



United States Department of Agriculture

Rural Development

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News Release

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USDA Announces Funding Available for Septic System Repairs

STEVENS POINT, Wis., March 16, 2017 – U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Housing Program Director Dave Schwobe announced today that funding is available for Wisconsin residents to make repairs to their homes.

“During the cold, wet, short days of winter, you probably enjoy spending more time inside with a blanket by the fire and less time outside enjoying the beauties of nature,” Schwobe said. “As the days begin to lengthen, the temperatures rise and you start to think about spring cleaning, keep in mind what’s in your yard that you don’t see---your septic system.”

If an inspection of your septic system indicates that it needs to be repaired, replaced or upgraded, USDA Rural Development can provide assistance through home repair loans and grants. Loans are available for up to \$20,000 at a one percent fixed interest rate for up to 20 years. Individuals who are age 62 and older and who do not have repayment ability for a loan, may be eligible for a grant of up to \$7,500. Funds can cover all upfront and construction costs, including septic system designs, permits and installations.

Program eligibility is based on household income that cannot exceed 50 percent of the area median income and the property must be located in a rural community. Portions of all counties in Wisconsin are eligible for Rural Development’s housing programs with the exception of Milwaukee County.

“The cheapest septic system you’ll ever have is the one you’re using now,” says Schwobe. “Having it inspected may prevent septic system failure and will protect your investment, your family and Wisconsin’s groundwater.”

For more information on USDA Rural Development’s Home Repair Loan and Grant Program and to verify if your income and property qualify, please call USDA Rural Development at 715-345-7611 or visit our website at www.rd.usda.gov/wi.

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