504) Program

Description, Limits & Terms	Eligible Applicants and Purposes
<p>USDA provides loans and grants to help eligible homeowners make repairs to their homes.</p> <p>Grants are limited to individuals age 62 or older. Loans are 1% interest with up to 20 years repayment and there are no age restrictions.</p> <p>Applications accepted year-round.</p>	<p>Applicants include very low income homeowners living in eligible rural areas.</p> <p>Grants up to \$7,500 and loans up to \$20,000 are available to help homeowners impacted by drought including drilling a well, purchasing well pump equipment, and covering costs to connect to a community water system.</p> <p>Homes must be located in rural areas and towns of up to 25,000 in population.</p>

## Rural Housing Direct Loan (Section 502) Program

Description, Limits & Terms	Eligible Applicants and Purposes
<p>USDA provides repair loans to eligible low-income individuals to make repairs to their homes.</p> <p>Applicants must meet repayment requirements.</p> <p>Applications accepted year-round.</p>	<p>Applicants include eligible low income individuals.</p> <p>Home repair loans may be available to help individuals impacted by drought including drilling a well, purchasing well pump equipment, and covering costs to connect to a community water system.</p> <p>Homes must be located in rural areas and towns of up to 25,000 in population.</p>

## Contacts

Staff	Area Covered (counties)	Email/Phone
Dale Stretz	Modoc, Siskiyou	dale.stretz@ca.usda.gov   530-842-6123 x 115
Linda Hunt	Del Norte, Humboldt	linda.hunt@ca.usda.gov   707-443-6714 x 101
Cheri Skudlarek	Glenn, Lassen, Plumas, Shasta, Tehama, Trinity	cheri.skudlarek@ca.usda.gov   530-226-2588
Nicole Roldan-Leben Frances Parker	Butte, Colusa, Sutter, Yolo, Yuba	nicole.roldan@ca.usda.gov   530-533-4401 x110 frances.parker@ca.usda.gov   530-533-4401 x 101
Jennifer Gooler Leanne McManus	Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Mono, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Sierra, Solano, Sonoma	jennifer.gooler@ca.usda.gov   707-526-6797 x 102 leanne.mcmanus@ca.usda.gov   707-526-6797 x 107
Lisandra Lima-Vitorino	Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Stanislaus, Tuolumne	lisandra.vitorino@ca.usda.gov   209-722-4119 x120
Mark Hultgren Lupe Benavides Esther Flores	Alameda, Monterey, San Benito, San Mateo, San Francisco, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz	mark.hultgren@ca.usda.gov   831-757-5294 x 104 lupe.benavides@ca.usda.gov   831-757-5294 x 105 esther.flores@ca.usda.gov   831-757-5294 x 102
Liz Vannata Rebecca Didway Alba Lazaro	Fresno	liz.vannata@ca.usda.gov   559-276-7494 x 133 rebecca.didway@ca.usda.gov   559-276-7494 x 139 alba.lazaro@ca.usda.gov   559-276-7494 x 131
Stacy Lopez Janie Gaxiola	Inyo, Kern, Kings, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Tulare, Ventura	stacy.lopez@ca.usda.gov   559-734-8732 x 111 janie.gaxiola@ca.usda.gov   559-734-8732 x 115
Maggie Slater Maria Elena Desamito	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino	magdalena.slater@ca.usda.gov   760-347-3675 x 122 mariaelena.desamito@ca.usda.gov   760-347-3675 x126
Patty Coronado	Imperial, San Diego	patty.coronado@ca.usda.gov   760-352-4418 x 109

## Help for Existing USDA Borrowers

Description	Contact
<p>USDA borrowers who may have lost their job or had their hours reduced due to drought may receive assistance on their loan payment. Options may include payment reduction, moratorium, or workout agreement.</p>	<p>USDA Centralized Servicing Center - 1-800-414-1226 toll free 24 hours a day, 7 days a week</p>

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.