



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development  
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## IMPROVED FIRE PROTECTION FOR CUSHING

**Cushing, Neb., March 7, 2008**— The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development awarded an \$18,000 grant to the Village of Cushing to install a water well for improved fire protection services to its' 31 rural residents.

“We appreciate the grant funds from the USDA Rural Development to obtain our well. It is beneficial to the Village of Cushing and the City of St. Paul Fire Department in their time of need,” stated Chairperson Leo Haggerty, Village of Cushing.

Cushing currently lacks a municipal water system and looks to St. Paul, located approximately 14 miles away, to fill its' tanker trucks. Not having a volunteer fire department, Cushing is a member of the St. Paul Rural Fire District.

“USDA Rural Development is pleased to help bring greater safety to the rural residents of Cushing,” stated Specialist Glen Gatz, USDA Rural Development. “Having to drive tankers to St. Paul inhibited the fire department's response time to fires, placing lives and property in greater jeopardy.”

For additional information contact Glen Gatz in the Kearney Rural Development office at (308) 237-3118, (402) 437-5093 (TDY); or at 4009 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1, Kearney, Nebraska. Visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/>.

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