



Committed to the future of rural communities.

NEWS RELEASE

RURAL ENERGY FOR AMERICA PROGRAM GRANT RECIPIENTS RECOGNIZED AT DEXTER USDA SERVICE CENTER

In a ceremony on September 7, 2010, Janie Dunning, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development, presented Certificates of Appreciation to eight Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) grant recipients at the Dexter USDA Service Center.

USDA Rural Development's REAP program is an important initiative to help rebuild and revitalize rural America. This program provides assistance to farmers, ranchers, and rural small businesses in making enhancements to their operations by creating renewable energy or making energy-efficiency improvements. Four of the eight REAP grant recipients are making energy-efficiency improvements to poultry houses and two recipients are installing high efficiency grain drying systems. Other improvements planned include an automated oxygen monitoring system for fish production ponds and installation of a small wind turbine.

"This is a great partnership effort when everyone works together for a common goal of providing affordable energy alternatives and helping to use energy more efficiently," said Dunning. "This project mirrors USDA Rural Development's mission of being committed to the future of rural communities. I want to personally thank everyone that has worked together to make these project's a reality. Special thanks are extended to our federal elected officials for making available the federal funds for these kinds of projects."

REAP loan guarantees and grants can be used for renewable energy systems, energy efficiency improvements, feasibility studies and energy audits. More information on the REAP program, which was authorized under the 2008 Farm Bill, is at: www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/farbill/index.html.

Anyone interested in obtaining additional information regarding assistance available through USDA Rural Development may visit the Missouri Rural Development home page at www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo. Information can also be obtained by contacting your local USDA Rural Development Area Office at 18450 Ridgeview Lane, Dexter, MO 63841 or by telephone at (573) 624-5939, ext. 4.

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