



DATE: March 28, 2014
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Eagar First in State to Complete Work on ADEQ's Small Communities Compliance Assistance Plan

PHOENIX (March 28, 2014) -- Arizona Department of Environmental Quality officials announced today that the Town of Eagar in Apache County has become the first municipality in the state to complete a Small Communities Environmental Protection Plan (SCEPP) to help communities comply with state and federal environmental regulations.

With a plan in place, Eagar is now positioned to identify potential environmental concerns or issues, disclose identified violations and request compliance assistance if needed. The town is eligible for up to a 100 percent penalty reduction if it has future environmental violations.

ADEQ's Small Communities Environmental Compliance Assistance project assists small towns and special water and wastewater districts in sustaining compliance with state and federal environmental laws and reducing the number of violations and enforcement actions.

"We congratulate Eagar for leading the way on environmental cooperation and sustainability," said ADEQ Director Henry Darwin. "Small communities in the state have limited financial resources and we are committed to helping them comply with environmental laws and be good green stewards."

ADEQ will present the town with a certificate of its achievement at its next town meeting on Tuesday, April 1.

Guidance materials, including a comprehensive manual, have been prepared to train small communities on environmental requirements and help with SCEPP development. For more information about the program:

<http://www.azdeq.gov/function/compliance/smallcomm.html>

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