



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development
2287 North Texas Boulevard, Suite 1, Alice, Texas 78332

Phone: (361) 668-0453, Ext. 4 • Fax: (361) 668-3947 • TDD: (254) 742-9700 • Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx>

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Contact Name: Jake Sheeran
Telephone Number: 361-668-0453, Ext. 4
Email: Jake.Sheeran@tx.usda.gov

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR THE CITY OF PREMONT

PREMONT, TEXAS, October 5, 2005 – Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, announced today that the City of Premont has been awarded \$902,000 through the agency's Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program. The funds will be used to update and improve the existing wastewater treatment plant which does not meet Texas Commission on Environmental Quality standards. The proposed project will expand holding pond capacity and construct new aeration basins and stabilization ponds. These improvements will allow the system to be in compliance with wastewater treatment requirements.

"The City of Premont will utilize these funds to correct wastewater deficiencies for the health and environmental benefit of 992 households it services," said Daniel.

USDA Rural Development's Community Programs provide funding for construction, improvement, or expansion of water and waste disposal systems, telecommunication and education resources, and necessary community facilities.

USDA Rural Development's Water and Wastewater Program is designed to bring fresh, clean, drinking water and sanitary, environmentally sound sewage facilities to rural America's 53 million residents. Loans and grants are available to rural communities with fewer than 10,000 residents. Public bodies, corporations operating on a non-profit basis, and Indian tribes that are unable to obtain credit from other sources at reasonable rates and terms are eligible for assistance.

USDA Rural Development strives to ensure that rural citizens can participate fully in the global economy by providing technical assistance, funding, and other programs that help rural Americans build strong economies to improve their quality of life. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, contact the Alice local office at 361-668-0453 Ext. 4, or visit our website at <http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

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