



# Jackson County News

January 2008

## McKee FSA Service Center

PO Box 1179  
McKee, KY 40447  
606 287-8311 (phone)  
606 287-1580 (fax)  
www.fsa.usda.gov/ky

### Hours

Monday – Friday  
7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### County Committee Members:

James K. Wells  
Michael L. Huff  
Sharon F Witt

County Committee meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month.

### Staff

Lana G. Baker  
Christy R. Berry  
Shannon R. Vickers

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## Office Closure

The Jackson County Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), and the Conservation District (McKee Service Center) staff would like to thank everyone that attended our town meeting in September to support keeping our office open. We also appreciate the letters and phones calls made on our behalf. Our State Executive Director, Jeff Hall, made a recommendation to the State Committee that the Jackson County FSA Office not be closed. At this time the McKee Service Center will remain open. We greatly appreciate your support and continuing participation in our programs.

## County Committee Information

The Jackson County Farm Service Agency (FSA) Office recently held a County Committee (COC) election in the Annville, Moores Creek area. James K. Wells was re-elected to serve this area for 3 years. Linda Angel will be his 1<sup>st</sup> alternate, and Michael Estridge will be his 2<sup>nd</sup> alternate. Our two other county committee members are Michael L. Huff, who represents the Gray Hawk, McKee area and Sharon F. Witt, who represents the Sand Gap, Kerby Knob area. The county committee is a very important part of the operations at FSA. They help deliver FSA programs at the county office level. The FSA COC is accountable to FSA State Committee (STC); oversee the work of the county office and the County Executive Director (CED), who manages the office. Please feel free to contact the COC member that represents your area with any concerns you may have concerning farm programs and our services.

## Direct Deposits

Do you receive your FSA payments by Direct Deposit to your bank account? If so, and you have changed banks or bank information, please come in the FSA Office and give us the new bank account information.

## Farm Records Changes

If you have bought or sold land, rented additional land, or changed tenants, please notify the FSA Office so our records can be updated. If you have purchased land, we need a copy of the deed brought in.

## Rural Development Housing Service (RD)

The Rural Development Housing Service personnel from the London Office will be at the Jackson County FSA Office the first Wednesday of the month from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon. Applicants can call (606) 864-2172 extension 120 for further information on the home loan and repair/grant programs. Contacts for the office are Wayne York, Rural Development Manager, and Mark Mason, Rural Development Specialist.

### Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

NAP provides financial assistance to eligible producers affected by natural disasters.

Eligible crops include commercial crops and other agricultural commodities produced for food which includes livestock food, such as hay and pasture. The FSA office encourages farmers who produce vegetables, and have hay and pasture to purchase this NAP coverage. The application closing date for hay and pasture is March 1, 2008 and March 15, 2008, for vegetables. Call the FSA office for more information.

### Crop Reporting (578's)

Crop reporting or crop certification is very important. Filing an accurate and timely report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of FSA programs. It is also very beneficial in the event of a disaster. We encourage all producers to come in the FSA office and report their crops by July 15, 2008.

### **NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE**

Chuck Gibson, District Conservationist for NRCS, reports that during the recently completed Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) and the Kentucky Division of Conservation (DOC) State Cost Share Program application period, 45 applications were received from Jackson County farmers. 35 of the applications were eligible for ranking. 25 of the ranked applications were selected for funding. These funded applications will result in excess of \$256,000.00 of federal and state incentive payments for Jackson County farmers to install conservation practices on their farms. When installed the conservation practices will provide many positive impacts to water quality and wildlife habitat. The installed conservation practices will also reduce soil erosion and off site sedimentation as well as improving soil quality. The completed conservation practices will provide improved livestock watering facilities, the potential for increased forage production, and the potential for increased timber production.

### **JACKSON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

The Jackson County Conservation District will accept applications for the Kentucky Division of Conservation State Cost Share Program through January 25<sup>th</sup>. In addition to the conservation practices that landowners could apply for in the past, this year a pasture and hay land renovation practice has been introduced. This practice is to assist farmers in restoring forage stands damaged by the drought conditions of 2007. Under this practice a forage stand can be renovated by seeding **LEGUMES**. Under this practice **GRASS SEED** is **NOT** eligible for incentive payments. A **CURRENT SOIL TEST IS REQUIRED** for this practice. Lime and fertilizer are eligible for incentive payments. The Division of Conservation will select applications for funding by February 15<sup>th</sup>. For further information on the cost share program and the renovation practice, contact the Jackson County Conservation District Monday – Friday between the hour of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.