

CITY OF VAN BUREN/DEER RUN REORGANIZED COMMON SEWER DISTRICT (DEER RUN DEVELOPMENT)

STATE PROGRAM: Missouri Department of Natural Resources

ASSISTANCE RECIPIENT: City of Van Buren, Missouri

ASSISTANCE AMOUNT: \$1.7M



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Deer Run Reorganized Common Sewer District (Deer Run Development), located within the Mark Twain National Forest, until recently, sent its wastewater to a 50-year-old unpermitted lagoon that released its effluent to the Current River. Most of the properties in the community utilize on-site septic systems, contributing to the risk of contamination of the Current River. These issues resulted in a moratorium being placed on both new connections to the lagoon and installation of new on-site septic systems, effectively preventing further development of the area. Due to the low number of residents, the Deer Run Development struggled to achieve compliance with the elimination of unauthorized discharges.

Through extensive stakeholder engagement, the City of Van Buren and the Deer Run Development created a regionalization plan to construct a sewer extension from the Deer Run Development to the city's wastewater treatment facility. The project involved the construction of a new lift station and the installation of an electromagnetic flowmeter. Thanks to a Missouri CWSRF Regionalization Incentive Grant of \$1.7 million, the City of Van Buren was able to help Deer Run Development connect to a fully functional sanitary sewer system and close the unpermitted lagoon.

To read more about this case study, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-04/pisces-2022-compendium.pdf>.