

## USDA Rural Development is Open for Business

Written by USDA Rural Development Wisconsin  
Thursday, 09 April 2020 08:40 -

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***USDA is here to help rural residents, businesses and communities affected by the COVID-19 outbreak.***

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STEVENS POINT, WI - USDA Rural Development in Wisconsin is open for business and here to serve our rural communities affected by COVID-19. Under the leadership of President Trump and Agriculture Secretary Perdue, USDA Rural Development is committed to being a strong partner to rural communities and all the people who call them home during this challenging time. We have taken a number of immediate actions to help rural residents, businesses and communities affected by the COVID-19 outbreak:

- Effective March 19, borrowers with USDA single-family housing Direct and Guaranteed loans are subject to a moratorium on foreclosure and eviction for a period of 60 days. This action applies to the initiation of foreclosures and evictions and to the completion of foreclosures and evictions in process.
- Effective immediately until September 30, 2020, lenders may offer 180-day loan payment deferrals without prior agency approval for Business and Industry Loan Guarantees, Rural Energy for America Program Loan Guarantees, Community Facilities Loan Guarantees and Water and Waste Disposal Loan Guarantees.
- We have extended application deadlines for our Rural Business Development Grant Program, the Rural Energy for America Program and the ReConnect Program.

To learn more about Rural Development's COVID-19 response visit [www.rd.usda.gov/coronavirus](http://www.rd.usda.gov/coronavirus)

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Wisconsin Rural Development staff are working remotely. We remain dedicated to the timely delivery of our programs. I have been quite impressed with the way Wisconsin's rural communities are working together and truly stepping up to help each other through this time.

USDA Rural Development is here to help, and with our 50+ programs we can create prosperity in rural communities together. I believe that our programs truly make the difference for rural Wisconsin and when we work together, America prospers. I encourage you all to take a moment and check out our programs at [www.rd.usda.gov/wi](http://www.rd.usda.gov/wi).

Please stay safe and healthy and together, we will get through this.

*Frank Frassetto*

*Wisconsin USDA Rural Development State Director*