



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **USDA Rural Development Participates in Groundbreaking Ceremony for New Public Safety Building in Monticello**

*USDA Providing \$89,655 Grant through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to  
Assist with Financing Building Project*

MONTICELLO, Iowa – October 22, 2009 – Sheri Rice and Greg Thompson, USDA Rural Development Area Specialists, today participated in groundbreaking ceremonies for a new public safety building in Monticello.

The building will be located at 201 E. South Street in Monticello.

“We are pleased to be helping financing the construction of this building which will enhance the public safety for residents in Monticello and the surrounding communities,” said Bill Menner, USDA Rural Development State Director in Iowa.

USDA Rural Development is providing grant funds totaling \$89,655 awarded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to assist with financing the project. Total costs for the project are estimated to be around \$900,000.

This new building will create a dedicated location to house the city’s ambulance service and police departments. Currently, these services operate from multiple, unsecure locations throughout the city. For instance, the police department is located in a facility that also serves as city hall, as well as offices for the city clerk and Monticello Chamber of Commerce.

The new 1,200-foot facility will located across from the city’s fire department and will allow for many operational efficiencies including shared phone systems, storage bays and training areas.

Along with providing assistance for the public safety building, earlier this year USDA Rural Development also awarded grant funds totaling \$56,790 to help the community purchase a new ambulance and fire truck.

– **MORE** –

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“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).



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During the past year USDA Rural Development helped a record number of Iowans receive funding for economic development projects and quality of life improvements.

“Our agency’s investment in Iowa helped create or retain 2,200 jobs, aided 1,600 families in buying their own homes and assisted more than 120 communities in improving community facilities and upgrading local infrastructure,” Menner said.

USDA Rural Development is an equal opportunity lender with a variety of grant and direct and guaranteed loan programs for single and multi-family housing, community facilities, water and sewer development and business and industry programs.

Along with its regular programs, the agency has access to more than \$115 million in funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to be used in Iowa.

Deadline to apply for this special funding is September 30, 2010. Eligible uses of the funds include home mortgages, improvements to community facility and infrastructure projects such health clinics, community centers, public safety buildings and water and wastewater systems, as well as businesses and economic organizations looking to create jobs in rural communities.

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. Rural Development’s portfolio includes assistance for homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure.

Eleven USDA Rural Development offices in Iowa serve the 1.9 million Iowans living in rural communities. You can get more information by contacting Rural Development’s office in Tipton at 563-886-6006, or by visiting Rural Development’s web site at [www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia).

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