



October 2011

On Line Only

Jefferson/Clark FSA

Service Center
210 S 5th W
Rigby ID 83442

Phone: (208) 745-6664
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Hours:

Monday – Friday
8:00 am - 4:30 pm

CED:

Ben Evans

Staff:

Lisa Eaton, PT
Joy Lopez, PT
Elaine Roker, PT

County Committee:

Lee Burtenshaw
George Ellsworth
Robert McCulloch
Kevin Small
Andy Wagoner

Advisor:

Susan Stewart

**Jefferson/Clark County
Committee Meetings dates:**

December 12, 2011

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2011 DCPACRE Final Payments

DCPACRE payments for 2011 participants will be issued after Oct. 1, 2011. These payments will be deposited directly into participating producers' personal bank accounts.

If there are any unearned payments, Commodity Credit Corporation will automatically subtract those amounts from the October Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program payments.

Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

Fiscal Year 2012 Farm Storage Facility Loan Funds have been approved. The Jefferson/Clark County Office is now accepting applications.

The Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program allows producers of eligible commodities to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities.

The new maximum principal amount of a loan through FSFL is \$500,000. Participants are now required to provide a down payment of 15 percent, with CCC providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of the eligible storage facility and permanent drying and handling equipment. New loan terms of 7, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the rate which CCC borrows from the Treasury Department.

Payments are available in the form of a partial disbursement and the remaining final disbursement. The partial disbursement will be available after a portion of the construction has been completed. The final fund disbursement will be made when all construction is completed. The maximum amount of the partial disbursement will be 50 percent of the approved total loan amount.

Applications for FSFL must be submitted to the FSA county office that maintains the farm's records. An FSFL must be approved before any site preparation or construction can begin.

The following commodities are eligible for farm storage facility loans:

- Corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, oats, peanuts, wheat, barley or minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain
- Corn, grain sorghum, wheat, oats or barley harvested as other-than-whole grain
- Pulse crops - lentils, small chickpeas and dry peas
- Hay
- Fruits (including nuts) and vegetables - cold storage facilities

For more information about FSFL visit your FSA county office or www.fsa.usda.gov.

Voting for County Committee Begins

Ballots for this year's county committee election will be mailed to eligible voters on November 4th. Voters must complete their ballots and return them to the Farm Service Agency county office by the close of business on December 5th. If mailed, ballots must be postmarked by midnight December 5, 2011. (*map of LAA's on page 4*)

This year's elections will be in LAA #2 and LAA #4. The boundaries of the LAA's are:

- ◆ LAA #2 – that area in Clark County East of I-15 & South of Hwy 22
- ◆ LAA#4 – that area in Jefferson County South of Hwy 33 and West and North of the Snake River

Eligible voters in a local administrative area LAA #2 and LAA #4 who do not receive a ballot should contact the FSA county office staff.

Voter Requirements Persons meeting requirements in **1 or 2, plus 3**, below, is eligible to vote:

- 1.** Be of legal voting age and have an interest in a farm or ranch as either of the following: a partner in a general partnership or a member of a joint venture that has an interest in a farm as an owner, operator, tenant or sharecropper; **Or**
- 2.** Not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm; **and**
- 3.** Eligible to participate in any FSA program that is provided by law, regardless of the status of funding.

Discrimination Prohibited No person shall be denied the right to vote because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status.



Acreage Spot Check Determinations and Notification

Each year the Farm Service Agency completes spot checks of acreage reports. Acreage reports are an integral part of farm program participation. Acreage spot checks are completed to ensure accurate acreage reports are used in farm program computations.

FSA will conduct spot checks on a selected number of farms in each state. All acreage determinations will be completed using the FSA Geographic Information System official acreages.

After farms are spot checked, a Notice of Determined Acreage will be sent to the farm operator. Producer notifications will be issued by FSA as spot checks are completed.

Farm Loan Program Limits

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. If you are having trouble getting the credit you need for your farm, or regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available.

Ask your lender about an FSA loan guarantee if you've had a setback and your lender is reluctant to renew your loan.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans have a maximum limit of \$1,214,000 starting on Oct. 1, 2011.

The one-time loan origination fee charged on FSA guaranteed farm ownership and operating loans has increased from 1 percent to 1.5 percent of the guaranteed portion of the loan, for loans obligated after Oct. 1, 2011.

Beginning and Limited Resource Farmers

FSA assists beginning farmers and or members of socially disadvantaged groups to finance agricultural enterprises with financing through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:

- Has operated a farm not more that 10 years
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the county's median size.

Additional program information, loan applications, and other materials are available at your local USDA Service Center. You may also visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

Rural Youth Loans

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate 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:

- United States citizenship (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- 10 years to 20 years of age
- Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- Reside in a rural area, city or town with a population of 50,000 or fewer people
- Inability to obtain 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 project and the loan and provide adequate supervision.

