



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development  
World Wide Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

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## USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT CHANGES RURAL AREA DESIGNATION

(Bismarck, ND, April 9, 2004)... USDA Rural Development has recently conducted a review of the Rural Area Designation around the communities of Fargo and West Fargo. Based upon this review, it has been determined the agency will be changing their service area.

Rural Housing Program, a division within the mission area of USDA/Rural Development, provides financial assistance to eligible rural residents. Loans are available for very-low, low and moderate-income families to build new homes or to purchase existing homes. Loans and grants are also available for repair and/or rehabilitation of existing homes.

Effective July 15, 2004, all areas outside of the rural/urban boundary, **as shown on the attached map**, will be available for all Rural Housing Programs, including Single Family Housing Direct Loans and Grants, Guaranteed Loans and Multi-family Housing Loans.

Should you have comments on the implementation of the change to this rural area designation, or would like information on Rural Housing Programs, you may contact, Clare Carlson, State Director or Donald L. Warren, Rural Housing Program Director at our toll free number 1-800-582-7584.

USDA Rural Development serves as the lead federal entity for rural economic and community development needs. It administers financial and technical assistance through a network of state Rural Development offices, various non-profit and educational institutional partners, and its national office.

In Fiscal Year 2003, USDA Rural Development provided over \$73.5 million dollars in loan and grant financing to North Dakota citizens.

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Committed to the future of rural communities.

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