



# Clark County FSA

## Farm Service Agency Hours:

Monday - Friday

7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Phone: 660-727-3364

Fax: 660-727-3089



## Farm Program Staff:

Kim Gates  
Kim Meinhardt  
Nancy Webster  
Caren Whitehead

CED: Sharon Marks

## Farm Loan Staff:

Karma Hillyer  
Bill Bonine

FLM: Kurt Shelangoski

## County Committee:

Beverly Barrows, Chrmn.  
Harold Hall, V. Chrmn.  
Matt Plenge, Member

District Director: Tom Balsler  
Area Farm Loan Specialist:  
Mike Arnold



## Clark County FSA Staff

Bill Bonine, Kim Gates, Caren Whitehead, Sharon Marks, Kim Meinhardt, Nancy Webster, Karma Hillyer, Kurt Shelangoski

## Clark County FSA Committee Election

Producers in LAA2 (townships of Madison, Jackson, Clay, and Des Moines/Vernon) will be voting for a County Committee representative this year. There is one nominee, Matt Plenge.

Matt, wife Chrissy, and family live south of Kahoka. Matt farms in Clark and Lewis Counties with his brother and dad. Matt has produced corn, soybeans, and wheat for approximately 15 years. In 2006 Matt and Chrissy were nominated and won the the "14<sup>th</sup> Annual Farm Family of the Year" contest sponsored by Quincy Herald Whig.

Matt has served one 3-year term representing LAA2. He is willing and eligible to serve again.

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers with large or small operations. It is crucial every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Committee members help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. The current committee is: Bev Barrows, Chairperson; Harold Hall, Vice Chairperson, and Matt Plenge, member.

Ballots must be returned by Monday, December 3. Be sure to sign your name on the return label. Please contact our office if you have not received a ballot and believe you should have. The FSA office is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

*The USDA Service Center Will Be Closed:  
December 25 in observance of Christmas  
January 1 in observance of New Year's Day*

## SWCD Information

### *TREE APPLICATIONS:*

*Tree applications are available at the NRCS/SWCD office. Seedling bundles range from \$3 to \$24. A handling charge of \$5 is added to each order. ORDERS ARE ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVE BASIS until supplies are depleted. April 30, 2008, is the last day for accepting orders for regular shipment.*



### *RENTAL EQUIPMENT:*

*Scraper (5 ½ cy)     \$35  
Mulcher (1/2 day)   \$60*

*The bale processor (mulcher) can be used to mulch waterways, structures, diversions, and critical area seedings.*

*Call the office for rates on the following: rootplow, sodcutter, plastic pipe sales.*

*There is no charge for the following: Tree spades, level, tripod and rod, contour gauge.*

*Call Elaine at (660) 727-3364, Extension 101 for more information.*



## *Farm Program Reminders*

### *CRP Required Management Practices For Missouri*

Producers who enrolled their acreage in CRP Signup 26 and subsequent signups are required to apply one or more of the required management practices. Participants, in consultation with NRCS, have the choice of one (1) or more of the following 3 required management practices after a new grass stand is considered established: strip disking, prescribed burning, and chemical application.

Mowing as a stand-alone practice is not authorized.

The Management Practice requirements applicable to your CRP is included in your Conservation Plan. NRCS would have provided you a copy when enrolled. If you don't understand what is required or just want to double-check, please stop by the office.

If you have more than one CRP contract, you are strongly encouraged to stop by the FSA office to review what years the practices are to be performed and the time of year to be applied.

### *Crop Disaster Program*

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) is conducting a signup for farmers who suffered losses to the 2005-2007 crops from natural disasters and related conditions. The actual crop lost must have been planted or prevented from being planted before February 28, 2007. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006, or 2007 must choose only one year for which to receive benefits. Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35% to be eligible for disaster benefits.

Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP (Crop Disaster Program) benefits.

For more information, please stop by the office or call.

