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**GreenStone FCS to Return \$12 Million to Customers in Cash Patronage**

For the fifth year in a row, customers of GreenStone Farm Credit Services will soon be reminded of the added benefits of doing business with their financial cooperative.

In December, the GreenStone FCS Board of Directors approved the payout of \$12 million in cash patronage for the 2009 calendar year. Each eligible customer's patronage check will be available at his or her local GreenStone FCS branch on Friday, March 12 to be picked up in person. GreenStone FCS offices will maintain normal business hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on that day. Those checks not picked up by the end of business on March 12 will be mailed to the respective customers.

A customer's exact refund will be based on the proportion of net-interest income earned on his or her loan to the total patronage-based net interest income earned by the association during the 2009 calendar year.

Once again, GreenStone's plan is to not only distribute a qualified cash patronage payment to customers, but also to use non-qualified written notices of allocation as well.

Customers eligible to receive the patronage payments include anyone holding stock or participation certificates with GreenStone FCS, which would include rural residential home loan customers. Loan participations either sold or purchased by GreenStone FCS, and any leasing transactions, will not be included in the patronage program. The returns to customers also will not be based on income derived from fees or any of the organization's financial services.

According to GreenStone FCS President/CEO Dave Armstrong, the association remains committed to returning annual patronage to stockholders, helping to bring additional added value to those participating in the financial cooperative.

"Despite the various challenges experienced by some of our agricultural sectors in 2009, GreenStone remains a strong and healthy financial cooperative," said Armstrong. "Because of that, our association's management and board of directors felt strongly of the

importance to once again show our appreciation to our loyal and committed customers by distributing cash patronage.”

More information about this year’s patronage payment distribution will be shared soon with eligible customers.

*GreenStone Farm Credit Services, based in East Lansing, Michigan, is Michigan and northeast Wisconsin’s largest agricultural lender and the country’s fifth largest association in the Farm Credit System. With more than \$5.0 billion in assets, GreenStone serves some 18,000 customers with 37 branch locations in Michigan and northeast Wisconsin.*