



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

USDA Rural Development Presents \$1.08 Million to Iowa Regional Utilities Association to Assist with New Sanitary Wastewater System in Stout

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

STOUT, Iowa – April 22, 2009 – Representatives from USDA Rural Development today presented Iowa Regional Utilities Association with \$552,000 in loan and \$530,000 in grant funds to assist with the construction of a new sanitary wastewater system in the City of Stout.

“We are very pleased to be assisting Iowa Regional Utilities Association with this water-improvement project,” said Timothy Helmbrecht, Acting State Director for USDA Rural Development in Iowa. “We believe community enhancement efforts are important to the sustainability of rural America.”

Recent water quality testing in Stout indicates a high level of e-coli and other contaminants due to failing individual septic systems in the community. When this project is completed the residents in the community will have a centralized wastewater system that will provide a safer and healthier environment for their families to live and work.

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.

-More-

Committed to the future of rural communities.

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”
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“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 Iowa Falls, which can be reached at (641) 648-5181, or by visiting www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia.