#### LANE COUNTY - FARM SERVICE AGENCY

780 Bailey Hill Rd Suite 5 Eugene OR 97402-5451

### **COUNTY COMMITTEE**

Hours: Mon-Fri, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Harry McIntire, Chairperson Pam Detering, Vice-Chair Andy Petersen, Member

**OFFICE STAFF** 

Jean A Larkin, CED X101 Patti S Anderson, PT X100 Phillip R Morton, PT X105

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Farm Loan Manager, located in Tangent Service Center Publish Date: June 2, 2008

# **COUNTY COMMITTEE (COC) ELECTION NOMINATIONS**

Nominations are being sought from eligible candidates to represent Local Administrative Area (LAA) 3. LAA 3 includes the OAKRIDGE, COTTAGE GROVE, LORANE, VENETA, HWY 126 WEST, and the COASTAL areas of Lane County. A map of the boundary is posted in our office.

Eligible voters have the right to nominate candidates of their choice by petition (form FSA-669-A) or you may self nominate. Petitions must be received in our office by August 1, 2008.

Persons nominated must be of legal age and have an interest in a farm or ranch as an owner, operator, tenant or sharecropper and be eligible to participate in any FSA program that is provided by law, regardless of funding. Visit the following website to print the nomination form (FSA-669A) or to find more information: www.fsa.usda.gov Follow the link "News & Events" to "County Committee Elections" listed under RELATED TOPICS.

A listing of known farm/ranch owners and operators in LAA3 is posted in our office for your information.

USDA encourages diversity on the Committee, women in agriculture, persons of different ethnic or racial backgrounds, and beginning farmers/ranchers are encouraged to seek nomination.

A brief informational meeting will be held in our office on June 25 beginning at 9 am to explain COC member duties and the COC nomination and election process. Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to visit the Eugene Service Center should contact Jean Larkin at 465-6443 Ext 101, or e-mail jean.larkin@or.usda.gov prior to the meeting date. If you can not attend but want more detailed information, please contact Jean.

The Committee election will be held on December 1, 2008.

# **LIVESTOCK AND CROP DISASTER PROGRAMS**

Sign-up for the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP), Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), and Crop Disaster Program (CDP) continues without an announced deadline.

**LCP** compensates livestock producers for grazing or stored feed losses resulting from natural disasters occurring between 1/1/05 and 12/31/07. Contact our office for qualifying loss time periods and eligible loss reasons (i.e. excess moisture).

LIP provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths caused by natural disasters that occurred between 1/1/05 and 12/31/07. The deaths must have occurred no later than 60 calendar days from the ending date of the disaster period and in the calendar year for which benefits are requested. Contact our office for qualifying loss time periods and eligible loss reasons (i.e. excess moisture).

CDP provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses to 2005, 2006, or 2007 crops. Producers may apply for benefits for losses to multiple commodities as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year.

Only producers who obtained Federal crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits. FSA will soon announce and conduct CDP sign-up for quality losses.

For all three Disaster Programs: Producers incurring a loss in more than one of the 2005, 2006 or 2007 calendar years must choose only one year for which they want to apply for benefits.



We are closed JULY 4th in celebration of Independence Day.

#### **REPORT CROP ACRES - DEADLINE IS JUNE 30, 2008**

File an accurate and timely report for all crops and land uses. including failed acreage, to prevent loss of benefits for a variety of FSA programs.

All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from: Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP), marketing assistance loans and Loan Deficiency Payments, Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), and Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP).

Crop reports on form FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. Producers are required to file reports by June 30, 2008.

Prevented Planted crops need to be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date.

Failed Acreage reports must be filed before disposition of the crop, and producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the county committee that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions.

Call Phil for an appointment, Ext 105.

<u>Direct Deposit Mandatory</u> All payments issued by FSA will be by direct deposit (electronic funds transfer) to a pre-designated checking or savings account with your financial institution.

For those already signed up, it is important that we are notified anytime there is a change in your account number or financial institution. If we aren't notified, future payments can be delayed or lost.

Do you no longer have an interest as an agricultural land owner or operator? If so, please let us know so that our records can be updated and your name deleted from our mailing list.

USDA – FARM SERVICE AGENCY LANE COUNTY OFFICE 780 BAILEY HILL RD STE 5 EUGENE OR 97402-5451

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### **Farm Reconstitutions Explained**

In program terminology, farms are constituted to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary. The reconstitution, or recon, is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. The following are the different methods used when doing a farm recon. To be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by August 1 for farms enrolled in the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program.

Estate Method — the division of bases, allotments and quotas for a parent farm among heirs in settling an estate;

**Designation of Landowner Method** — may be used when (1) part of a farm is sold or ownership is transferred; (2) an entire farm is sold to two or more persons; (3) farm ownership is transferred to two or more persons; (4) part of a tract is sold or ownership is transferred; (5) a tract is sold to two or more persons; or (6) tract ownership is transferred to two or more persons. In order to use this method the land sold must have been owned for at least three years, or a waiver granted, and the buyer and seller must sign a Memorandum of Understanding;

**DCP Cropland Method** — the division of bases in the same proportion that the DCP cropland for each resulting tract relates to the DCP cropland on the parent tract;

**Default Method** — the division of bases for a parent farm with each tract maintaining the bases attributed to the tract level when the reconstitution is initiated in the system.

If DCP direct payments have already been issued on a particular farm, the reconstitution will be effective for the next year, unless the payments are refunded.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and were applicable, sex, martial status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

<u>eGov is available on-line:</u> Producers have the ability to apply for program assistance via their home computers. Interested producers must first obtain a level 2 clearance before using this system. You can register online at <a href="www.egov.usda.gov">www.egov.usda.gov</a> or you can visit our office to obtain the required Level 2 authority. Once this is done, your ID is verified by the FSA office, and your account is activated, you can go on-line to do USDA business

Level 2 authority will allow you access to: Loan Deficiency Program, Direct & Counter Cyclical Payment Program, Farm Loan Program, Financial Services, and your personal Customer Payment Statements.