

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT NEBRASKA

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USDA Funds Assist in Quality Water for Bloomington

Kearney, Nebraska, April 11--The Village of Bloomington received in mid-March, \$135,000 in loan and \$211,000 in grant funds from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development. These funds will ensure the delivery of safe and quality drinking water to the village residents. A Community Development Block Grant of \$250,000 will also be utilized in financing this project.

The USDA Rural Development loan will be repaid over 40 years at 4.50 percent interest.

"The present water system is currently under an Administrative Order from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services for nitrate problems," stated Glen Gatz, rural development specialist for Nebraska USDA Rural Development. "Proposed improvements made possible by this funding include a new well and transmission main into town, water meters, and looping dead end distribution mains. These improvements will correct the present water system deficiencies."

USDA Rural Development is a credit arm of the U.S. Department of Agriculture whose mission is to provide financial assistance to rural communities who are unable to secure acceptable credit elsewhere for housing, community facilities, and business development. Assistance provided can be in the form of grants, direct loans, and guarantees on loans made by commercial lenders.

The USDA funding was secured from the USDA Rural Development National Office reserves set aside under the Emergency Community Water Assistance Program. For information regarding USDA Rural Development Loan and Grant Programs, contact Glen Gatz in the USDA Rural Development Office, 4009 North 6th Avenue Kearney, Neb. 68848 or phone (308) 237-3118. Website: www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/.

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