



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

South Dakota USDA Newsletter - July 2023

[Farm Service Agency](#) | [Natural Resources Conservation Service](#) | [Risk Management Agency](#)

In This Issue:

- [Message from the FSA State Director](#)
- [Message from the NRCS State Conservationist](#)
- [South Dakota FSA Introduces State Committee Members: Hank Wonnenburg Raised on Farm in Gregory County](#)
- [Farm Service Agency Now Accepting Nominations for Farmers and Ranchers to Serve on Local County Committee](#)
- [Several Counties Open CRP for Emergency Haying and Grazing – Some Restrictions Apply](#)
- [USDA Launches First Phase of Soil Carbon Monitoring Efforts through CRP](#)
- [USDA Announces New Steps to Enhance Organic Markets and Support Producers](#)
- [Preauthorized Debit Available for Farm Loan Borrowers](#)
- [USDA Hiring Engineers, Natural Resource Specialists Nationwide to Strengthen Inflation Reduction Act Implementation, Enhance Agricultural Conservation](#)
- [RMA Prevented Planting Request for Information and Stakeholder Listening Sessions](#)
- [Five Facts About the United States Drought Monitor](#)

Message from the FSA State Director

Greetings from the South Dakota State FSA Office!

As we are halfway through “the dog days of summer” much of the state is receiving much needed rain. The state may not see a bin buster harvest this fall, but we will have a crop. Or as my dad used to say, “at least it will make silage.”

Fortunately, vast regions of western South Dakota, are receiving replenishing rain to their pastures and hay ground after multiple years of drought.

Regardless of the rainfall or lack thereof, the end of July means it is just about time for South Dakota's youth to showcase their work at local 4-H Achievement Days or county fairs. Around 8,000 youth will participate in these activities in the next four weeks, showcasing their time and commitment to their projects or animals.

Many South Dakota 4-H members have worked with a [FSA Youth Loan](#). The loan program is geared toward youth ages 10 – 20 who are participating in 4-H Clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. They can borrow up to \$5,000 to assist with buying livestock, equipment, or operating expense for their projects. To learn more about the FSA Youth Loan program, visit your local USDA Service Center.

I encourage you to take time to stop by your local Achievement Days or county fair to see the hard work of our future leaders in agriculture.

August 16th marks the one-year anniversary of President Biden signing the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), the historic legislation impacts families across the country with a large part of the act assisting farmers and ranchers with [conservation programs](#). Farmers and ranchers who have experienced discrimination in USDA farm lending programs prior to January 2021 have also found relief through the act. [Section 22007 of the Inflation Reduction Act](#) (IRA) directs USDA to provide this assistance. Please check out the web site to learn more about Section 22007.

As always, a few reminders on upcoming important dates:

July 26, 2023: Last day to apply for Organic Dairy Marketing Assistance Program

July 31, 2023: Signup deadline for CLEAR30 for Producers with Expiring CRP Acres

Aug. 1, 2023: Deadline for County Committee nominations to be postmarked or received in the local FSA office.

Sincerely,

Steve Dick
State Executive Director
USDA-Farm Service Agency

Message from the NRCS State Conservationist

Small grain harvest is underway in South Dakota. I encourage those of you who have decision making influence to consider cover crop planting in harvested small grain stubble to increase the diversity and length of time a living plant root is growing in the soil. Tribal land managers, non-operating landowners and farmers can learn more at our [Cover Crops in South Dakota webpage](#). Listen to this [Dakota Farm Talk radio story](#) for more about cover crops in crop rotations. The [Non Operator Land Owner webpage](#) can help those wanting to learn more about conservation as a non-operating landowner.

Please consider attending some of the upcoming learning opportunities available such as [grazing schools](#), [rangeland management tours](#), [farm field days and high tunnel workshops](#). Then visit [your local NRCS](#) office to brainstorm ideas or discuss plans for conservation changes with your operation or in your area of influence.

Thank you to all SD farmers, ranchers, land managers, landowners and conservation partners who are moving the needle of conservation in our state.

Tony Sunseri
State Conservationist
USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service

South Dakota FSA Introduces State Committee Members: Hank Wonnenberg Raised on Farm in Gregory County

Growing up on a cow/calf and dairy operation in Gregory County, Hank Wonnenberg is no stranger to the hard work involved in a life of agriculture. As a youngster he helped with the farm chores and was actively involved in 4-H.

