Alabama Clean Watersheds Needs Survey 2008

The Clean Watersheds Needs

Survey (CWNS) is a comprehensive assessment of needs¹ to meet the water quality and water-related public health goals of the Clean Water Act (CWA). States and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conduct the CWNS every four years under CWA Section 516 (b). Alabama documented needs totaling \$4.4 billion in 2008. This is a 6 percent increase from the \$4.2 billion in needs documented in 2004.



	a Needs (2008 Dollars, Millions				
Type of Need	2004	2008	Percent Change		
Wastewater treatment	\$1,372	\$1,533	12%		
Pipe repair and new pipes	\$2,792	\$2,891	4%		
Recycled water distribution	nr ^a	<\$0.5	n/a		
Combined sewer overflow correction	\$0	\$1	n/a		
Total Wastewater Treatment Needs	\$4,164	\$4,425	6%		
Conveyance infrastructure	n/a	nr	n/a		
Treatment systems	n/a	nr	n/a		
Green infrastructure	n/a	nr	n/a		
General stormwater management	nr	nr	0%		
Total Stormwater Management Needs ^b	nr	nr	0%		
Agriculture (cropland) best management practices (BMPs)	nr	nr	0%		
Agriculture (animals) BMPs	nr	nr	0%		
Silviculture (forestry) BMPs	nr	nr	0%		
Ground water protection: unknown source BMPs	nr	nr	0%		
Marinas BMPs	nr	nr	0%		
Resource extraction BMPs	nr	nr	0%		
Brownfields remediation	nr	nr	0%		
Storage tank remediation	nr	nr	0%		
Sanitary landfills BMPs	nr	nr	0%		
Hydromodification (Water resource restoration and protection)	nr	nr	0%		
Other estuary management activities ^c	n/a	nr	n/a		
Total Nonpoint Source Control Needs ^{b,d}	nr	nr	0%		
Total Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Needs ^{b,d}	nr	nr	0%		
Total Needs	\$4.164	\$4,425	6%		

^aNot reported; ^bActual needs may be higher, since documenting these needs is difficult; ^cIn 2004, Other Estuary Management Needs were reported under Separate State Estimates (SSEs); ^dNot included in Official Needs in the Report to Congress.

¹ Documented needs in the CWNS include the unfunded capital costs of projects as of January 1, 2008 that address a water quality or a water quality-related public health problem existing as of January 1, 2008, or expected to occur within the next 20 years; and meet the seven CWNS documentation criteria. All needs are in January 2008 dollars.



Wastewater Treatment Facilities

The enactment of the Clean Water Act (CWA) in 1972 resulted in dramatic improvements in the:

- Number of wastewater treatment plants.
- Percentage of the population served by wastewater treatment plants.
- Quality of effluent treatment from wastewater treatment facilities.

In 2008, 55% of Alabama residents received centralized wastewater treatment services at the secondary, advanced, or no discharge treatment level, compared to 45% in 1972.

Number of Centralized Treatment Facilities and Population Served								
Number of Facilities			Population Served					
				%Total %Total				
					Population		Population	
Treatment Level	1972	2008	Projected ^a	1972	1972	2008	2008	Projected ^a
Less than Secondary	25	3	0	141,000	4	830) <1	0
Secondary	78	152	123	739,000	20	882,574	19	776,833
Advanced	26	117	154	872,000	24	1,669,438	36	2,327,224
No Discharge	0	9	11	0	0	8,507	<1 <1	19,846
Total	129	281	288	1,752,000	49	2,561,349	55	3,123,903

^aNumber of facilities and population served if all needs documented in the CWNS 2008 are met.

Small Communities

In Alabama, small community wastewater facilities serve 9% of the population and comprise 10% of total wastewater treatment and collection needs. EPA small community support information is available at: www.epa.gov/owm/mab/smcomm

Reported Needs for Facilities in Small Communities						
Faci	lities		Needs (2008 Dollars, Millions)			
Population	2004	2008	2004	2008		
0-999	32	29	\$52	\$72		
1,000-3,499	64	82	\$145	\$281		
3,500-10,000	18	18	\$39	\$70		
Total	114	129	\$238	\$423		

Visit www.epa.gov/cwns for more information including:

- Detailed Reports to Congress
- Other state fact sheets
- Maps, charts, and data downloads for projects, facilities, watersheds, counties, congressional districts, cities, states, and regions