

Town of Preston: Addressing inflow and infiltration in a small town's sanitary sewer system

CAROLINE COUNTY, MARYLAND | CLEAN WATER AND DRINKING WATER | 2023-2025

COMMUNITY NEEDS

Preston is a small rural town located on Maryland's Eastern Shore in Caroline County. Covering one half square mile in land area, Preston is home to approximately 700 residents. The town's Median Household Income of \$69,000 is nearly 40% below the statewide average.

Preston operates a public sanitary sewer collection system which has been experiencing significant inflow and infiltration (I&I) from groundwater and stormwater, overwhelming the town's treatment plant and resulting in permit noncompliance. Preston requested WaterTA assistance to address these challenges and better understand wastewater system capacity and needs.

Further conversations with the town revealed additional needs related to Preston's drinking water system, including funding to upgrade water meters and to complete the town's lead service line inventory.



PROJECT SUMMARY & KEY OUTCOMES

The Region 3 WaterTeam worked with Preston over two years to address these clean water and drinking water needs. This direct assistance resulted in the submission of three funding applications to Maryland's State Revolving Fund (SRF) program:

- Maryland Water Infrastructure Financing Administration (MWIFA) **DWSRF program** (FFY24), requesting \$35,000 to complete Preston's lead service line inventory
- MWIFA **Clean Water SRF program** (FFY24), requesting \$541,245 to provide a cured-in-place-pipe lining system for a portion (6,229 linear feet) of the Town's existing sanitary sewer collection system
- MWIFA **DWSRF program** (FFY25), requesting \$1,968,000 to complete lead service line replacement

In addition, to address stormwater I&I issues, the WaterTA Team coordinated an in-person **training for Preston town staff on proper maintenance of existing stormwater best management practices**, including stormwater ponds and bioretention cells. This training was provided in collaboration with the Chesapeake Bay Landscaping Professionals network.

The Region 3 WaterTA program helps Mid-Atlantic communities access funding to address water infrastructure needs. This program is coordinated by the University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center and funded by US EPA.

go.umd.edu/waterta

PRIMARY WATERTA PARTNER
ON THIS PROJECT:

