



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Crow Wing County Offers Septic System Upgrade Assistance Program

Crow Wing County received \$32,746 in grant funds from Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources to provide funding to replace or protect septic systems for low income residents. Proper septic maintenance ensures that groundwater is being protected from human contaminants. In 2020, \$18,600 in loans from these funds were disbursed to Crow Wing County Residents through this loan grant program. "Having functional septic systems benefits our groundwater quality, it's important not to pollute groundwater because it's a major water source" stated Jacob Frie, Environmental Services Supervisor.

Residents can go to <https://www.crowwing.us/242/Grants> to fill out the application and read more information on the lending program through Region Five Development Commission. Residents who receive funding will be provided a loan from the Region Five Development Commission at 3% for 60 months for the cost of the projects. The terms of the loan are set by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

The total funds awarded to an applicant will depend on the cost of the system, yearly income, and size of household. Loans can be paid off at any time, with no pre-payment penalty. A \$50 application fee cover the cost of a credit report, is required at time of application.

Priority of funding will first be given to low and very low-income landowners. All need based low-income applicants will be funded to some degree, pending repayment availability as determined by the North Central Economic Development Association Loan Board. Applications are included in this document.

If you are interested in learning more about this program contact Region Five Development Commission – Stephanie Barney at (218) 296-5201. Information about Region Five Develop Commission program is located after the application in this document.

The Land Services Department is committed to providing excellent customer service while helping our residents make wise decisions that protect Crow Wing County's extraordinary natural resources. Citizens are encouraged to contact the Land Services Office at (218) 824-1010 or landservices@crowwing.us to discuss water quality protection or other land use related activities.

Our Vision: Being Minnesota's favorite place.

Our Mission: Serve well. Deliver value. Drive results.

Our Values: Be responsible. Treat people right. Build a better future.