



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

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**Water Improvements Slated for Oakdale**

*--Federal and State Funds Utilized*

**Lincoln, Neb., May 30**—The 345 residents of rural Oakdale will benefit through the \$851,000 water improvement project funded in early May of this year. The USDA Rural Development loan and grant dollars leveraged with Community Development Block Grant funds will correct deficiencies in the village's existing water system.

"This funding will allow the community to make much needed improvements to their water system which will aid in their supply and quality of water," stated Jolene Kasper, rural development specialist for USDA Rural Development.

The village's existing water system is experiencing inadequate water pressure due to old water mains and a water system that is not well looped with several dead ends needing to be eliminated. These factors hinder the adequate water pressure needed for fire protection. Additionally, bacterial contamination has been present in the village's water, which posed a significant health risk to the community. Four administrative orders had been placed on the village's water system over the last three years. Through USDA Rural Development loan funds of \$459,000 and grant funds of \$142,000 along with \$250,000 in Community Development Block Grants, a new well will be developed on the site of the existing well. The new well will bring the village's water system into compliance with the State of Nebraska Health and Human Services' regulations. The federal and state funding will also enable the village to make needed upgrades to its water system, which include the replacement of water mains, valves and fire hydrants.

The USDA funds are provided through the USDA Rural Development Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant program. The loan will be repaid over 40 years at an interest rate of 4.5 percent.

For additional information contact Jolene Kasper at 1909 Vicki Lane Suite 103, Norfolk, Neb. 68701 or phone (402) 371-5350, (402) 437-5093 TDY. Visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/>.

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