

USDA Can Help You Make Your Farm, Ranch or Small Business More Profitable

USDA is offering grants and loan guarantees to help rural businesses and agricultural producers reduce their energy costs and consumption.

The funding is being provided through USDA Rural Development's Rural Energy for America Program (REAP). Loans and grants are available to install renewable energy systems or make energy efficiency improvements.

Renewable energy systems include solar, wind, geothermal, anaerobic digesters, and renewable biomass.

Energy efficiency improvements include grain drying and handling, lighting, refrigeration, facility improvements (such as adding insulation or replacing windows), heating and cooling upgrades, motor replacements and automated control upgrades.

Grants of up to 25% of a project's total costs are available.

- The maximum grants are \$250,000 for energy efficiency improvements and \$500,000 for renewable energy systems

Loans guarantees of up to 75% of a project's total costs are available.

- The minimum loan is \$5,000
- The maximum loan is \$25 million

Grant application deadlines are **April 30, 2015** and **June 30, 2015**. Guaranteed loan applications will be reviewed on a monthly basis.

Missouri has \$1.8 million in grant funding available for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects. For information on REAP contact (573) 876-9321 or email nathan.tutt@mo.usda.gov

Don't miss this great opportunity!