When Wonnenberg headed off to college, he applied the work ethic he had learned at home to his education and earned his degree from South Dakota State University in Ag Business. Today Wonnenberg is still doing the farm chores as he cares for his cattle herd and farms alongside family members, while still maintaining his career as an Ag Loan Officer.

“I’ve always had the desire to help farmers. I feel this a role where I’m making a difference.”

Wonnenberg’s position on the South Dakota FSA State Committee came through his involvement with the South Dakota Farmers Union. When some members of the South Dakota Farmers Union became aware of the open position, they encouraged Wonnenberg to apply for it. This led him to research what the FSA state committee does, and decide it sounded like a good experience to be involved with.

Providing a good representation of South Dakota in general is a goal of Wonnenberg’s while a member of the South Dakota State Committee. To give a voice for the agricultural industry in south central South Dakota is also a focus due to the diversity of the area with crops, livestock, and other unique operations.

“If there is a program I learn about through the FSA state committee, I want to make sure the producers back home know about it.”

Wonnenberg is hopeful for the future of agriculture. He feels conservation and land stewardship practices will continue to grow and become more vital in farming operations. Technology will also continue to play a major role in the future of agriculture creating more opportunities which will allow smaller operations to remain profitable and sustainable.

“I would encourage them to go for it” said Wonnenberg when asked what advice he would give young people in the world of agriculture.

Young people who want to come back to the farm are the future of the industry and while Wonnenberg feels getting an education is important, it is also important that we don't discourage the next generation from returning to the farm.

"There is a lot of opportunity in agriculture," said Wonnenberg, "including room for the small guy and the new guy. This is an exciting field to be in, there are always things going on, and every day in agriculture can end with a sense of accomplishment."

Farm Service Agency Now Accepting Nominations for Farmers and Ranchers to Serve on Local County Committee

USDA is now accepting nominations for county committee members for elections that will occur later this year. Additionally, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is unveiling a new GIS tool to make it easier for producers to participate in the nomination and election processes for county committee members, who make important decisions on how federal farm programs are administered locally. All nomination forms for the 2023 election must be postmarked or received in the local FSA office by Aug. 1, 2023.

Elections will occur in certain Local Administrative Areas (LAA) for members. LAAs are elective areas for FSA committees in a single county or multi-county jurisdiction and they may include LAAs that are focused on an urban or suburban area. Customers can locate their LAA through a new GIS locator tool available at fsa.usda.gov/elections.

Agricultural producers may be nominated for candidacy for the county committee if they:

Participate or cooperate in a USDA program; and

Reside in the LAA that is up for election this year.

A cooperating producer is someone who has provided information about their farming or ranching operation to FSA, even if they have not applied or received program benefits. Individuals may nominate themselves or others and qualifying organizations may also nominate candidates. USDA encourages minority producers, women and beginning farmers or ranchers to nominate, vote and hold office.

Nationwide, more than 7,700 dedicated members of the agricultural community serve on FSA county committees. The committees are made up of three to 11 members who serve three-year terms. Committee members are vital to how FSA carries out disaster programs, as well as conservation, commodity and price support programs, county office employment and other agricultural issues.

More Information

Producers should contact their local FSA office today to register and find out how to get involved in their county's election, including if their LAA is up for election this year. To be considered, a producer must be registered and sign an [FSA-669A](#) nomination form. Urban farmers should use an [FSA-669-A-3](#) for urban county committees.

Nomination forms and other information about FSA county committee elections are available at fsa.usda.gov/elections. Election ballots will be mailed to eligible voters beginning Nov. 6, 2023.

Several Counties Open CRP for Emergency Haying and Grazing – Some Restrictions Apply

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) provides for emergency haying and grazing on certain CRP practices in a county designated as D2 or higher on the [U.S. Drought Monitor](#), or in a county where there is at least 40 percent loss in forage production.

Emergency use of CRP acres is available in eligible counties if the stand is in condition to support such activity and is subject to a modified conservation plan.

There also are options available under non-emergency haying and grazing provisions [outside of the primary nesting season](#).

To ensure compliance and protect program benefits, producers must check with your local [USDA Service Center](#) to discuss available assistance before initiating haying or grazing on CRP acres.

