



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development  
210 Walnut • Room 873 • Des Moines, IA 50309  
Phone: (515) 284-4663 • Fax: (515) 284-4110 • Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia>

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Contact: Darin Leach, Public Information Coordinator  
Phone: (515) 284-4747 (office); (515) 669-5691 (cell)  
E-mail: [Darin.Leach@ia.usda.gov](mailto:Darin.Leach@ia.usda.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **USDA Rural Development Recognizes Plymouth Life, Inc. of Primghar for Installation of Geothermal System**

*Project One of Eight USDA Rural Development in Iowa is Recognizing To Celebrate Earth Day*

PRIMGHAR, Iowa – April 20, 2009 – Representatives from USDA Rural Development today recognized Plymouth Life, Inc of Primghar for the placement of a new geothermal heating and cooling system in their 34-bed living complex.

“We are very pleased to recognize Plymouth Life, Inc. for this energy-saving upgrade,” said Timothy Helmbrecht, Acting State Director for USDA Rural Development in Iowa. “We believe efforts such as these are important for the sustainability of rural America.”

USDA Rural Development assisted with the project by providing loan funds totaling \$1.9 million for the construction of the new residential care facility for the adult mentally ill. The new building opened in October 2008.

The geothermal system provides clean and safe energy, helps reduce noise within the facility and has fewer maintenance requirements than most other systems.

### **Celebrating Earth Day**

Earth Day, which was first recognized in 1970, is celebrated each year on April 22 as a way to renew a commitment of caring for all of the earth’s natural resources and helping prepare the environment for future generations. Rural communities and businesses in Iowa play a key role in building a safer, healthier and cleaner world.

During the past year in Iowa USDA Rural Development provided nearly \$50 million in loans and grants to assist with financing water and wastewater projects in 35 rural communities to help protect Iowa’s rivers, lakes and streams.

The agency also provided \$15 million to more than 160 rural businesses and producers to assist with energy-saving and renewable energy projects including 15 large and small wind turbines, 18 geothermal heating and cooling systems, 125 more efficient grain-drying systems and four biomass projects.

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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).

“All of our programs are voluntary, so we are always on the lookout for individuals and groups wanting to grow in rural Iowa,” Helmbrecht said. “Our mission is to deliver programs in away that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents.”

**Contact USDA Rural Development**

USDA Rural Development has 11 offices in Iowa that serve 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.

As a venture capital entity, USDA Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure.

Further information on programs is available at the local USDA Rural Development office in Le Mars, which can be reached at (712) 546-5149, or by visiting [www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia).