



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development
1550 Earl Core Road, Suite 101 • Morgantown, WV 26505

Phone: 304.284.4860 OR 1.800.295.8228 • Fax: 304.284.4893 • TDD: 304.284.4836 • Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/wv>

Gail Bennett, Public Affairs Specialist – (304) 366-2921, ext. 214

WV USDA Agencies Donate Over 7,800 Pounds Of Food Through “Feds Feed Families” Campaign

Morgantown, WV – September 15, 2011: USDA agencies in West Virginia worked together to raise more than 6,730 pounds of non-perishable food items and over 1,079 pounds of fresh produce to donate to local food banks/pantries/organizations across The Mountain State. “Feds Feed Families” is a national food drive led by USDA, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and other federal agencies to raise food for Americans struggling with hunger across the country. This is the third annual food drive and the donations have continued to grow with each passing year.

“I am extremely proud of the generosity of these USDA employees to donate incredible amounts of food to help their fellow Americans in need,” stated USDA Rural Development State Director Bobby Lewis. The food drive occurs June through August of each year. In the first year, federal employees across the country donated 1 million pounds of food; in 2010, 1.7 million pounds. This year, USDA and OPM set the goal at 2 million pounds nationwide.

“The fresh produce donations were mainly cultivated in the Peoples’ Gardens grown by USDA Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service and Rural Development employees,” pointed out WV Farm Service Agency State Executive Director Alfred Lewis.

WV Natural Resources Conservation Service State Conservationist Kevin Wickey added, “West Virginia USDA employees have really stepped up to the plate and did a wonderful job in helping their fellow man; indeed, there is no better feeling than helping others! Thank you Team USDA West Virginia!”

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