### *Marketing Assistance Loans*

To be eligible for loans and LDPs, you must comply with conservation and wetland protection requirements; report how you use cropland acreage on the farm; have beneficial interest in the commodity on the date the loan or LDP is requested and, in the case of a loan, retain beneficial interest while the loan is outstanding; and ensure that the commodity meets CCC minimum grade and quality standards. The loan term is 9 months. There is no penalty for early payoff.

There is a loan service fee. It is the lesser of:

- ½ of 1% of the gross loan amount
- \$45 + \$3 for each additional bin or warehouse receipt over 1

Lien searches are required and must be made BEFORE a loan may be approved. If liens are recorded on commodity being pledged for loan, producer must obtain a lien waiver before the loan may be approved.

Violating provisions may trigger administrative actions. The most common loan violations are removing or disposing of a commodity being used as collateral without prior authorization.



# Farm Loans

## Farm Loan Programs Streamlining

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) is enhancing operations by simplifying and reorganizing regulations and handbooks, and updating forms associated with its Farm Loan Programs (FLP). As part of FLP streamlining, FSA is revising loan making and servicing requirements and procedures to better serve its customers.

FLP streamlining provides the following benefits to FSA customers, employees and America's taxpayers:

- Improves customer service by reducing the amount of paperwork needed from applicants and borrowers -- cuts nearly in half the number of forms required;
- Makes requirements more concise -- reduces the number of pages in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) necessary to administer FLP by more than 80 percent;
- Simplifies procedures by eliminating redundancies and making information more readily accessible to applicants, borrowers and employees; and
- Increases government efficiency, helping to fulfill the President's Management Agenda.

With FLP streamlining, FSA is more efficiently serving America's farmers and ranchers through improvements including:

- Revised Loan Making and Servicing Requirements and Procedures
  - Simplified FLP loan making and servicing policies and requirements.
  - Modified requirements to more closely conform to those used by other lenders.
- Reorganized CFR
  - Relocated FLP regulations in the CFR so they are now with those for other FSA programs.
  - Removed information previously published in the CFR which does not apply to the public.
- Modified Forms
  - Ensured forms are accessible on the Internet.
  - Removed the collection of Privacy Act-protected information where possible
- New and Revised Handbooks
  - Made guidance more manageable -- replaced nearly 40 instruction manuals with six handbooks.
  - Eliminated duplicative information from FLP handbooks.

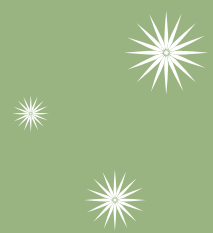
## About

### Farm Loan Programs

*Every year, FLP provides more than \$3 billion in direct and guaranteed loans to thousands of farmers, ranchers and other agricultural producers in the United States who are unable to obtain private, commercial credit. FLP's loan portfolio is more than \$17 billion, encompassing close to 70,000 direct and 36,000 guaranteed loan borrowers. It is one of the largest agricultural lending institutions in the United States.*

*Clark County Farm Loan team currently provides assistance to 83 direct loan borrowers and 36 guaranteed borrowers. In FY 2007, Clark County loaned out \$3.6 million throughout the direct and guaranteed program.*

*For more information about the types of loans and assistance available, please contact Kurt or Bill.*



### Financial FACTS for agriculture's future

Respond to USDA's Agricultural Resource Management Survey and let the financial facts be known for agriculture's policies and programs.



Clark County USDA Service Center  
RR1 Box 16A  
Kahoka, MO 63445



FSA Website: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

A decorative border featuring a green wreath with yellow lights and a white star in the center, flanked by red ribbons with bows. The wreath is set against a light green background with a red border. There are also holly leaves and red berries in the bottom corners.

*We cordially invite you to come and enjoy our Christmas hospitality at the annual*

# *OPEN HOUSE*

## *December 6*

*(Thursday)*

*9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.*

**FSA \* NRCS \* SWCD**

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