



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

USDA Rural Development Presents \$315,000 to Regional Utility Service Systems to Construct Sanitary Sewer System in Rubio

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

RUBIO, Iowa – April 22, 2009 – Representatives from USDA Rural Development today presented Regional Utility Service Systems with \$315,000 in loan and grant funds to assist with the construction of 23 individual septic tanks and the development of an on-site treatment system in the community

“We are very pleased to be assisting Regional Utility Service System 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.”

Rubio is a small unincorporated community located in Washington County in need of a wastewater system that is in compliance with the state and local requirements. By replacing 23 existing septic tanks and providing a recirculation filtering system, the residents of Rubio will have a new centralized wastewater system that will provide a safer and healthier environment for their families to live and work in.

USDA Rural Development is providing a \$138,000 loan and \$177,000 grant to assist with financing the project.

Regional Utility Service Systems (RUSS) was organized by 11 southeast Iowa counties and is authorized to erect, maintain and operate plants and systems for sanitary sewer services in those counties participating as members of the system.

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.

Committed to the future of rural communities.

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”
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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.

“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 a way 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 Mount Pleasant, which can be reached at (319) 986-5800, or by visiting www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia.