

FSA UPDATE QUICK INFORMATION ON PROGRAMS & DEADLINES

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program (SURE)

January 10, 2011: Sign-up starts for the **2009 SURE** program. To apply submit:

1. FSA-682 application for crops with a 10% or greater loss in 2009
2. Your Crop Insurance records of production for 2009; and your farm records for production covered by Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)
3. If you did not have NAP you must request a 2009 Buy In Waiver for \$250 and agree to purchase NAP for the next year.
4. Adjusted Gross Income form(s) for 2011.

County Committee Elections

Voters in LAA-1 towns of Ashford, Eastford, Chaplin, Hampton, Windham, Scotland and Canterbury have elected Charles "Tim" Tyler, COC Representative; Jeffrey Sandness, first alternate; and Ezequial Garcia, second alternate. The committee meets monthly to review farm program applications and other responsibilities.

Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP)



A group of producers; or a biomass conversion facility can submit a request for a project area to accept renewable biomass to convert into heat, power, biobased products or advanced biofuels.

When a project is approved eligible participants can apply for technical assistance, annual rental payments, or matching payments for the collection, harvest, storage and transportation of eligible materials to a qualified facility.

Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL)

If you need storage for crops you grow, you can apply for a low interest fixed loan to build or upgrade your storage. Eligible crops are corn, grains, hay, renewable biomass, fruits and vegetables. This loan is not part of the Farm Loan process; it is streamlined and requires no DEP or NRCS oversight. We can help with your application questions.

NRCS Applications accepted until February 28th

Jay Mar, State Conservationist, encourages farmers to apply for the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) and the Grassland Reserve Program (GRP). The programs help protect, restore and enhance farmland. Apply with NRCS at 860-774-0224.

Conservation Loan Program (CLP)

If you need funds to start or complete NRCS approved practices apply for the CLP loan. The practice(s) must be listed on your NRCS approved conservation plan. The application is condensed from standard Farm Loan applications.

January 2011

Windham County FSA 860-774-8397 x 1

Temporary Program Technician Position

Sarah Phaiah, who has worked with us since September 2008, has resigned to pursue her career goal of becoming a nurse. We wish her the best!



Applications will be accepted **through January 28th for the**

Temporary Full-Time Program Technician position. Duties are to

answer phones, prepare reports, use the computer to enter USDA program data, create newsletters, handle correspondence, and other duties as assigned. Work hours will be Monday through Friday, from 8 am to 4:30 pm with a half hour unpaid lunch. No nights or weekends are required. The position does not provide medical or retirement benefits. A total of 4.0 hours of sick leave and 4.0 hours of annual leave are earned every two weeks worked; they are used to take time off. Depending on qualifications, the salary range will be from \$27,000 to \$34,500 per year. Applicants must be a US Citizen; and at least a High School graduate or equivalent. A background security investigation will be required.

Call 860-774-8397 x 1 or email diane.holowaty@ct.usda.gov for information.

Direct & Counter Cyclical Program (DCP)

Packets of sign-up information are being sent out by our office, sign the forms and return them to enroll your corn bases in the 2011 DCP program. Advance payments can be made now on the home farm or land with a rental agreement on file. Most advance payments for corn bases will be made after acreage reporting in July.

Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC)

Unfortunately milk prices are expected to drop, USDA MILC payments will be made to participating eligible farms when milk income falls below \$16.94/cwt.

Meetings & Events – Happy New Year 2011!

- Jan. 15th Small Ruminant Owners, 9 to 3, Maneley's, Windsor 800-640-4523 x 326
- 15th NOFA Mass Winter Conference, 9 to 5, Tech School, Worcester, 978-355-2853
- 20th CT Vegetable & Small Fruit Growers Conference, 8 to 4, Vernon, 860-875-3331
- 29th Getting Started in Organic Farming, 8 to 4, New Haven, 203-888-5146
- 31st CT Joint Venture Grant Deadline, www.ct.gov/doag

- Feb. 8th Bedding Plant Program - Greenhouse Growers, 10 to 3, Vernon, 860-626-6855
- 12th Bee School, 9 to 4, New Haven, 860-677-9391
- 18th NRCS Healthy Soils Workshop, 8:30 to 4, Lebanon, Ray 860-774-8397 x 102

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