

TOWN OF SILVER LAKE, INDIANA TO RECEIVE ALERT SIRENS

As part of the President's Faith-Based and Community Initiative, USDA Rural Development presented a \$12,942 Community Facilities Program Grant to the town of Silver Lake, Indiana. The grant significantly contributed to the purchase and installation of two rotating alert sirens for the community.

USDA Rural Development State Director Robert White said, "Rural Development is very proud to be able to assist Silver Lake with this important project. The community has made a strong commitment to provide quality service to its residents and these funds will enhance its ability to do so. Providing emergency warnings is a vital necessity for the safety of any community."

Currently, the town uses an old manual fire station siren, which cannot be heard throughout the entire community. The two new sirens will be able to alert the entire Silver Lake community to seek safe shelter in the event of approaching severe weather. They will be wired to the Kosciusko County Dispatch Center and the Silver Lake Police Department patrol vehicles and the fire station will have remote control pads which can manually be set off by town officials. Additionally, for a fee, businesses may install a transmitter box linked to the sirens inside their buildings to alert workers of severe weather conditions.

This latest grant is one of several recently awarded in Indiana by USDA Rural Development. "These grants are in keeping with the mission of USDA Rural Development which is to provide equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure," said White. "USDA Rural Development is committed to improving the quality of life in rural Indiana. When rural Indiana makes progress, all of Indiana benefits."

With the help of USDA Rural Development, Silver Lake has improved the protection of its citizens.

-July 2008