



NEWS RELEASE

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Release # 04-07-02

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Rural Development Finances Road Building, Repair Program

COLUMBUS, OHIO, April 4, 2007 – Randall Hunt, state director for USDA Rural Development announced today approval of a \$190,000 Community Facilities program funding package to Pike, Ohio. The county will use the funding to purchase grading equipment for the Pike County Highway Department's use in road construction and repair.

"Rural Development's Community Facilities program helps Ohio's rural communities address their capital improvement needs," said Hunt. "We invested more than \$12.8 million in Ohio through our Community Facilities Program during Fiscal Year 2006, positively impacting the lives of long-time Ohioans."

Pike County continues to improve its accessibility to Rural Development programs. Last year the county tapped into Rural Development Community Facilities funding for \$60,000 to help complete pressing infrastructure needs.

The Community Facilities Program uses grants and loans to help communities develop essential facilities for public use. These facilities include schools, libraries, childcare, hospitals, medical clinics, assisted living facilities, fire and rescue stations, police stations, community centers, public buildings and transportation.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure.

Further information on rural programs is available by calling 614-255-2400, visiting a local USDA Rural Development office or by viewing USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

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