

RIPLEY WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

STATE PROGRAM: West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

ASSISTANCE RECIPIENT: City of Ripley Sanitary Board

ASSISTANCE AMOUNT: \$10.5M



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of Ripley is upgrading its existing wastewater treatment and collection systems to address years of regulatory compliance issues and treatment capacity constraints in accordance with consent orders and administrative orders received by the facility. The existing treatment lagoons were hydraulically overloaded and not able to meet current effluent quality standards on Mill Creek, a perennial tributary of the Ohio River. The lagoons will be replaced with a sequencing batch reactor (SBR) plant, which will allow Ripley to add additional treatment trains in the future to accommodate any increases in flow. Once the lagoons are decommissioned and all sludge has been removed, the area will be graded and re-vegetated for future beneficial use by the City of Ripley.

As a direct result of this project, two small, rural communities with decades-long failing wastewater lagoons will have clean safe wastewater services. The elimination of the failing lagoons will benefit Mill Creek and the Ohio River by reducing the amount of fecal coliform and iron entering the stream. The project includes mitigation measures to protect system components from potential flood damage since portions of the project are located within the 100- year floodplain.

The total cost of the project exceeds \$31 million, a substantial capital investment for a utility that serves approximately 2,260 customers. As a result, twelve funding sources, including a \$10.5 million CWSRF loan, were brought together to finance this very important water quality and public health priority for the City of Ripley and its residents.

To read more about this case study, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-04/cwsrf-pisces-2023-recognition-program.pdf>.