

October 2013



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# Lenawee County FSA Updates

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## Lenawee County FSA Office

1100 Sutton Rd  
Adrian MI 49221

Phone: 517-263-7400  
Fax: 855-643-5267

**County Executive Director:**  
Constance Reid Guffey

**Program Technicians:**  
Debra Shiels ext. 105  
Jessica Mullins 125  
Barbara Wagner 107  
Beth Wagner 106  
Jamie Wegner 104

**County Committee Members:**  
Michael Feight - Chair  
Genie Hillard - Vice Chair  
Dale Terry - Member  
Stephanie Thompson - Advisor

**Farm Loan Manager:**  
Michael Jordon  
Phone: 517-263-7400

**Program Technicians:**  
Brenda Andrews ext. 113  
Jodie Johnson 112

**Next County Committee Meeting:** December 4, 2013  
at 8:30 AM

## Note Our New Fax Number

Our new fax number is: **855-643-5267**

When you call the USDA Service Center phone number, you may press the extension of the person you desire when the greeting begins. You do not have to listen to the greeting. If you do not have a particular person in mind, just press 2 for the Farm Program Section or 3 for the Farm Loan Section.

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## Conservation Reserve Payments Underway

Farm Service Agency staff has begun distributing Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) annual rental payments to participants across the country. Payments originally were scheduled to be issued earlier in the month, but were delayed by several weeks due to the lapse in Federal funding. Issuing the CRP payments without any further delay is top priority and should be completed by the end of this week.

Nationwide, producers will receive payments on almost 700,000 CRP contracts on 390,000 farms covering 26.8 million acres. In exchange for a yearly rental payment provided by USDA on contracts ranging from 10 to 15 years, farmers and ranchers enrolled in CRP agree to remove environmentally sensitive land from agricultural production and plant grasses or trees that will improve water quality and improve waterfowl and wildlife habitat. CRP reduced runoff and leaching of nitrogen and phosphorus into waterways by an estimated 605 million pounds and 121 million pounds, respectively, in 2012, and soil erosion reductions totaling 308 million tons in 2012.

The 2008 Farm Bill, extended by the American Tax Payer Relief Act of 2012, provides authority to enroll land in DCP, ACRE and CRP only through September 30, 2013. Effective October 1, 2013, FSA does not have legislative authority to approve or process applications for these programs.

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## DCP Payments Underway

We began issuing 2013 direct payments for the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payments (DCP) program today. Most producers will receive their payments in 2-3 business days.

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## Crop Acreage Reports

We are now taking appointments for producers to certify their 2014 acreage of wheat and perennial forage. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs.

Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop.

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

For crops enrolled in programs other than NAP (Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program), acreage reports are to be certified by:

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| November 15th | Fall-seeded small grains and perennial forage   |
| January 2nd   | for honey—the number of colonies  |
| January 15th  | Apples, apricots, asparagus, blueberries, caneberries, cherries,<br>Grapes, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, rhubarb and strawberries |
| February 1    | Maple sap—the number of eligible trees and taps   |
| July 15th     | all other crops, including Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres and new forage seedings.  |

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