USDA Launches First Phase of Soil Carbon Monitoring Efforts through CRP

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is investing \$10 million in a new initiative to sample, measure, and monitor soil carbon on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres to better quantify the climate outcomes of the program. CRP is an important tool in the Nation's fight to reduce the worst impacts of climate change facing our farmers, ranchers, and foresters. This initiative will begin implementation in fall 2021 with three partners. Today's announcement is part of a broader, long-term soil carbon monitoring effort across agricultural lands that supports USDA's commitment to deliver climate solutions to agricultural producers and rural America through voluntary, incentive-based solutions.

These models include the Daily Century Model, or DayCent, which simulates the movement of carbon and nitrogen through agricultural systems and informs the [National Greenhouse Gas Inventory](#). Data will also be used to strengthen the [COMET-Farm](#) and [COMET-Planner](#) tools, which enable producers to evaluate potential carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas emission reductions based on specific management scenarios.

USDA partners will conduct soil carbon sampling on three categories of CRP practice types: perennial grass, trees, and wetlands.

Perennial grasses: In consultation with USDA, Michigan State University will sample and measure soil carbon and bulk density of CRP grasslands (including native grass plantings, rangelands, and pollinator habitat plantings) at an estimated 600 sites across the U.S. with a focus in the central states during this five-year project. This information will be used to model and compare the climate benefits of CRP. Partners include the University of Wisconsin-

Madison, the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Deveron, an agriculture technology company, and Woods End Laboratories.

Trees: Mississippi State University will partner with Alabama A&M University to collect above and below ground data at 162 sites across seven states documenting CRP-related benefits to soil and atmospheric carbon levels. Information will help further calibrate the DayCent model. This five-year project will focus within the Mississippi Delta and Southeast states.

Wetlands: Ducks Unlimited and its partners will collect data on carbon stocks in wetland soils as well as vegetation carbon levels at 250 wetland sites across a 15-state area in the central U.S. Data will support the DayCent and additional modeling. Partners for this five-year project include: Migratory Bird Joint Venture, Intertribal Research and Resource Center at United Tribes Technical College, Clemson University, Kenyon College, Lincoln University, Pennsylvania State University, the University of Missouri, and the University of Texas at Austin.

CRP Monitoring, Assessment, and Evaluation Projects

These three Climate Change Mitigation Assessment Initiative projects are funded through FSA's program to work with partners to identify [Monitoring, Assessment and Evaluation \(MAE\)](#) projects to quantify CRP environmental benefits to water quality and quantity, wildlife, and rural economies.

Applications for projects were welcome from all organizations, including public, private, nonprofit institutions, and educational institutions including historically Black colleges and universities, Tribal colleges and universities and Hispanic-serving institutions or organizations.

For more details on all the awarded MAE projects, visit the [FSA Monitoring Assessment & Evaluation webpage](#).

About the Conservation Reserve Program

CRP is one of the world's largest voluntary conservation programs, with an established track record of preserving topsoil, sequestering carbon, reducing nitrogen runoff and providing healthy habitat for wildlife.

In exchange for a yearly rental payment, agricultural producers enrolled in the program agree to remove environmentally sensitive land from production and plant species that will improve environmental health and quality. In general, land is enrolled in CRP for 10 to 15 years, with the option of re-enrollment. [FSA offers multiple CRP signups](#), including the general signup and continuous signup, as well as Grassland CRP and pilot programs focused on soil health and clean water. In 2021, producers and landowners enrolled more than 5.3 million acres in CRP signups, surpassing USDA's 4-million-acre goal.

Earlier this year, [USDA announced updates to CRP](#) including higher payment rates, new incentives for environmental practices, and a more targeted focus on the program's role in climate change mitigation. This included a new Climate-Smart Practice Incentive for CRP general and continuous signups that aims to increase carbon sequestration and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Climate-Smart CRP practices include establishment of trees and

permanent grasses, development of wildlife habitat, and wetland restoration. Download the [“What’s New” fact sheet](#) to learn more about CRP updates.

USDA Announces New Steps to Enhance Organic Markets and Support Producers

The USDA is taking additional steps as part of its commitment to strengthen the market for domestically grown organic goods, and to support producers seeking organic certification. These funding opportunities are part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) [Organic Transition Initiative](#), launched in fall 2022, which is a suite of offerings to help existing organic farmers and those transitioning to organic production and processing.