Stop by the Jefferson or Madison County FSA office for help preparing and processing the application forms.

Hispanic and/or Women Farmers

A process to resolve the claims of Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who believe they were discriminated against when seeking USDA farm loans has been established.

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

For additional information contact:

- **Hispanic and Women Farmer Claims Process:** www.farmerclaims.gov or call 1-888-508-4429.
- **Pigford – The Black Farmers Discrimination Litigation:** www.blackfarmercase.com or call 1-866-950-5547.
- **Keepseagle - The Native American Farmers Class Action Settlement:** www.IndianFarmClass.com or call 1-888-233-5506.

Changing Banks

Almost all FSA payments are made electronically using Direct Deposit. This innovation has cut down on the number of missing and late payments and reduced the time required to move funds. It has been calculated that having a problem with a payment is 20 times greater with checks than with Direct Deposit. Another benefit is that Direct Deposit to your account can be made within 48 hours.

To keep the system running smoothly, it's critical to keep the county office staff up to date on changes you might make in your financial institutions.

If you have changed accounts or institutions that might affect the direct deposit of your FSA payments, contact the FSA county office so we can update our files to insure continued uninterrupted service.

Unauthorized Disposition of Loaned Grain

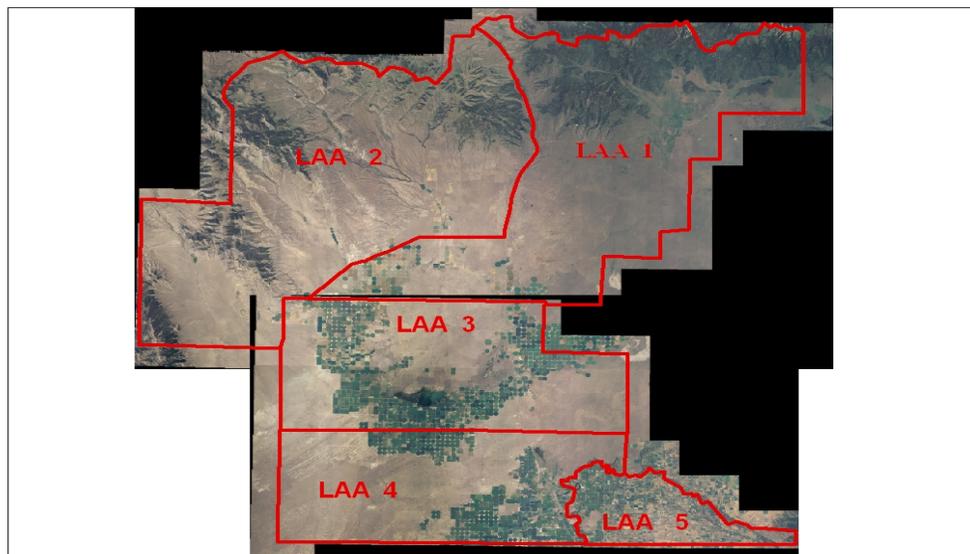
Disposing of grain, that is under loan with FSA, through feeding, selling or any other form of disposal without prior written authorization from the county office staff is considered unauthorized disposition. The financial penalties for unauthorized dispositions are severe and a producers name will be placed on a loan violation list for a two-year period. Always call the office before any grain under loan is fed or sold.

Selling Land

If you're planning to sell farmland, there may be some program consequences you should be aware of. For example, if you're planning to sell land that's enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, the buyer must agree to continue the enrollment. If the buyer doesn't want to continue the CRP contract, you might have to refund all of the payments you've received to date.

Reviewing program implications with your local Farm Service Agency staff before completing a sale of farmland is always a prudent precaution.





USDA United States Department of Agriculture
 Farm Service Agency
Jefferson/Clark County LAA's

Disclaimer: Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact wetland boundaries and determination or contact NRCS.

2/11/2009



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This year the Jefferson/Clark County Committee Elections are being held in LAA 2 and 4. Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters in these LAA's on November 4th.

Visit Idaho's FSA Website at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/id>

2011 Dates to Remember!

- Ongoing** : Continuous CRP signup
- October 10th** : Office closed for Columbus Day
- October 31st** : Deadline to apply for ELAP or LIP
- November 6th** : Day Light Saving Time Ends
- November 11th** : Office closed for Veterans Day
- December 1st** : Deadline to purchase NAP Insurance

October 2011 Interest Rates

- 1.750% Farm Operating – direct
- 4.250% Farm Ownership – Direct
- 1.500% Farm Ownership – Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher
- 3.750% Emergency & Limited Resource
- 1.125% Commodity Loans
- 1.500% FSFL (Farm Storage Facility Loans) with 7-year loan terms
- 2.125% FSFL with 10-year loan terms
- 2.375% FSFL with 12-year loan terms

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer