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## **Area Water/Sewer Districts receive federal funding**

**LEICESTER, MA** - Federal dollars abound in Leicester today with the approval of two low-interest loans and three grants, which totaled nearly \$3 million, to the towns' water and sewer districts. State Director of USDA Rural Development, David Tuttle was joined by Congressman Richard Neal, State Senator Guy Glodis, and State Representative John Binienda in order to present the funds to district officials. Essential sewer and water services are provided to the town of Leicester by three special purpose districts. The districts include the Leicester Water Supply District, Hillcrest Sewer District and the Cherry Valley Sewer District.

The USDA loans and grants which were presented on behalf of President George W. Bush and Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman were distributed in the form of a \$1,220,000 low-interest loan and \$780,000 grant for the Cherry Valley Sewer District, a \$330,000 low-interest loan and \$210,000 grant for the Leicester Water Supply District, and a \$438,900 grant to the Hillcrest Sewer District.

Federal funding is made available to the Town of Leicester through the USDA Rural Development Rural Utility Service. Through this program, USDA Rural Development provides loans, grants and technical assistance for the renovation or construction of public water and waste systems in rural communities.

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