Consumer demand for organically produced goods surpassed \$67 billion in 2022, and multi-year trends of strong growth in the sector provide market incentives for U.S. farmers across a broad range of products. However, through public comment and listening sessions USDA has heard that producers may be less willing to commit to the three-year transition to organic certification because of risks related to inadequate organic processing, storage, and handling capacity, cost barriers due to limited markets for rotational crops, a lack of certainty about market access, and insufficient supply of certain organic ingredients. The organic livestock and processed product markets depend heavily on imported agricultural products for feed grains and key ingredients. These are longstanding market issues that were brought into sharp focus due to the impacts of the pandemic and international conflicts in critical overseas organic supply regions, resulting in limitations on certain domestic organic products in the face of rising demand.

Cost Share for Organic Certification

As part of USDA’s broader effort to support organic producers and in response to stakeholder feedback, this year the Farm Service Agency increased the cost share amount under the [Organic Certification Cost Share Program](#) (OCCSP), which helps organic producers cover organic certification costs, to the maximum amount allowed by statute.

Specifically, FSA will cover up to 75% of costs associated with organic certification, up to \$750 for crops, wild crops, livestock, processing/handling and state organic program fees (California only). OCCSP will cover costs incurred from Oct. 1, 2022, through Sept. 30, 2023.

FSA begins accepting applications for OCCSP Monday, May 15. Applications are due Oct. 31, 2023. To apply, producers and handlers should contact the FSA at their local [USDA Service Center](#). As part of completing the OCCSP application, producers and handlers will need to provide documentation of their organic certification and eligible expenses. Organic producers and handlers may also apply for OCCSP through participating state departments of agriculture.

FSA is also accepting applications from state departments of agriculture to administer OCCSP. FSA will post a synopsis of the funding opportunity on [grants.gov](#) and will send more information to all eligible state departments of agriculture. Additional details can be found on the [OCCSP webpage](#). More information about these initiatives and more can be found at [farmers.gov/organic-transition-initiative](#).

Preauthorized Debit Available for Farm Loan Borrowers

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) has implemented pre-authorized debit (PAD) for Farm Loan Program (FLP) borrowers. PAD is a voluntary and alternative method for making weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual payments on loans.

PAD payments are pre-authorized transactions that allow the National Financial and Accounting Operations Center (NFAOC) to electronically collect loan payments from a customer's account at a financial institution.

PAD may be useful if you use nonfarm income from regular wages or salary to make payments on loans or adjustment offers or for payments from seasonal produce stands. PAD can only be established for future payments.

To request PAD, customers, along with their financial institution, must fill out form RD 3550-28. This form has no expiration date, but a separate form RD 3550-28 must be completed for each loan to which payments are to be applied. A fillable form can be accessed on the USDA Rural Development (RD) website at rd.usda.gov/publications/regulations-guidelines. Click forms and search for "Form 3550-28."

If you have a "filter" on the account at your financial institution, you will need to provide the financial institution with the following information: Origination ID: 1220040804, Agency Name: USDA RD DCFO.

PAD is offered by FSA at no cost. Check with your financial institution to discuss any potential cost. Preauthorized debit has no expiration date, but you can cancel at any time by submitting a written request to your local FSA office. If a preauthorized debit agreement receives three payment rejections within a three-month period, the preauthorized debit agreement will be cancelled by FSA. The payment amount and due date of your loan is not affected by a cancellation of preauthorized debit. You are responsible to ensure your full payment is made by the due date.

For more information about PAD, contact your local County USDA Service Center or visit fsa.usda.gov.

USDA Hiring Engineers, Natural Resource Specialists Nationwide to Strengthen Inflation Reduction Act Implementation, Enhance Agricultural Conservation

USDA announced it is ramping up hiring for key positions that will help strengthen agricultural conservation efforts and turn President Biden's Investing in America agenda into action. The available positions include engineers, civil engineering technicians and natural resource specialists, building on other large-scale hiring announcements earlier this year.

Today's announcement is funded by \$19.5 billion from President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act. The new NRCS engineers and engineering technicians will play a critical role in solving a

host of natural resource problems for agricultural producers and local communities. Their projects may involve stream restoration, erosion control, developing water systems for livestock, improving and conserving irrigation water and restoring wetlands. They may also help communities recover from natural disasters.

