



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GRADD Receives \$450,000 Grant for Workforce Development

The Green River Area Development District (GRADD) will receive a Delta Workforce Grant in the amount of \$450,000 to continue the Hire to Operate, or H2O, program. The H2O program provides funding to train individuals to operate the region's water and wastewater treatment facilities through the Kentucky Rural Water Association's Registered Apprenticeship Program. The program spans across four counties in western Kentucky including Henderson, McLean, Union and Webster counties.

The H2O program utilizes grant funds through the Delta Workforce Program to pay for 1,000 hours of On-the-job training and more than 200 hours of related technical instruction for water and wastewater operator apprentices participating in Kentucky Rural Water Association's Registered Apprenticeship Program.

"The Green River Area Development District is excited to receive this Delta Workforce Grant Program award, and we look forward to expanding our H2O program. These federal funds will allow us to serve our Delta Regional Authority counties with 17 apprenticeships and help our community address the shortage of water and wastewater personnel in the region," says said Michelle Drake, Director of Workforce Development for the Green River Area Development District.

For more information, contact:

Michelle Drake

(270) 852-1312

michelle.drake@ky.gov

The Green River Area Development District (GRADD) is a regional planning agency and council of governments serving the communities of Daviess, Hancock, Henderson, McLean, Ohio, Union, and Webster counties. GRADD offers assistance in the fields of aging, health, and social services; community and economic development; transportation planning; and workforce development. Our mission is to afford local governments and citizens a regional forum to identify issues and opportunities, and to provide leadership in planning and implementing programs to improve the quality of life in our district.