

# NEWS RELEASE



United States Department of Agriculture  
Rural Development

## **USDA INVESTS \$1,450,800 IN PWSD # 4 OF PHELPS COUNTY**

### ***223 HOUSEHOLDS TO BENEFIT FROM NEW SEWER SYSTEM***

In a mock check presentation, the PWSD #4 of Phelps County received \$1,450,000 from USDA Rural Development to finance a new sewer system. The ceremony was held on Wednesday, July 9, 2003 at the St. James City Hall. The new centralized collection system will benefit 223 household with construction of a new collection sewer system with the treatment of the system being provided by the City of St. James. The project is funded by the USDA Rural Development Wastewater Loan/Grant program (\$675,800 Grant and \$775,000 Loan).

Greg Branum, Missouri USDA Rural Development State Director, said, "I want to commend PWSD # 4 of Phelps County and the City of St. James for their efforts to provide adequate sewer service to its citizens. The partnership of the PWSD # 4 of Phelps County, the City of St. James and USDA is an excellent example of all parties working together for the good of the community. The new system will provide an environmentally safe wastewater disposal system and will eliminate a large number of inadequate septic tanks around Phelps County north of St. James."

John Staples, President of PWSD # 4 of Phelps County, said, "Today is a milestone for the PWSD # 4 of Phelps County. I want to thank everyone for their hard work on this financing package for the new sewer system. I look forward to its completion so that everyone can benefit."

The next step is to acquire the necessary easements from property owners and then bidding for the construction. The new system will serve 223 households and churches just north of St. James when fully operational. Archer Engineers out of Rolla are the design engineers and will monitor construction of the system as project engineer.

Additional information on this project or other USDA Rural Development programs is available by visiting the agency website at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo>. or by contacting John Wisdom, Rural Development Specialist in Houston, Missouri by calling 417-967-4525.

The USDA Development is an equal opportunity service provider.