



Allegany County, MD – Drinking Water

Project Location: Allegany County, MD

Project Background: A small, spring-fed, community-run water utility operating in a rural community in Allegany County, MD, is in need of upgrades. The system, which serves 28 homes, is facing several challenges. As the entire system is approaching 60 years of age, and is either nearing the end of or already beyond its useful service life. The system has many leaks, and being located in a rural area, some homes that it services are as far as two miles apart from one another. This distance, along with the topography of the area, has resulted in the system being quite disjointed. The community has previously either repaired the system themselves, or raised funds internally to cover the expenses of repairs. This is becoming less feasible, however, as the system ages and more challenges arise.

The system is not in compliance with Maryland state regulations and must be updated to achieve compliance. The spring serves about 28 homes and does not provide consistently sufficient pressure to all connections, resulting in a potential backflow hazard, as well as unreliable service for each customer. Water from the spring has tested positive for nitrates/nitrites and coliform. The treatment system qualifies as a T1 plan.

Description of the Community: The community, located in rural Allegheny County, MD, a generally underserved county in Maryland. The community consists of retirees living on a fixed income with some low-income families dispersed.

Project Scope of Work: The community is seeking volunteers' support with the development of a Preliminary Engineering Report, including an alternatives analysis and associated cost estimates. This report will then be used to pursue funding for detailed design and construction.

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