EPA's OFFICE OF WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT

Andrew D. Sawyers
Onsite Wastewater Mega-Conference
October 18, 2021

WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES

Current and Future

- **Equity and Affordability.** Provide safe and affordable access for all

- **Climate Resiliency.** Contribute to the climate agenda in meaningful ways

- **Next Gen Water Workforce.** Recruit, train, retain workforce; support economic and recreational activities

BUILDING COMMUNITY & INFRACTURE RESILENCY – ADDRESSING THE AFFORDABILITY CHALLENGE

1. Lived Experiences of Stakeholders
2. Equity, Environmental Justice and Affordability
3. Community Revitalization – A New Legacy
4. Infrastructure Jobs Act and Infrastructure Investments
5. Adaptive Integrated Framework
6. Partnerships with Key Stakeholders

DECENTRALIZED WASTEWATER PROGRAM

Partnership Priorities

- **Outreach and Education.** Instill best practices for homeowners with septic systems
- **Data.** Utilize current and new data sources on decentralized system usage
- **Technology.** Promote advanced decentralized wastewater technologies for communities
- **Funding and Financing.** Share information, pursue innovative options
- **Decentralized Workforce.** Address training, education, and research needs to provide a sustainable decentralized workforce

Another Successful SepticSmart Week for 2021!

- September 20 – 24, 2021

- Annual outreach and education campaign for homeowners with septic systems

- Many great examples of community and social media outreach

Compendium of Decentralized Wastewater Demonstration Grant Projects

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Wastewater Management

August 2021
Document Number: EPA-830-K-20-001

New Decentralized Demonstration Compendium

Summarizes 18 community decentralized project grantee final reports, funded under congressional earmarks
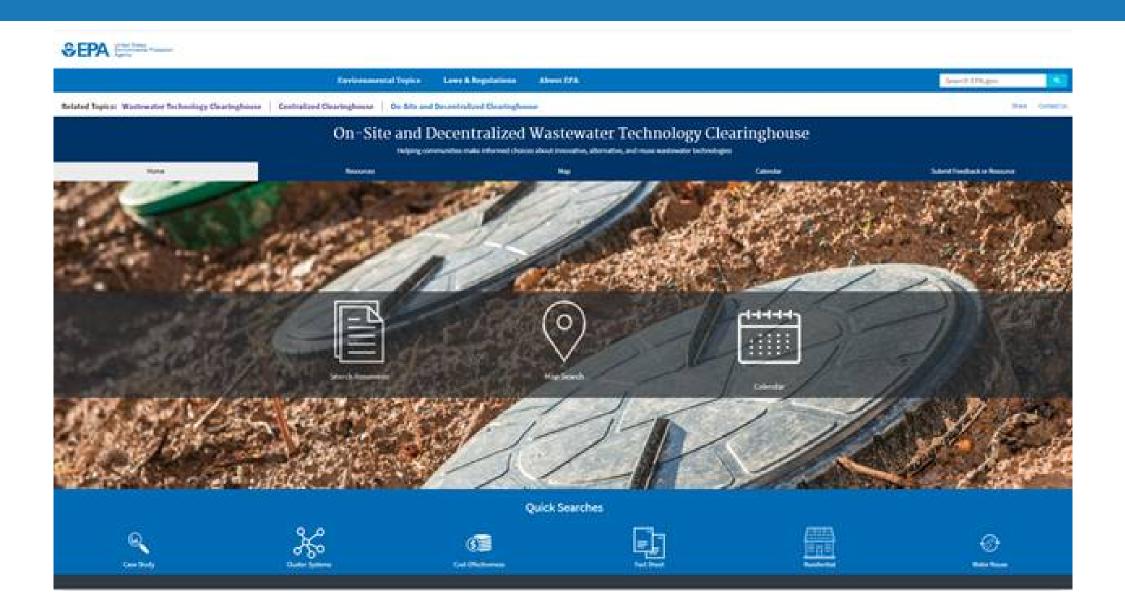
Key Topics:
- **Installation of new systems**
- **Community-wide assessments**
- **Stormwater infrastructure**

Funding for Decentralized Systems

- Leveraging the Clean Water State Revolving Fund/ other programs

- New Programs (USDA, infrastructure bill)

- The importance of management and maintenance

Wastewater Technology Clearinghouse

Newly Released Workforce Reports

Pipeline to a Sustainable Workforce:
A Report on Decentralized/
Onsite Wastewater Occupations

EPA Office of Wastewater Management
February 2021

♻EPA

Document Number: EPA-830-R-21-001

Education and Training Landscape:
Providing a Supply of Talent for
Decentralized/Onsite Wastewater Occupations

EPA Office of Wastewater Management
September 2021

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Document Number: EPA-830-R-21-005

**Building a Decentralized
Wastewater Training Program**
EPA Office of Wastewater Management

September 2021

♻EPA

Document Number: EPA-830-B-21-002

THANK YOU