

November 20, 2018



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

BULLETIN

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Campbell County FSA Updates

Campbell County FSA Office

601 4-J Court, Suite B
Gillette, WY 82716-4127

Phone: 307-682-8843

Fax: 855-415-3431

Acting CED:

Rob Weppner

Farm Loan Manager:

Rob Weppner

Program Technicians:

Judy Bishop

Amber Fowlkes

Claudette Vander Voort

County Committee:

Charles Tweedy, Chairman

Jody Cheser, Vice-Chair

Next County Committee

Meeting: Dec. 10 @ 1:00

Youth Loans

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to youth to establish and operate agricultural income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the youth loan applicant, along with providing adequate supervision.

Stop by the county office for help preparing and processing the application forms.

County Office Committee Election

FSA Encourages Farmers and Ranchers to Vote in County Committee Elections

The 2018 Farm Service Agency County Committee elections will begin on Nov. 5, when ballots are mailed to eligible voters. The deadline to return the ballots to local FSA offices is Dec. 3, 2018. Ballots will be counted at the December 10th COC meeting at 2:00pm.

County committee members are an important component of the operations of FSA and provide a link between the agricultural community and USDA. Farmers and ranchers elected to county committees help deliver FSA programs at the local level, applying their knowledge and judgment to make decisions on commodity price support programs; conservation programs; incentive indemnity and disaster programs for some commodities; emergency programs and eligibility. FSA committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws.

To be an eligible voter, farmers and ranchers must participate or cooperate in an FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm, may also be eligible to vote.

Eligible voters in local administrative area LAA#2 who do not receive a ballot can obtain one from their local USDA Service Center. Dec. 3, 2018, is the last day for voters to submit ballots in person to local USDA Service Centers. Ballots returned by mail must also be postmarked no later than Dec. 3. Newly elected committee members will take office Jan. 1, 2019.

Wendy Gleason notified the county office that she is unable to fulfill the duties of COC member at this time and has withdrawn as a candidate from the current election.

The county office would like to thank Wendy for her past service to County Office Committee and the producers of LAA#2

Eligibility for Elections for the 2018 County Committee

Elections for USDA's Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Campbell County Committee are underway.

It is important that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and USDA. *The 2018 election in Campbell County will be conducted for the representative Local Administrative Area (LAA#2): The area of Campbell County north of Interstate I-90 and East of Highway 14-16 North to Collins Road; North to the MT State line East of Collins Road, Hart Road and Bowers-Ute Road.*

To be eligible to vote in the elections, a person must:

Meet requirement one (see explanation below) **or** meet requirement two, **and** requirement three (see explanation below).

Requirement One: Be of legal voting age and have an interest in a farm or ranch as either: an individual who meets one or more of the following; (a) is eligible to vote in one's own right, (b) is a partner of a general partnership, (c) is a member of a joint venture **OR** an authorized representative of a legal entity, such as: (a) a corporation, estate, trust, limited partnership or other business enterprise, excluding general partnership and joint ventures or (b) a state, political subdivision of a state or any state agency (only the designated representative may cast a vote for the entity).

Requirement Two: Not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm.

Requirement Three: Participates or cooperates in an FSA program that is provided by law.

County committee election ballots will be mailed to eligible voters on Nov. 5, 2018. The last day to return completed ballots to the USDA service center is Dec. 3, 2018.

For more information on eligibility to serve on FSA county committees, visit: www.fsa.usda.gov/elections.

Important Dates and Program Updates:

Nov. 22, 2018 – County Office Closed – Thanksgiving Day Holiday

Dec. 1, 2018 – Purchase deadline for 2019 NAP Coverage

Dec. 25, 2018 - County Office Closed – Christmas Day Holiday

IMMEDIATELY --File Notification of Loss Forms within 15 Days of Loss of crops and/or livestock.

NEW 2018 Deadline to purchase NAP on Fall seeded and Perennial forage crops

December 1, 2018 – Is now the deadline to purchase NAP Coverage for fall seeded and perennial forage crops (including Native grazing) for crop year 2019 and future years. December 1st is also the deadline to purchase NAP coverage for honey.

