



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development
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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT CELEBRATING RURAL DEVELOPMENT

JACKSON COUNTY, EDNA, TEXAS, January 12, 2009 – Representatives of USDA Rural Development will be holding a **Rural Development Showcase** on **Wednesday, January 28, 2009**, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. The event will be held at the Wells Fargo Bank Building, 700 N. Wells, Suite 205 (second Floor), Edna, TX 77957. Information will be provided about USDA Rural Development's Housing, Community, and Business and Cooperative Programs.

This is an opportunity to bring information about USDA Rural Development programs directly to the citizens of Jackson County, as well as Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Lavaca, and Victoria Counties. Representatives will be available to answer individual questions and assist applicants with their applications in all program areas.

Assistance is available for very low, low and moderate income families for the purchase of existing or construction of new homes, through the agency's direct and guaranteed programs. Very low income residents that own and occupy their home may be eligible for assistance to repair and/or rehabilitate their homes, including safety and health issues, handicapped accessibility, and other repairs.

USDA Rural Development's Community Programs enhance the quality of life for rural Texans by providing direct and guaranteed loan funds for governmental entities, nonprofit organizations and Indian Tribes to enlarge, improve or construct schools, libraries, medical clinics, assisted living centers, public buildings, community centers and fund new and improved water and wastewater facilities. We also have programs for communities to purchase public safety equipment such as ambulances, fire fighting equipment, and other emergency required implements.

USDA Rural Development's Business and Cooperative Programs provide the needed capital to expand economic opportunities and development in rural areas throughout Texas by working with banks and community lenders. There is no minimum loan size and the maximum loan size is up to \$25 million. Minimum equity requirements are required to apply.

USDA Rural Development works to ensure that rural citizens can participate fully in the global marketplace, by providing programs that assist rural Americans in building strong economies and to improve their quality of life. For more information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, please contact the Edna Local Office at (361) 782-7151, Ext. 4 or visit our website at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/>.

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Committed to the future of rural communities.

"USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender."

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD).