



News Release

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USDA Rural Development Staff, Partners, Congressional Leaders Celebrate National Homeownership Month with West Stewartstown, NH Homesite Visit

Property Upgrade Made Possible with USDA 504 Home Repair Grant

WEST STEWARTSTOWN, NH, June 16th, 2022 –State Director of USDA Rural Development in New Hampshire and Vermont (RD), Sarah Waring, today will celebrate National Homeownership Month with her staff and housing partners from around the Granite State with a home visit in West Stewartstown. Homeowner Rachel Rancourt recently received grant funding from [USDA’s 504 Single Family Housing Repair program](#) to paint and replace windows and fascia boards. On-site will be the Rural Development staff from New Hampshire and Vermont, along with congressional representatives, Eversource Energy, Tri-County CAP, municipal and state leaders, and commercial contractors.

During Fiscal Year 2022, RD in New Hampshire has obligated \$32.6 million to rural residents through housing programs, while RD in Vermont has obligated \$22.4 million.

“Because of Covid, this is the first home site visit we’ve had in three years, so we’re extremely excited to get out there and make Ms. Rancourt’s property shine,” said Waring. “In our agency, June is a time to celebrate Homeownership, the dream of having a secure, safe place to put down roots, perhaps raise a family, and help shape the community. Every home purchase through the [502 Home Loan program](#), and every repair through the 504 program, symbolizes the American ideals of independence and the pursuit of happiness. We are so proud to work with tireless housing partners from nonprofit organizations, the States of New Hampshire and Vermont, and our friends in congress and sister agencies, to help rural residents find that happiness.”

Members of the RD team will work together to weed Ms. Rancourt’s garden, mow the lawn, clear brush and trim branches. On hand will also be members of the Tri-County Community Action Plan (TCCAP) to take down an old shed and make other repairs and upgrades. TCCAP coordinated with Eversource Energy to upgrade Ms. Rancourt’s home with carbon/smoke detectors, a bathroom fan, LED light fixtures, air sealant, attic insulation, a new boiler and hot-water tank, and two new windows. A buffet will be provided and remarks will commence after lunch at approximately 1:00pm.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. Under the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America’s food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, promoting competition and fairer markets for

all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate-smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit www.usda.gov.

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