

# RCAP Project Highlights



**Where:**  
Ogdensburg, NJ

**Problem:**  
Financial Management



## Ogdensburg Borough Water Department

Ogdensburg Borough is a rural community located on the Wallkill River in Sussex County, approximately 50 miles northwest of New York City, NY. At the request of the USDA/RUS Senior Loan Specialist, RCAP Solutions was asked to provide technical assistance to the community by conducting a rate analysis and rate restructuring plan for the water system.

RCAP Solutions assisted Ogdensburg Borough with a rate analysis and rate restructuring plan for the borough's water system. This activity built capacity at the local level by enabling them to continue to have sufficient revenues to cover operating expenses and debt service payments. Ogdensburg was running their system in a financially responsible manner with revenues sufficient to cover Operations and Maintenance and debt service obligations including funding a reserve account. The water system has had to utilize reserve funds to balance the budget for fiscal years 2011 and 2012. RCAP Solutions identified two possible causes for this sudden revenue shortfall. Roughly half of the system customers had new meters installed that can be remotely read and uploaded to the billing program. The other half of the customers provide their meter reading for billing. This situation can produce under reporting by customers, creating revenue shortfall. At RCAP's suggestion, all meters will be read in the upcoming year and a resolution has been passed to provide funding for the installation of the new, remote meters for all customers. RCAP will continue to monitor the fiscal position of Ogdensburg for improvements in revenues and cash flow.

RCAP Solutions works with communities to address a broad range of needs, including community infrastructure, and to promote public, environmental, and economic health.

RCAP Solutions is a member of the Rural Community Assistance Partnership. RCAP is a national network of regional nonprofit organizations that provide comprehensive, on-site technical assistance and training to help small, rural communities address their drinking water, wastewater, and other community development needs.

### For more information

Phone: (800) 488-1969

Fax: (978) 630-2751



### E-mail:

smueller@rcapsolutions.org

pteixeira@rcapsolutions.org

[www.rcapsolutions.org](http://www.rcapsolutions.org)

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