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds producers to review available USDA crop risk protection options, including federal crop insurance and Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage, before the crop deadline of December 1.

Federal crop insurance covers crop losses from natural adversities such as drought, hail and excessive moisture. NAP covers losses from natural disasters on crops for which no permanent federal crop insurance program is available, including perennial grass forage crops, grazing crops and honey.

The following are some of the crops in Campbell County that have a NAP application deadline of **December 1, 2018:** Native Range intended for grazing Grass hay crops Fall planted Small grain crops intended for hay Honey production

Please call the county office for more information and if you have any questions regarding if NAP coverage is available for YOUR crops.

Contact Federal Crop insurance regarding deadlines on the crops insured by RMA.

2019 Acreage Reporting Dates

In order to comply with FSA program eligibility requirements, all producers are encouraged to visit the Campbell County FSA office to file an accurate crop certification report by the applicable deadline.

The following acreage reporting dates are applicable for Campbell County:

January 2, 2019Honey
July 15, 2019.....Spring seeded small grains, perennial crops including native grazing.
November 15, 2019.....All fall seeded small grains

The following exceptions apply to the above acreage reporting dates:

If the crop has not been planted by the above acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after planting is completed.

- If a producer acquires additional acreage after the above acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendar days after purchase or acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county office.
- If a perennial forage crop is reported with the intended use of "cover only," "green manure," "left standing," or "seed," then the acreage must be reported by July 15th. For questions regarding crop certification and crop loss reports, please contact the Campbell County FSA office at (307)682-8843, ext.2.
- Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy holders should note that the acreage reporting date for NAP covered crops is the earlier of the dates listed above or 15 calendar days before grazing or harvesting of the crop begins.

Livestock Inventory Records Producers are reminded to keep updated livestock inventory records. These records are necessary in the event of a natural disaster.

When disasters strike, the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) can assist producers who suffered excessive livestock death losses and grazing or feed losses due to eligible natural disasters.

To participate in livestock disaster assistance programs, producers will be required to provide verifiable documentation of death losses resulting from an eligible adverse weather event and must submit a notice of loss to their local FSA office within 30 calendar days of when the loss of livestock is apparent. For grazing or feed losses, producers must submit a notice of loss to their local FSA office within 30 calendar days of when the loss is apparent and should maintain documentation and receipts.

Producers should record all pertinent information regarding livestock inventory records including:

- Documentation of the number, kind, type, and weight range of livestock
- Beginning inventory supported by birth recordings or purchase receipts;

For more information on documentation requirements, contact your local FSA office.

Farm Storage Facility Loans

FSA's Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program provides low-interest financing to producers to build or upgrade storage facilities and to purchase portable (new or used) structures, equipment and storage and handling trucks.

The low-interest funds can be used to build or upgrade permanent facilities to store commodities. Eligible commodities include corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, oats, peanuts, wheat, barley, minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain, pulse crops (lentils, chickpeas and dry peas), hay, honey, renewable biomass, fruits, nuts and vegetables for cold storage facilities, floriculture, hops, maple sap, rye, milk, cheese, butter, yogurt, meat and poultry (unprocessed), eggs, and aquaculture (excluding systems that maintain live animals

through uptake and discharge of water). Qualified facilities include grain bins, hay barns and cold storage facilities for eligible commodities.

Loans up to \$50,000 can be secured by a promissory note/security agreement and loans between \$50,000 and \$100,000 may require additional security. Loans exceeding \$100,000 require additional security.

Producers do not need to demonstrate the lack of commercial credit availability to apply. The loans are designed to assist a diverse range of farming operations, including small and mid-sized businesses, new farmers, operations supplying local food and farmers markets, non-traditional farm products, and underserved producers.

To learn more about the FSA Farm Storage Facility Loan, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/pricesupport or contact your local FSA county office. To find your local FSA county office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact [Rob Weppner](mailto:Rob.Weppner@aphis.usda.gov) at [307-682-8843](tel:307-682-8843) extension 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).