



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development
6565 Amarillo Boulevard West • Suite C • Amarillo, Texas 79106
Phone: (806) 468-8600 • Fax: (806) 468-7248 • Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx>

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Contact Name: Linda Brakebill
Email: Linda.Brakebill@tx.usda.gov

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT SECTION 9007 RENEWABLE ENERGY, ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANT AND LOAN & VALUE-ADDED PRODUCER GRANTS APPLICATION 1-DAY WORKSHOP

AMARILLO, TEXAS, March 6, 2009 – USDA Rural Development will host a Day Workshop highlighting renewable energy and energy efficiency grant and loan programs and the Value-Added Producer Grant Program on Thursday, March 26, 2009. The purpose of this workshop is to provide information that will assist with the application process and provide answers to any questions applicants may have. The event will be held at two locations in Amarillo and Lubbock. The meetings are scheduled as follows:

Amarillo - Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Service Center
6500 Amarillo Blvd West
Amarillo, Texas
9:00 am

Lubbock - Reese Conference Center
Building #1130
401 Gilbert Dr.
Lubbock Texas
2:00 pm

Entrepreneurship plays a vital role in the economic stability of rural Texas. With USDA Rural Development's Business and Cooperative Programs, rural businesses can gain access to funds that normally would not be available to them. The Section 9007 Renewable Energy System and Energy Efficiency Improvement grant and guaranteed loan program may assist eligible agriculture producers and rural small businesses with financing to install renewable energy projects or make energy efficiency improvements to existing operations.

The Value-Added Producer Grant Program provides competitive grant funds for one of the two following activities: (1) to support the planning activities needed to establish a viable value-added marketing opportunity for an agricultural product or (2) to acquire working capital to operate a value-added business venture that will allow producers to better compete in domestic and international markets.

For more information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, please contact the Amarillo Sub-Area Office at (806) 468-8600, ext. 4 or visit www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/.

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