Laramie County Service Center Updates - June 15, 2021

Farm Service Agency | Natural Resources Conservation Service | Risk Management Agency

- Maps for Acreage Reporting are Available
- Farmers.gov Feature Helps Producers Find Farm Loans that Fit Their Operation
- USDA Updates Conservation Provisions for Highly Erodible Land and Wetlands

Laramie County Service Center Comments

Happy June Laramie County Farmers and Ranchers! Please remember that you will need to report your spring crop acreage, CRP & perennial grasses to us by July 15th. Please call the office to make an appointment as soon as you are done planting.

Please also note that the nomination period for a County Committee member for LAA #1 (North of Road 221, East of Road 136) will be open from June 15th to August 2nd. If you would like to nominate someone; please fill out Form FSA-669A, which is available online or at our office.

CRP signup dates have finally been announced! CRP general signup is closing July 23, 2021. CRP grasslands will open on July 12th and will close August 20, 2021.

Thank you for everything you do!

-Laramie County FSA

Please give the office a call to make an appointment if you need to work with FSA and/or NRCS. Due to Coronavirus procedures: you are required to have an appointment to enter the building.

-Laramie County FSA & NRCS
Phone: 307-772-2314

Maps for Acreage Reporting are Available

Maps are now available at the Laramie County FSA Office for acreage reporting purposes. If you wish to receive your maps by e-mail, please call our office or email any of the Laramie county FSA team.

Please see the following acreage reporting deadlines for Laramie County:

- July 15th - spring-planted crops (corn, oats, etc.), CRP, and perennial grasses.
- November 15th - fall-planted crops (wheat, triticale, etc.) and apiculture (bees).

In order to maintain program eligibility and benefits, you must file timely acreage reports. Failure to file an acreage report by the crop acreage reporting deadline may cause ineligibility for future program benefits. FSA will not accept acreage reports provided more than a year after the acreage reporting deadline.

Producers are encouraged to file their acreage reports as soon as planting is completed.
Farmers.gov Feature Helps Producers Find Farm Loans that Fit Their Operation

Farmers and ranchers can use the Farm Loan Discovery Tool on farmers.gov to find information on USDA farm loans that may best fit their operations.

USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers a variety of loan options to help farmers finance their operations. From buying land to financing the purchase of equipment, FSA loans can help.

USDA conducted field research in eight states, gathering input from farmers and FSA farm loan staff to better understand their needs and challenges.

How the Tool Works

Farmers who are looking for financing options to operate a farm or buy land can answer a few simple questions about what they are looking to fund and how much money they need to borrow. After submitting their answers, farmers will receive information on farm loans that best fit their specific needs. The loan application and additional resources also will be provided.

Farmers can download application quick guides that outline what to expect from preparing an application to receiving a loan decision. There are four guides that cover loans to individuals, entities, and youth, as well as information on microloans. The guides include general eligibility requirements and a list of required forms and documentation for each type of loan. These guides can help farmers prepare before their first USDA service center visit with a loan officer.

Farmers can access the Farm Loan Discovery Tool by visiting farmers.gov/fund and clicking the “Start” button. Follow the prompts and answer five simple questions to receive loan information that is applicable to your agricultural operation. The tool is built to run on any modern browser like Chrome, Edge, Firefox, or the Safari browser, and is fully functional on mobile devices. It does not work in Internet Explorer.

USDA Updates Conservation Provisions for Highly Erodible Land and Wetlands

USDA published its final rule on determining whether land is considered highly erodible or a wetland, integrating input from the public and making updates in accordance with the 2018 Farm Bill. This final rule follows a focused effort by USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to improve consistency and use of science in making determinations.

To be eligible for most USDA programs, producers must be conservation compliant with the highly erodible land and wetland provisions. These provisions aim to reduce soil loss on erosion-prone lands and to protect wetlands for the multiple benefits they provide.

The final rule was made available for public inspection today, and it will be published tomorrow in the Federal Register. This follows an interim final rule published Dec. 7, 2018.

This final rule confirms most of the changes made by the December 2018 interim final rule and makes these additional updates:

1. Adding the requirement of the 2018 Farm Bill that USDA will make a reasonable effort to include the affected person in an on-site investigation conducted prior to making a wetland violation technical determination.

2. Further clarifying how wetland hydrology is identified for farmed wetlands and farmed wetland pasture.
3. Adding clarification to the consideration of best-drained condition for wetland hydrology in keeping with the definition of prior converted cropland.

4. Relocating the provision that wetland determinations can be done on a tract, field, or sub-field basis in order to improve clarity.

NRCS has recently updated its conservation compliance webpages, adding highly erodible land and wetland determination resources for agricultural producers by state. Learn more about conservation compliance on the NRCS website.