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CONTACT: MARIL E. ALSUP
Public Information Coordinator
(413) 253-4314 or maril.alsup@ma.usda.gov

PLAINFIELD RECEIVES ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR SEWER PROJECT FROM USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT

PLAINFIELD, CT - On behalf of President George W. Bush and Secretary of Agriculture Ann M. Veneman, USDA Rural Development State Director David Tuttle was joined by Congressman Rob Simmons and First Selectman David Allard to announce today that a \$1,073,000 grant is being awarded to the Town of Plainfield in order to extend 10,700 linear feet of low pressure sewer lines to the 110 users around Moosup Pond. The sewer project has benefited from two previous phases of funding through USDA Rural Development, which total nearly \$1.9 million in assistance.

“Plainfield is entering an exciting time” said First Selectman David Allard. “A new High School is in our near future, money has been earmarked for village center improvements, and projects are underway to move Plainfield forward with much needed economic development. This grant from the USDA is another important piece of the puzzle to assist Plainfield in its effort to develop responsibly and to insure that we protect our fragile environment.”

Congressman Simmons said, “I am happy to be here today to join in this presentation. We are today’s stewards of eastern Connecticut’s natural treasures. As such, it is our responsibility to turn over a healthy environment to the next generation. This grant and this project are a part of keeping the promise to our children and grandchildren.”

The construction of the new sewer system is intended to improve the water quality in Moosup Pond which, due to overloaded septic systems, has seen the rise of hazardous levels of the coliform bacteria. Plainfield is eligible for federal funding through the USDA Rural Development’s Water and Waste Program which provides technical and financial assistance to small communities with populations of 10,000 or less.

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“One of the missions of our agency is to reduce the burden of water and waste disposal costs to rural users and this grant will certainly do that,” said State Director David Tuttle. “Rural Development is eager to assist the town of Plainfield in their efforts to ensure that the residents around the Moosup Pond area have basic necessities such as clean, safe water and sanitary waste disposal systems.”

The objective of the USDA Rural Development’s Water and Waste Program is to develop public water and waste water systems in order to reduce or eliminate pollution of water resources and for the improvement and planning of solid waste facilities.

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