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**AGRICULTURE SECRETARY VILSACK ANNOUNCES \$11.8 MILLION FOR 19  
COMMUNITY FACILITIES PROJECTS IN RURAL AREAS**

*Projects Funded Include Community Centers, Courthouse, and Fire Departments in 11 States*

WASHINGTON, Jan.12, 2010 - Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced the selection of \$11.8 million in community facilities projects that are being funded with federal funds provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. USDA has announced \$337 million in Recovery Act funding for community facility projects to date.

“President Obama is committed to improving the quality of life for rural residents by ensuring that rural communities have quality public facilities such as community centers, courthouses, health centers and hospitals,” Vilsack said. “The Recovery Act funds announced today demonstrate continued efforts to rebuild and revitalize rural communities throughout the country.”

For example, in Lake Norden, South Dakota, the City of Lake Norden has been selected to receive a \$481,000 loan and a \$100,000 grant to construct a community center for community meetings and functions.

In addition to the \$11.8 million that USDA Rural Development is providing to fund the 19 projects announced today, recipients will provide nearly \$4.4 million from other sources. Funding of each loan and grant recipient is contingent upon meeting the conditions of the agreement.

Below is a complete list of the selected recipients:

## Connecticut

- Quinbaug Valley Emergency Communication Center; \$1,800,000 million loan; renovate emergency communication center

## Illinois

- County of Stark; \$24,500 grant; construct salt shed
- Village of Pulaski Public Safety; \$62,730 grant; renovate fire station
- Village of Elkhville; \$80,000 loan; \$40,000 grant; construct a fire station

## Indiana

- Montpelier Community Center; \$200,000 grant; construct new multipurpose facility

## Iowa

- Howard-Winneshiek Community School District; Lime Springs/Chester Spring Ahead Learning Center; \$200,000 grant; build daycare/early childhood development center

## Montana

- Big Sandy Activities Center; \$346,000 loan; \$115,500 grant; construct special needs center

## North Carolina

- Town of Mills River Town Hall/Library Building; \$1,030,000 loan; construct town center to include town hall, library, and meeting rooms
- Town of Seaboard Town Hall/Police Facility; \$452,500 loan; \$125,000 grant; construct a multipurpose facility to house town hall and police department
- Seaboard Volunteer Fire Department Facility; \$550,000 loan; \$135,000 grant; construct Fire Department facility

- Jackson County Public Library; \$200,000 grant; purchase equipment and furnishings for new library

## Ohio

- Montville Township; \$3,531,000 loan; construct a new safety service center to house police, emergency medical and fire services

## Pennsylvania

- Goodwill Fire Company No. 1; \$836,145 loan; \$147,555 grant; construct a fire station

## South Dakota

- Lake Norden Community Center; \$481,000 loan; \$100,000 grant; construct a community center

## Tennessee

- The Exchange Club; \$206,000 loan; \$75,000 grant; purchase and renovate a child abuse prevention facility
- Lawrence County Courthouse Renovation; \$165,000 loan; \$29,000 grant; construct and renovate judicial center
- Lawrence County Solid Waste Building; \$132,000 loan; \$124,000 grant; purchase and install material and fixtures to expand an existing recycling center

## Wisconsin

- Town of Wilton; \$63,000 grant; construct and enclose salt/sand shed
- Town of Kingston; \$497,000 loan; \$100,000 grant; construct a new facility to be used as a senior center and town hall

The funding announced today is being provided through USDA Rural Development's Community Facilities program, which helps finance essential community facilities for public use

in rural areas. These facilities include childcare centers, hospitals, medical clinics, assisted living facilities, fire and rescue stations, police stations, community centers, public buildings and transportation. Through this program, USDA ensures that such facilities are available to all rural residents. These funds are available to public bodies, non-profit organizations and federally recognized Indian tribes. More information about USDA Rural Development can be found at