



Wabaunsee County Farm Service Agency

March 2011

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Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Office Staff

Monte Johnson
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Jane Armitage
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Debbie Figge
Temporary Program
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County Committee

Shirley Stuewe
Janice Stevens
Everette Thomas

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County Committee Election Results

Congratulations to Janice Stevens on being re-elected to the Wabaunsee County Committee for Local Administration Area 1 (LAA1), which covers KAW East and West, Newbury North, Maple Hill North, parts of Wabaunsee North and South, parts of Newbury South, and part of Maple Hill South.

Congratulations to Everette Thomas on being elected to the Wabaunsee County Committee Local Administration Area 3. This was a make-up election. LAA3 includes Wilmington North and South, Plumb North and South, Mission Creek East and West, Mill Creek North and South, and part of Rock Creek East.

FSA wants to thank those who have served on the county committee and the producers for taking the time to vote for committee candidates.

CRP General Signup 41

USDA has announced a Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) signup March 14, 2011, through April 15, 2011. This is the second consecutive year that USDA has offered a general CRP signup.

Land that is not currently enrolled in CRP can be offered during signup if all eligibility requirements are met. CRP participants with contracts expiring this fall can make new contract offers during the signup period. Contracts awarded during this general signup will become effective October 1, 2011.

All CRP offers are evaluated and ranked using an Environmental Benefits Index (EBI) that indicates the environmental benefits of enrolling land in CRP. There are five environmental factors that make up the EBI: wildlife, water, soil, air, enduring benefits, and cost. Decisions will be made following the end of the signup period and after analyzing EBI data on all of the offers.

In addition to the general signup, the continuous CRP signup program will be ongoing.

Please call the office to make an appointment to come in and discuss the possibility of enrolling in the General CRP signup.

2011 DCP-ACRE Program

Enrollment for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) has begun and will continue through June 1, 2011. Producers can call for an appointment to certify and signup.

CRP Informational Meeting

Two CRP informational meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, March 9, at 2:00 PM and Thursday, March 10, at 7:00 PM. Due to budget constraints, both meetings will be held at the Wabaunsee County FSA conference room at 103 East 6 Street, Alma.

Changing Banks

Farm Service Agency payments are made electronically using Direct Deposit. 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 ensure continued uninterrupted service.

2011 Acreage Reporting

The office is taking appointments to complete the annual acreage reports. These reports are required for most Farm Service Agency programs. Final date to report your small grains (wheat, oats, and triticale) and alfalfa is **May 31, 2011**.

If you have a NAP grass insurance policy, the final date to report that acreage is 15 days prior to grazing.

All other crops (grass, corn, milo, soybeans, sunflowers, and fallow) must be reported by **August 1, 2011**.

Also report failed acreage that was timely planted with the intent to harvest, but because of disaster related conditions, it was not harvested.

Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.

Wool Loan Deficiency Payments

Before shearing wool or selling unshorn lambs for 2011, be sure you file form CCC-633EZ for 2011. Once wool or unshorn lamb leaves the farm, you lose beneficial interest and are no longer eligible for the LDP unless you have filed page 1 of the CCC-633EZ.

Special Accommodations

Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, individuals should contact the county FSA office directly or by phone.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). March 15th Application Closing and Requirements

The deadline to accept applications under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for 2011 crops of coarse grains, vegetable and melon crops is March 15, 2011.

Crops eligible for NAP benefits are limited to those not insurable in the county and are produced for food or fiber.

Interested producers who wish to participate in the NAP program must complete an Application for Coverage (CCC-471) and pay the applicable service fee by the applicable sales closing date for the specific crop.

Administrative service fees are collected in order to help offset the cost of implementing the program and range from \$250 per crop per administrative county not to exceed \$750 per producer per administrative county with a \$1875 maximum fee for multi-county producers.

In the unfortunate event that a producer does suffer a loss on a particular crop, a Notice of Loss (CCC-576) must be filed with the local FSA office within 15 calendar days after the disaster occurrence, or the date the loss becomes apparent to the producer. Producers are responsible for providing accurate and complete information. This includes timely certifying the unit's planted acreage and production with FSA.

This coverage entitles eligible producers to a payment of 55 percent of an average market price for the commodity if a natural disaster caused a 50 percent production loss or greater of an eligible crop. Producers are limited to \$100,000 in benefits per person per crop year, they must not exceed the \$2 million gross revenue provisions, and they must comply with conservation compliance provisions in order to be determined eligible.

Change in Farming Operation

If you've bought or sold land, or leased or dropped rented land from your operation, make sure you report the changes to the office as soon as possible. You need to provide a copy of your deed or recorded land contract for purchased property. Not maintaining accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in can lead to possible program ineligibility. Making the record changes now will save you time in the spring. Update signature authorization when changes in the operation occur.

Sure Disaster Program

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program provides benefits for losses due to natural disasters. A "farm" is eligible if located in a Secretarial Declaration county or contiguous county and has at least a 10% loss on a crop of economic significance; OR, production is less than 50% for the entire farm. A "farm" means all crops (forage included) in all counties you have interest in.

Wabaunsee County is not in a Secretarial Declaration county or contiguous county for the 2009 crop year. So if all your farming interest is in Wabaunsee County, you would need a 50% loss on all crops to qualify.

To be eligible, you must have Federal Crop Insurance or NAP coverage on all significant crops. Also, all acres of cropland and grass must have been reported to FSA for 2009.

Signup for 2009 losses is under way and ends July 29, 2011.

CCC Commodity Loans and LDPs

The **2010 crop loan rates for Wabaunsee County are:**

Wheat	\$2.77	Grain Sorghum	\$3.33 cwt.
Corn	\$1.98	Soybeans	\$4.93
Oats	\$1.43	Barley	\$1.85

Final loan request date for 2010 wheat, oats, and barley is March 31, 2010; feed grains is May 31.

The 2011 crop year loan rates have not been announced yet.

Dates to Remember	
Date	What
March 9	CRP Information meeting at the Alma Office 2:00 PM
March 10	CRP Information meeting at the Alma Office 7:00 PM
March 14	CRP Signup 41 starts
March 15	Deadline for Certain NAP Crops
April 15	Final day to sign up for CRP
May 31	Final date to report wheat, oats, or triticale
June 1	Final date to enroll in DCP & ACRE