

# New subsidy program helps with small system GIS mapping

**A** new Public Water Supply System GIS Mapping Assistance Program is ready for introduction by the Kansas Water Office. The target date for the announcement was September 1.

The Public Water Supply System GIS Mapping Assistance Program is designed to promote modern mapping of public water supply systems. Mapping of water supply infrastructure provides benefits to operation and maintenance of systems and enables the systems to more accurately locate their facilities when requested.

The GIS Mapping Assistance Program will be funded through the Clean Drinking Water Fee Fund. The new program provides grant funding to public water suppliers for assistance with GIS mapping projects that meet certain program parameters. The Clean Drinking Water Fee Fund provides a source of funding for technical assistance to public water supply systems across the state. The Water Office emphasized that the GIS Mapping Assistance Program is a voluntary program to provide assistance to qualifying systems to map public water supply infrastructure.

## Program parameters

The following are the basic program parameters as outlined to KRWA for the new program:

1. The program will provide a grant of up to \$4,000 or 50 percent of cost of mapping the water supply infrastructure, whichever is less, to public water supply systems in Kansas. The proposal must map at least 70 percent of the water system.
2. The public water supply system must serve 1,000 meters or less.
3. Applicants must have a State approved water conservation plan (approved January 1, 2000 or later).

4. Any qualified provider who develops data that meets the Kansas Water Utility Data Standards may be used by the applicant for mapping under this program.
5. The GIS Mapping Assistance program is funded for fiscal years 2008 and 2009. The initial program will end on June 30, 2009. Applications for funding will be accepted beginning September 1, 2008. Mapping completed, with a final invoice dated on or after January 1, 2008 will be eligible for funding.
6. Funding is based upon a “first to apply, first funded” basis. Complete proposals will be approved and funded in the order the applications are received. Proposals will be reviewed and approved by the Kansas Water Office.

The Kansas Water Office estimates that the two-year program, if all projects are funded at the full level, will provide mapping for 76 public water systems in the state. Additional projects may be funded if maximum limits are not met by submitted mapping applications.

## Application requirements

In order to receive funding, a mapping proposal must be submitted to the Kansas Water Office. The Kansas Water Office has developed application forms. Forms can be accessed on the Kansas Water Office Web site at [www.kwo.org](http://www.kwo.org) or by contacting the Kansas Water Office at 785/296-3185, 901 South Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kansas 66612-1210.

The Kansas Rural Water Association is prepared to assist



*The City of Enterprise water system was recently mapped by KRWA. The graphic at left provides an example of high resolution aerial photography often available for GPS mapping.*

7. Funds for approved applications will be dispersed by the Kansas Water Office upon receipt of the Data Collection Summary and a copy of the final, itemized invoice for the project.

cities and water districts with GPS mapping. Interested systems are encouraged to contact KRWA for a demonstration of the processes and procedures involved.