



# NEWS RELEASE

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## USDA Rural Development and the Ohio Department of Development Sponsor Renewable Energy Workshops

**COLUMBUS, OHIO, Feb. 28, 2007** - USDA Rural Development and the Ohio Department of Development are sponsoring three renewable energy workshops during March to present funding and program information to those planning, or interested in planning an energy project.

“These workshops target Ohioans who might not be aware of the various grant and loan funding opportunities and other financial incentives that can help further their projects,” said State Director Randy Hunt. “The workshops are spread across the state to broaden understanding and increase access to available federal and state assistance.”

The workshops will be held from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon with registration beginning at 8:30. The locations and times are: **March 6 – Portsmouth, Ohio** at the Scioto County Welcome Center – 342 Second Street; **March 8 – Reynoldsburg, Ohio** at the Ohio Department of Agriculture – 8995 E. Main Street; **March 14 – Findlay, Ohio** at the USDA Service Center – 7868 County Road 140.

Eligible renewable energy systems projects include wind, solar, biomass or geothermal systems. Examples of energy efficiency projects can include upgrading electrical motors, insulation, or heating, cooling and lighting upgrades.

Pre-registration is not required. Please call Randy Monhemius at 614-255-2424 for additional information.

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.

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