The Fremont County USDA Service Center is now open for in-office visits by appointment only. Call to make an appointment:

FSA: (307) 856-7524

**Things You Should Know About Your Appointment:**
- When you call for an appointment, you will be screened for recent health concerns and recent travel.
- Our office doors will remain locked and you will be allowed entry at your scheduled appointment time.
- You may be asked to wear a face covering during your appointment and adhere to social distancing guidelines.

**Information Regarding USDA’s Coronavirus Food Assistance Program:**
- May 26 to Aug. 28, Farm Service Agency is accepting applications from agricultural producers who faced price declines and additional marketing costs due to COVID-19.
- In addition to in-person appointments, FSA will be working with agricultural producers by phone and using email and online tools to process applications.
- Visit farmers.gov/cfap for program information including eligible crops, payment rates, and Frequently Asked Questions, or call 877-508-8364 for assistance.

**Update Your Records**
FSA is cleaning up our producer record database. If you have any unreported changes of address, zip code, phone number, email address or an incorrect name or business name on file they need to be reported to our office. Changes in your farm operation, like the addition of a farm by lease or purchase, need to be reported to our office as well. Producers participating in FSA and NRCS programs are required to timely report changes in their farming operation to the County Committee in writing and update their CCC-902 Farm Operating Plan.

If you have any updates or corrections, please call your local FSA office to update your records.
Nominations Open for the 2020 County Committee Elections

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) encourages all farmers, ranchers, and FSA program participants to take part in the Fremont County Committee election nomination process.

FSA’s county committees are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA and allow grassroots input and local administration of federal farm programs.

Committees are comprised of locally elected agricultural producers responsible for the fair and equitable administration of FSA farm programs in their counties. Committee members are accountable to the Secretary of Agriculture. If elected, members become part of a local decision making and farm program delivery process.

A county committee is composed of three to 11 elected members from local administrative areas (LAA). Each member serves a three-year term. One-third of the seats on these committees are open for election each year.

County committees may have an appointed advisor to further represent the local interests of underserved farmers and ranchers. Underserved producers are beginning, women and other minority farmers and ranchers and landowners and/or operators who have limited resources.

All nomination forms for the 2020 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by Aug. 1, 2020 (or next business day). For more information on FSA county committee elections and appointments, refer to the FSA fact sheet: Eligibility to Vote and Hold Office as a COC Member available online at: fsa.usda.gov/elections.

Livestock Losses

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides assistance to eligible producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather, disease and attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government or protected by federal law.

LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather, including losses due to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, wildfires, extreme heat or extreme cold.

For disease losses, FSA county committees can accept veterinarian certifications that livestock deaths were directly related to adverse weather and unpreventable through good animal husbandry and management.

For 2020 livestock losses, eligible livestock owners must file a notice within 30 calendar days of when the loss is first apparent. Participants must provide the following supporting documentation to their local FSA office no later than 60 calendar days after the end of the calendar year in which the eligible loss condition occurred.

- Proof of death documentation
- Copy of grower’s contracts
- Proof of normal mortality documentation

USDA has established normal mortality rates for each type and weight range of eligible livestock, i.e. Adult Beef Cow = 1.5% and Non-Adult Beef Cattle (less than 250 pounds) = 3%. These established percentages reflect losses that are considered expected or typical under “normal” conditions.

In addition to filing a notice of loss, producers must also submit an application for payment by March 1, 2021.

Additional Information about LIP is available at your local FSA office or online at: www.fsa.usda.gov.

For questions regarding crop certification and crop loss reports, please contact your local FSA office.
Farm Programs

**LFP:** Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP), and Livestock Disaster Assistance Program (LDAP)

**ARC/PLC:** Agricultural Risk & Price Loss Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC)

**CRP:** Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and Farm Storage Facility Loans (FSFL)

**Beginning Farmer & Rancher Loans:** Farm Owner/Operator Loans (Direct and Guaranteed), Farm Operating Loans (Direct and Guaranteed), and Emergency Loans

**Youth Loans:** Youth and Socially Disadvantaged Loans

**SBAA:** Women, Minority, and Socially Disadvantaged Farmer Loan (WML), Women, Minority, and Socially Disadvantaged Farmer & Rancher Loan (WMLR), and Women, Minority, and Socially Disadvantaged Farmers & Rancher Loan (WMLR)

**Liability:** Liability requirements are required for both Farm and Lending Programs and Loans

**Questions?**

Contact your local FSA office to update your records.

**Important Links**

- FSA Podcast - https://fsa.blogs.govdelivery.com/
- Farmers.gov - https://www.farmers.gov/
- FSA State Offices - https://www.fsa.usda.gov/locations/stateoffices
- A directory of USDA Service Centers can be found online at offices.usda.gov

**Stay Connected with USDA:**

- Contact your local FSA to update your records.
- Have you moved?
- Changed bank accounts?
- Have you rented?

**Important Dates**

- New Year’s Day
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- President’s Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Columbus Day
- Veterans Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Holiday

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WHAT'S AROUND THE CORNER

- July 15, 2020 – 2020 Acreage reporting deadline
- August 28, 2020 - Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP)
- September 30, 2020 – ARC/PLC Yield update deadline
- Immediately – Weather and loss conditions, including livestock losses 15 days after apparent – Deadline to file NAP losses (hay & grazing)

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual’s income is derived from any public assistance programs. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who required alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape etc.) should contact USDA’s TARGET Center at 302.720.2600 (voice and TDD). To file a discrimination complaint, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave, SW, Washington D.C., 20250-9410 or call 800.795.3272 (voice), or 202.720.6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.