



USDA – Rural Development Programs Available

USDA staff is available by appointment only on the fourth Thursday of each month from noon until 6:00 PM in the Carlton Brown Building, Town Hall Annex, 144 Harrisville Main Street, Harrisville, RI. Two programs are available from USDA Rural Development, an agency within the United States Department of Agriculture. Staff will review the programs and assist applicants with required paperwork.

One program is to encourage **homeownership**. This home loan program provides individuals and families the opportunity to purchase or build a modest, detached, single family home or condominiums with no down payment and financing of up to 100%.

Another program is a **home improvement program**. Qualifying families may receive low interest loans of up to \$20,000 for home improvements, and homeowners 62 years of age or older may be eligible for home improvement grants of up to \$7,500.00. Examples of how the home improvement program can help are: repair a leaking roof, replace a wood-stove with central heating, or to construct a front door ramp for someone using a wheelchair.

Families must qualify! Applicants are expected to have a dependable source of income and a reasonably good history of paying past credit obligations. MAXIMUM family incomes to qualify vary depending on family size: one person (\$41,000 per year), two people (\$46,850 per year), three people (\$52,700 per year), four people (\$58,550 per year), five people (\$63,250 per year), six people (\$67,900 per year), and it goes up accordingly.

Call 401-568-4300 extensions 130 or 131 to make an appointment to speak with a USDA representative! The next meeting opportunity is Thursday, January 27, 2011.