



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

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## **PALMER TO RECEIVE IMPROVED WATER SERVICES**

**Kearney, Neb., Feb. 12-**The village of Palmer is the recipient of more than \$1.1 million in USDA Rural Development loan and grant funds. The monies will be used in conjunction with \$250,000 from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development, \$200,000 via the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality and a village contribution of \$10,000 for a water improvement project totaling \$1,564,000.

"The funds will accomplish major improvements to the present water system allowing for improved fire protection, water delivery, and continued safe drinking water to the 472 residents of the village," stated Glen Gatz, rural development specialist for USDA Rural Development.

Improvements scheduled include the replacement of water mains due to present mains being undersized or constructed of materials which reduce the flow or pressure of the water and pose maintenance problems. New valves and transmission main will also be installed. A 100,000 gallon elevated storage tank is to be constructed to replace the undersized existing storage tank which fails to meet the community's needs. Two wells will be developed to replace the two existing wells one of which is located near a potential contaminate source with the other experiencing a decline in production.

The USDA \$704,500 loan will be repaid over 40 years at 4.75 percent interest. Both the USDA loan and the \$399,500 grant are funded through the USDA Rural Development Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant program.

USDA Rural Development is a credit arm of the USDA 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.

For information contact Glen Gatz in the USDA Rural Development Office, 4009 North 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Kearney, Neb. 68848 or phone (308) 237-3118. Website: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/>.

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