



# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **USDA Rural Development, City of Oskaloosa and ISU Extension Hosting Homeownership Workshops in Oskaloosa June 13 and June 20**

*Presentations to Highlight Housing Resources Available to Area Residents*

DES MOINES – June 7, 2006 – USDA Rural Development, the City of Oskaloosa and Iowa State University Extension are hosting homeownership workshops June 13 and 20 in Oskaloosa. The presentations, which correspond with national Homeownership Month in June, will highlight housing resources available to area residents. The workshop on June 13 is entitled “Becoming a Homeowner.” Topics to be covered include the importance of credit histories, the different types of lending programs and options, as well as Rural Development's Self-Help Housing program.

The workshop on June 20 will focus on “House Rehabilitation” with such topics as how to rehabilitate a home to accommodate the needs of the elderly presented by ISU Extension, Rural Development's housing repair program, loan and grants available from the City of Oskaloosa for home rehabilitation, as well as presentations from local contractors on energy conservation.

Last year USDA Rural Development provided \$109 million in housing assistance to rural Iowans living in communities of less than 20,000 people. Rural Development helped more than 1,250 Iowa families in becoming homeowners.

**Who:** USDA Rural Development, City of Oskaloosa and Iowa State University Extension

**What:** Homeownership Workshops

**When: Tuesday, June 13 – 5:30 p.m. “Becoming a Homeowner”  
Tuesday, June 20 – 5:30 p.m. “House Rehabilitation”**

**Where:** Iowa State University/Mahaska County Extension Office, 2121 North I St., Oskaloosa

**To RSVP or Questions:** Please call Michelle Moore at the USDA Rural Development office in Albia at (641) 932-3031 to RSVP, or if you have any questions.

Eleven USDA Rural Development offices in Iowa serve the 1.9 million Iowans living in rural communities. Office locations include a State Office in Des Moines, along with Area Offices in Albia, Atlantic, Humboldt, Indianola, Iowa Falls, Le Mars, Mount Pleasant, Storm Lake, Tipton and Waverly.

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Committed to the future of rural communities.

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”  
To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14<sup>th</sup> and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD).

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver quality programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in home ownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure.

Further information on programs is available at Rural Development's office in Albia, which can be reached at 641-932-3031, or by visiting Rural Development's web site at [www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia).

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