Natural resource specialists perform a variety of duties to help landowners meet their conservation objectives. This may include assisting in the implementation of conservation plans, conducting scientific studies and performing on-site evaluations with customers. Their work enhances conservation program delivery and helps build resilient farms and communities across America.

How to Apply

NRCS posted an announcement for engineering technicians on June 26 and natural resource specialists on July 3. Interested candidates can find more information and apply by searching for these job titles on [USAjobs.gov](https://www.usajobs.gov).

To qualify for these positions, candidates must meet the education requirements, or a combination of education and experience requirements, as outlined in the job announcement. General qualifications for the engineering and natural resource management job series are also available on [OPM.gov](https://www.opm.gov). Additional information on career opportunities at NRCS is available on the agency's [careers webpage](#).

More Information

Over the next several years, NRCS expects to add over 4,400 new employees to its federal workforce, in addition to over 3,000 team members through partner organizations, to help with Inflation Reduction Act implementation.

NRCS is a federal agency that helps farmers, ranchers and forest landowners conserve soil, water and other natural resources. Employees provide technical expertise and conservation planning. Financial assistance is available for a wide variety of conservation programs. NRCS has offices in USDA Service Centers nationwide.

RMA Prevented Planting Request for Information and Stakeholder Listening Sessions

A “Request for Information and Stakeholder Listening Sessions on Prevented Planting” has been posted to the Federal Register: [Request for Information and Stakeholder Listening Sessions on Prevented Planting](#)

The above link can be used to access this Federal Register publication and to submit formal written comments regarding prevented planting coverage for Federal crop insurance by the **September 1, 2023** deadline.

This Prevented Planting Request for Information outlines topics including:

- Harvest Price Option – Feedback on whether to allow the prevented planting payment calculations to be based on the higher of the projected price or the harvest price under the revenue protection plan of insurance.

- “1 in 4” Rule – Input on the challenges or experiences since the rule (to be eligible for prevented planting coverage, acreage must have been planted to a crop, insured, and harvested in at least 1 out of the previous 4 crop years) was implemented nationwide.
- 10 percent additional coverage option – Input on if RMA should reinstate the option to buy-up prevented planting coverage by 10 percent.
- Contract price – Whether prevented planting costs are higher for contracted crops and how prevented planting payments should be calculated for contract crops.
- General – Willingness to pay additional premium for expanded prevented planting benefits, recommendations on other prevented planting limitations, etc.

RMA also intends to host prevented planting stakeholder listening sessions across the country, and all listening session locations, dates, and times can be found here: [Prevented Planting Listening Sessions](#)

For our Billings (Montana) Region, our in-person prevented planting stakeholder listening session is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 8, 2023 from 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and will be located at the DoubleTree by Hilton West Fargo Conference Center (Ballroom A/B), 825 E. Beaton Drive, West Fargo, North Dakota 58078**. This prevented planting stakeholder listening session will be attended by RMA leadership. Additional information can also be found here: [West Fargo North Dakota Prevented Planting Listening Session](#)

Please share this information with your membership and any other interested program stakeholders.

Even if you are unable to attend this West Fargo in-person prevented planting stakeholder listening session or any other scheduled in-person prevented planting stakeholder listening session, you or any interested party can still submit formal written comments for this Prevented Planting Request for Information through the Federal Register by the applicable **September 1, 2023** deadline as indicated above.

Five Facts About the United States Drought Monitor

This is likely no surprise to you, but drought persists across the western U.S. and is intensifying in some areas. No geographic area is immune to the potential of drought at any given time. The [U.S. Drought Monitor](#) provides a weekly drought assessment, and it plays an important role in USDA programs that help farmers and ranchers recover from drought.

Fact #1 - Numerous agencies use the Drought Monitor to inform drought-related decisions.

The map identifies areas of drought and labels them by intensity on a weekly basis. It categorizes the entire country as being in one of six levels of drought. The first two, None and Abnormally Dry (D0), are not considered to be drought. The next four describe increasing levels of drought: Moderate (D1), Severe (D2), Extreme (D3) and Exceptional (D4).

While many entities consult the Drought Monitor for drought information, drought declarations are made by federal, [state](#) and local agencies that may or may not use the Drought Monitor to inform their decisions. Some of the ways USDA uses it to determine a producer's eligibility for

certain [drought assistance programs](#), like the [Livestock Forage Disaster Program](#) and [Emergency Haying or Grazing on Conservation Reserve Program acres](#) and to “fast-track” [Secretarial drought disaster designations](#).

