



Committed to the future of rural communities.

# NEWS RELEASE

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## USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES \$381,000 FOR WATER DISTRIBUTION IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CITY OF CLARK

On October 22, 2008, USDA Rural Development State Director Morris Westfall presented the City of Clark with a mock check for \$381,000 representing \$160,000 in grant funds and \$221,000 in low interest loan funds. The funds will be used for water distribution system improvements.

“I am pleased to partner with USDA Rural Development and Clark officials to help make this important project a reality,” U.S. Congressman Kenny Hulshof said. “This is an outstanding example of what the federal government and USDA can do to help our rural communities. Providing safe and reliable water service is a hallmark of Rural Development, and this grant will help Clark meet that need. This is yet another great use of our federal tax dollars being brought back to Missouri and put to work in our communities.”

“Having an environmentally safe water system is important to the residents and I commend all the partners for their hard work in making this project a reality, said Morris Westfall State Director for USDA Rural Development. “This project mirrors President Bush’s initiative and exemplifies the Rural Development mission – committed to the future of rural communities.” “Special thanks are extended to our federal elected officials including U.S. Senator “Kit” Bond and Claire McCaskill plus U.S. Representative Kenny Hulshof for making available federal monies for funding this kind of project for the City of Clark.”



Left to right: Homer Colley, Mayor; Leann McClanahan, USDA Rural Development; Susan Carter, Randolph Co. Commissioner; Llona Weiss, Senator McCaskill's Office; Tim Rich, Congressman Hulshof's Office; Ken Woods, MECO Engineering; Doug Galaske, Randolph Co. Commissioner; Mark Hibbs, City Clerk; Morris Westfall, USDA State Director; Howard House, Alderman; Peggy Ashbaugh, Alderman; Chuck Graham, State Senator; Peggy Lunsford-Davis, Alderman.

USDA Rural Development funds through the Water and Wastewater program, along with funding from the State of Missouri Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, will allow for these water system upgrades.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver 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 homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on rural programs is available by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or can contact Leann McClanahan, at the Kirksville Rural Development office, 2410 South Franklin, Kirksville, MO 63501 or call the office at 660-665-3274 ext. 4.

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**"USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender."**

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