PROJECT FACT SHEET				
Project Name:	Decentralized Onsite Wastewater Treatment Facility Survey and Community Education	Completion date:	6/30/2023	
Project Location:	Hidalgo County, TX	Project ID:	1294	
Goal:	Reduce watershed pollution resulting from improper onsite wastewater treatment.	Technical Rep:	Dr. Anish Jantaria	
Contact Person	Tommy Ricks, Director of Environmental Services, tommy.ricks@communitiesu.org,	EPA:	Maria Sisneros	
	479-443-2700	NADB:	Briselda Duarte	

Pre-Project Conditions CU had no previous history with the area prior to this review. Therefore, none were identified.		
Project Objective Provide training and data acquisition to reduce onsite pollution in Hidalgo County, TX from malfunctioning or improperly maintained OWTFs.		
Project Scope	Project Cost	
Conduct stakeholder meetings, develop training	B2025 awarded amount	\$10,000
materials, facilitate homeowner training on proper OWTF maintenance and operations, and collect GIS	Total project cost	\$115,000*
points of OWTFs in Hidalgo County.	Project Length:	12 months
	Benefited population:	1,241,000

The Results			
Outcomes	Outputs		
Sustainable long-term solutions to accomplish	Completion of a GIS Mapping Surveying and Analysis		
necessary outcomes to achieve the Priority Area 2	of Decentralized OWTF systems in Hidalgo County		
goal of "Improving Water Quality" in Hidalgo County,	with layering of 937+ identified Colonias to determine		
Texas with outputs including GIS asset surveying of	highest risk areas.		
failing or absent Decentralized Onsite Wastewater			
Treatment Facilities (OWTF); developing and	Hosting of a Stakeholder Convening to develop a		
implementing a Community Outreach and Education	comprehensive strategy to improve onsite wastewater		
Campaign to educate rural and colonias homeowners	treatment in Hidalgo County by coordinating and		
on the importance of and best management	inviting key stakeholders of local, state, and federal		
practices of properly maintaining OWTF to eliminate	agencies, academic institutions, and local non-		
the <u>discharge of untreated sewage</u> (Objective 6) into	governmental organizations including community-		
the Rio Grande River watershed.	based organizations and philanthropic foundations.		

Development, production, and printing of bilingual OWTF Best Management Practices for Operations and Maintenance Fact Sheets.

Community Outreach to educate homeowners will be conducted in high-impact Colonias using the OWTF BMP fact sheets in one-on-one engagements and small group meetings."

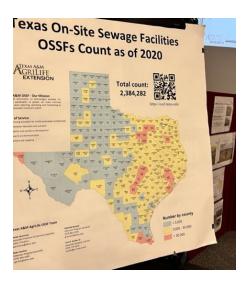
Significant project contributions

The result of this work will reduce and ultimately eliminate untreated sewage from failing or absent OWTFs in Hidalgo County, TX that will help to achieve the Border 2025 Priority Area 2 goal of Improving Water Quality.

*We leveraged at least \$15,000 of other funding to cover our remaining expenses on this grant.









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