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# NEWS RELEASE

## **\$5,029,880 TO BRUSH CREEK SEWER DISTRICT FROM USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT “825 FAMILIES TO BENEFIT FROM NEW SEWER SYSTEM”**

Gregory C. Branum, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development, congratulates Brush Creek Sewer District for the completion of the new collection system benefiting over 825 families . A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on Friday, October 1, 2004.



“This is a great partnership effort when everyone works together for a common goal of meeting the needs for an environmentally safe disposal system. I want to commend everyone involved in this innovative collection and treatment system,” Branum said. “Having a safe sewer system is an excellent example of USDA Rural Development programs assisting communities. They mirror President Bush’s initiatives and exemplify the Rural Development mission - committed to the future of rural communities.”

"As this area grows and becomes a more prominent part of the St. Louis suburbs, it's important that it have the necessary infrastructure in place," said Kenny Hulshof, U. S. Representative. "It's imperative that the federal government do what it can to help complement the efforts of local officials as they manage this expansion."

The projected cost for the new central sewage collection system is \$6-7 million. The USDA presented a mock check for \$5,029,880 representing the federal government’s investment in the project. The Brush Creek Sewer District was formed to meet the needs of providing a safe and sanitary sewer system for rural residents in an area of 600 acres located along Interstate 44 between Gray Summit and Pacific. The central wastewater system will eliminate hundreds of substandard septic tanks and stop the contamination of ground water.

Brunjes & Associates, Inc. of Union, has designed the system and will be providing construction and oversight as the Project Engineer. Mr. William S. Brunjes has worked with Commissioners and have been gathering data since 1980. Mr. Brunjes stated, “Completion of this Sewer System was a long and arduous endeavor that took a lot of persistence.” Ed Hillhouse, board member and Franklin County presiding commissioner, stated, “He appreciates the level of commitment that Brunjes & Associates has exerted through the years. Without the funding from the USDA Rural Development and the cooperation among numerous agencies the creation of this sewer district would not be a reality.”

Branum added, "Appreciation is extended to U.S. Senators "Kit" Bond and Jim Talent and U.S. Representative Kenny Hulshof for supporting USDA Rural Development. They have been strong proponents for the necessary funding for essential services for rural Missourians."

Anyone seeking more information about the water and wastewater programs or any other USDA, Rural Development programs may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo> or by contacting Daniel R. Minks, Community Development Manager at 1004 Vondera Ave., Suite 3, Union, Missouri 63084 or by calling 636-583-2121 ext. 4

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