Features

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Bloomfield, Missouri – On behalf of USDA Rural

Development Missouri State Director Anita J. Dunning, Housing Program

Director Pam Anglin celebrated Earth Day by visiting Bloomfield, Missouri.

This year marks the 45th anniversary of the first Earth Day and has become a day of recognition to highlight the impact human activities have on the environment.

"Rural Development's mission is to improve the quality of life for residents of rural America which includes protecting what the earth provides for future generations. Projects undertaken must be shown to avoid negative affects on natural resources," Dunning stated. "Participating in water quality and water service projects such as the City of Bloomfield project enables Rural Development to influence decisions made on the use of our natural resources. We are proud of the city's recognition and willingness to continue to provide quality water while preserving our natural resources."

Bloomfield's water distribution system is aged and requires continued maintenance. Maintenance and repair costs have created a burden on the city's budget and staff. Line breaks are frequent requiring boil water orders to prevent bacterial contamination. In order to improve the city's system and reduce any health risks, Rural Development awarded Bloomfield a \$2,406,000 Water and Waste Disposal Loan and a \$1,875,000 Water and Waste Disposal Grant. These funds will be used to install new distribution lines, hydrants,

pump, and meters.

Water and Waste Water Grant and Loan Programs assist the development of water and waste disposal systems in rural areas and towns with a population not in excess of 10,000. The funds are available to public bodies, non-profit corporations and Indian tribes.

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