



NEWS RELEASE

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT TO HOLD HOUSING SEMINAR

ORANGE, TEXAS, September 13, 2006- The USDA Rural Development Angleton Local Office, which provides service to Orange County, will be holding an informational Housing Seminar on the availability of loans and grants to assist residents. Assistance available for rural residents can help with the purchase or construction of homes, through the agency's direct and guaranteed programs, and can help with the repair and rehabilitation of homes. Additional funds for these programs have been made available to areas affected by Hurricane Rita.

"USDA Rural Development is proud of the additional assistance we have available for rural residents in Orange County which suffered from affects of Hurricane Rita," said Bryan Daniel, State Director. "These additional funds recently expanded eligibility to communities which were not previously eligible to receive assistance, including Orange, West Orange and the surrounding communities.

In order to provide information regarding the housing assistance available to the communities of Orange County, the USDA Rural Development Angleton Local Office will be holding a Housing Seminar on Saturday, September 23, 2006, from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. The seminar will be held at the Orange County Red Cross, located at 908 West Pine in Orange. Representatives of USDA Rural Development will be available to provide information and assist individuals in completing applications. Applicants that have an income below 80% of the area median income for a direct homeownership loan, or below 115% of the area median income for a guaranteed homeownership loan are eligible to apply.

For further information regarding USDA Rural Development Programs, contact the Angleton Local Office at (979) 849-5251, Extension 4, or visit our website at <http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

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