

Income Limits

The income limits revised March 8, 2004 have been released and are available on the Maine Internet at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/me>. Please be sure that you are using these new income limits.

Reserve Accounts

Attached is a copy of the November 5, 2003 memo from Arthur A. Garcia, Administrator of Rural Housing Service on Supervised Bank Accounts. The Reserve Accounts require a counter signature for the withdrawal of reserve account funds and is therefore considered a "Supervised Bank Account." Banks are starting to require personal information for Rural Development employees including social security numbers stating it is required by the "Patriot Act." This memo clearly states that all government agencies are exempt from the requirements. You may want to provide a copy of this memo to your bank when establishing or changing signatories on the reserve account.

Industry Interface

When a transmission is rejected and sent back to you it would be a great help if you would contact the CPC to work through the problem. By contacting the CPC, the problem seems to get resolved more quickly and efficiently.



A Word on Lawn Maintenance

We encourage management to get estimates/bids for weed and feed applications for the upcoming year. Check the yellow pages for lawn care companies – many provide a three or four application package starting in spring and ending in the fall.

Maintenance Seminar

The Maintenance Seminar is scheduled for April 27, 2004, at the Augusta Civic Center. Registrations must be received by April 1, 2004. The registration form can be found by visiting our website <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/me> and clicking the "What's New" link on the left-hand side.

A Reminder: Please remember that beginning this month, the monthly newsletter will only be sent via email. If you or your staff would like to subscribe to this newsletter, please contact Emily Farkas at Emily.Farkas@me.usda.gov

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For USDA RD Forms/Regulations/Admin. Notices:

<http://rdinit.usda.gov/regs>

To subscribe or unsubscribe to this newsletter please contact Emily Farkas at Emily.Farkas@me.usda.gov