



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development
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USDA Rural Development Invests Over \$316 Million in West Virginia

Morgantown, WV – December 14, 2011: "It proved to be more than a phenomenal fiscal year for **USDA Rural Development in West Virginia** as we continue working toward our mission *To Increase Economic Opportunity and Improve the Quality of Life for all Rural Americans,*" exclaimed **State Director Bobby Lewis**.

\$316,461,853 was invested during Fiscal Year 2011 in West Virginia through its housing, utilities and infrastructure, community facilities, and business/cooperative programs. "USDA Rural Development's commitment to the future of rural communities is clearly seen through this investment of funds into West Virginia, helping us get closer to our vision of a healthy, safe and prosperous place to live and work," added Lewis.

The grants and loans awarded through USDA Rural Development in Fiscal Year 2011 included:

- Over \$251 Million through its Housing programs;
- Over \$27.4 Million via the Utilities and Infrastructure Programs, Water and Wastewater programs assisting approximately 17,580 users;
- Community Facilities loans and grants totaled over \$4 Million; and
- Over \$33.6 Million was invested through the Business and Cooperative Programs, creating 297 jobs, saving 600 jobs, and assisting 257 businesses.

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Further information on USDA Rural Development may be obtained by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>. In West Virginia, call 1-800-295-8228 to be put in touch with the appropriate personnel serving your county. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202.720.2600 (voice and TDD).

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Committed to the future of rural communities.

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