Fact #2 - U.S. Drought Monitor is made with more than precipitation data.

When you think about drought, you probably think about water, or the lack of it. Precipitation plays a major role in the creation of the Drought Monitor, but the map's author considers [numerous indicators](#), including [drought impacts](#) and local insight from over 450 expert observers around the country. Authors use several dozen indicators to assess drought, including precipitation, streamflow, reservoir levels, temperature and evaporative demand, soil moisture and vegetation health. Because the drought monitor depicts both short and long-term drought conditions, the authors must look at data for multiple timeframes. The final map produced each week represents a summary of the story being told by all the pieces of data. To help tell that story, authors don't just look at data. They converse over the course of the map-making week with experts across the country and draw information about drought impacts from media reports and private citizens

Fact #3 - A real person, using real data, updates the map.

Each week's map author, not a computer, processes and analyzes data to update the drought monitor. The [map authors](#) are trained climatologists or meteorologists from the National Drought Mitigation Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (the academic partner and website host of the Drought Monitor), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and USDA. The author's job is to do what a computer can't – use their expertise to reconcile the sometimes-conflicting stories told by each stream of data into a single assessment.

Fact #4 - The Drought Monitor provides a current snapshot, not a forecast.

The Drought Monitor is a “snapshot” of conditions observed during the most recent week and builds off the previous week's map. The map is released on Thursdays and depicts conditions based on data for the week that ended the preceding Tuesday. Rain that falls on the Wednesday just before the USDM's release won't be reflected until the next map is published. This provides a consistent, week-to-week product and gives the author a window to assess the data and come up with a final map.

Fact #5 – Your input can be part of the drought-monitoring process.

State climatologists and other trained observers in the drought monitoring network relay on-the-ground information from numerous sources to the US Drought monitor author each week. That can include information that you contribute.

The Drought Monitor serves as a trigger for multiple forms of federal disaster relief for agricultural producers, and sometimes producers contact the author to suggest that drought conditions in their area are worse than what the latest drought monitor shows. When the author gets a call like that, it prompts them to look closely at all available data for that area, to see whether measurements of precipitation, temperature, soil moisture and other indicators corroborate producer-submitted reports. This is the process that authors follow whether they receive one report or one hundred reports, although reports from more points may help state officials and others know where to look for impacts.



There are multiple ways to contribute your observations:

1. **Talk to your state climatologist** - Find the current list at the [American Association of State Climatologists](#) website.
2. **Email** - Emails sent to droughtmonitor@unl.edu inform the USDM authors.
3. **Become a CoCoRaHS observer** - Submit drought reports along with daily precipitation observations to the [Community Collaborative Rain, Hail & Snow Network](#).
4. **Submit Condition Monitoring Observer Reports (CMOR)** - go.unl.edu/CMOR.

For more information, read our [Ask the Expert blog with a NDMC climatologist](#) or visit farmers.gov/protection-recovery.



USDA in South Dakota

200 4th Street SW
Huron, SD 57350

Farm Service Agency

State Executive Director:
Steve Dick

Administrative Officer:
Theresa Hoadley

Program Managers:
Owen Fagerhaug - *Conservation*
Logan Kopfmann - *Disaster Relief*
Donita Garry - *Program Delivery*
Ryan Vanden Berge - *Farm Loan Program*

State Committee:
Troy Knecht, Chair
Fanny Brewer
Peggy Greenway

Natural Resources Conservation Service

State Conservationist:
Tony Sunseri

Assistant State Conservationists:
Jessica Michalski - *Ecological Sciences*
Brett Pettigrew (acting) - *Engineering*
Andrew Oxford (acting) - *Soils*
Jeff Vander Wilt - *Programs*
Colette Kessler - *Partnerships*
Deke Hobbick - *Compliance*
Denise Gauer - *Management & Strategy*
Michael Beck - *Public Affairs*

Larry Olsen
Hank Wonnemberg

Phone: 605-352-1160

Phone: 605-352-1200

CONTACT US:

[Farm Service Agency](#)
[Natural Resources Conservation Service](#)
[Risk Management Agency](#)
[Service Center Locator](#)



SUBSCRIBER SERVICES:

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Help](#)



Farmers.gov

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE