

February 2014



Coos-Carroll County FSA Updates

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Coos-Carroll County FSA Office

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County Executive Director:

Patricia Matte
patricia.matte@nh.usda.gov

Program Technician:

Paulette Couture
paulette.couture@nh.usda.gov

County Committee:

Julie Hussey - Chairperson
Bruce Savage - Vice-Chair
Joyce Brady - Member
Wayne Cheney - Member
Richard Fortin - Member

County Committee Meeting:

April 3, 2014 11:00 AM

Farm Loan Office:

The Concord Center
10 Ferry St. Suite 212, Box 212
Concord, NH 03301
Phone (603) 223-6003
Fax (603) 223-6030

NH Acting Farm Loan Manager:

Brian Kuper
brian.kuper@vt.usda.gov

County Committee Election Results

County committee elections are over, the ballots are counted and the results are in...

Joyce Brady of North Stratford was elected to represent LAA #2 and Scott Deblois of Colebrook will serve as the first alternate. Wayne Cheney of Wolfeboro was elected to represent LAA #5.

Elected county committee members serve a three-year term and are responsible for making decisions on FSA disaster, conservation, commodity, and price support programs, as well as other important federal farm program issues.

County committee members are a valuable asset because they are comprised of local producers who participate in FSA programs themselves and have a direct connection to farmers and ranchers in the community. All recently elected county committee members and alternate members took office on February 18, 2014, joining the existing committee.

At the organizational meeting in February, the Committee voted for Julie Hussey to serve as the Chairperson and Bruce Savage as Vice-Chairperson.

FSA appreciates all of the voters for taking the time to complete the election ballot. The county committee system works only because of your participation.

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.

Farm Loan Officers:

Lorna Wakefield

lorna.wakefield@nh.usda.gov

Rebecca Davis

rebecca.davis@nh.usda.gov

William Wilson

william.wilson@nh.usda.gov**Website:**www.fsa.usda.gov.nh**Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:**

- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- Be 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
- Be unable to get 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, along with providing adequate supervision.

Beginning Farmer Loans

FSA assists beginning farmers to finance agricultural enterprises. Under these designated farm loan programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:

- Has operated a farm for not more than 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.

Foreign Buyers Notification

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

All individuals who are not U.S. citizens, and have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA with 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form (FSA-153) could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property. County government offices, Realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

February Interest Rates

Farm Operating Loans, Direct and Microloans 2.00%

Farm Ownership Loans, Direct 4.25%

Farm Ownership Loans, Direct, Joint Financing 5.00%

Farm Ownership, Down Payment 1.50%

Emergency Loans - 3.00%

Conservation Loan - 4.25%

Farm Storage Facility Loans (7 Year Term) - 2.375%

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).