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# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development  
World Wide Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

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## VERMONT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **MONTGOMERY WATER PROJECT IN LAST PHASE**

Montpelier, VT, May 8, 2007 - The Town of Montgomery will use a \$340,000 loan and a \$333,000 grant from USDA Rural Development's Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant program to construct a treatment plant, a booster pump station, refurbish the existing pump station and install a transmission main to connect the plant to the distribution system. All improvements will enable the system to meet the Safe Drinking Water Act requirements. The water system has approximately 163 connections and serves both Montgomery Village and Montgomery Center. Previous funding from Rural Development for this water project included \$560,000 in loans and \$1,680,000 in grants.

This announcement coincides with National Drinking Water week, celebrated this year from May 6-12. This is the 33<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act and raises awareness of the vital role that water plays in our daily lives and encourages public participation in protecting and conserving drinking water supplies.

"Every American should be able to turn on their faucet and see clean drinking water flowing from the tap," said Jolinda H. LaClair, State Director of USDA Rural Development in New Hampshire. "Clean water is a health issue and also a key factor in promoting rural economic development. Without safe, reliable drinking water, a community can not attract the new businesses needed to provide America's families with good-paying jobs.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life in Rural America. This is done by providing financial and technical assistance to foster growth and new opportunities for business development, home ownership, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Last year, Rural Development provided more than \$5.4 million to Vermont rural communities for water and wastewater projects. To learn more about USDA Rural Development programs visit the web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/vt>.