

June 2013



Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)

Grafton County FSA Updates

DEAR PRODUCERS: Welcome to the new GovDelivery bulletins and updates service from Grafton County FSA Office. Note that you are welcome to request to receive bulletins from more than one state and/or county and can add or remove individual subscriptions at any time.

Grafton County FSA Office

19 Archertown Rd Suite 1
Orford, NH 03777
Phone: 603-353-4650
Fax: 603-353-4647

County Executive Director:
Steven Schmidt

Program Technicians:
Tara Hamlett
Joanne Fullerton

County Committee:
David Clement
Jacqueline Lewis
Shirley Tullar

Farm Loan Manager:
Brian Cooper
Phone: 603-223-6003

Farm Loans:
The Concord Center
10 Ferry St Box 212 Ste 212
Concord, NH 03301
Ph: 603-223-6003
Fax: 603-223-6030

Website:
www.fsa.usda.gov

COC Election Nominations

County Committee (COC) nominations will be taking place in the Local Administrative Area 2 (LAA2) for Grafton County. Towns within LAA 2 include: Haverhill, Benton, Woodstock, Warren, Ellsworth, Thornton, Livermore, Waterville Valley, Wentworth, Rumney, Campton, Dorchester, Groton, Plymouth, Holderness, Ashland, Hebron, Bridgewater, Bristol, and Alexandria.

The COC nomination period runs from June 17, 2013 through August 1, 2013. Nomination forms for the 2013 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on Aug. 1, 2013. LAA Maps and County Committee Nomination forms are available at the Grafton County Office or nomination forms can be accessed in Spanish or English versions on the internet through the following web links: For English: http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/fsa0669a_english_form.pdf or For Spanish: http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/fsa0669a_es_130405v01.pdf

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

County committee members are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers and ranchers who serve on county committees help with the decisions necessary to administer the programs in their counties. They work to ensure FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

FSA county committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws. Members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions. Contact the Grafton County FSA Office for details.

DCP Deadline Approaches

The sign-up period for DCP is still open. Producers are encouraged to sign up for DCP before the Aug. 2, 2013, deadline.

The 2013 DCP program provisions are unchanged from 2012, except that all eligible participants in 2013 may choose to enroll in either DCP or ACRE for the 2013 crop year. This means that eligible producers who were enrolled in ACRE in 2012 may elect to enroll in DCP in 2013 or may re-enroll in ACRE in 2013. Likewise producers who were enrolled in DCP may opt for ACRE enrollment. Contact the Grafton County FSA Office for more information.

Crop Acreage Reporting

After spring planting, producers should certify their 2013 acreage. 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. Acreage reports are required for many Farm Service Agency programs. For crops enrolled in programs other than NAP (Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program), acreage reports are to be certified by the **July 15 deadline**. If you have any questions or to report your crops, come see us or give us a call at 603-353-4650 (ext 2).

Banking Changes?

If you changed banks and have not notified FSA, your payment could be delayed. Payments are electronically transferred into your bank account. If we are not aware of changes to your account and routing numbers, there could be problems. In order to make timely payments, you need to notify the office if you close your account or if another financial institution purchases your bank. It is important that any changes in a producer's account such as type account, bank mergers, routing number or account numbers be provided to the county office promptly to avoid possible payment delay.

Payment Limitations

All payment eligibility and payment limitation provisions, including AGI limitations, are extended for the 2013 crop year, program year, and fiscal year.

All rules and requirements effective for 2012 program payments and benefits are applicable to eligible recipients of 2013 program payment and benefits. This includes the requirements of actively engaged in farming, cash-rent tenant, substantive change, minor child, and spousal provisions. Payments will continue to be limited by direct attribution to person and legal entity.

Contributions*

All partners, stockholders or members with an ownership interest in the legal entity must make a contribution, whether compensated or **not** compensated, for:

- Active personal labor,
- Active personal management,
- A combination of active personal labor and active personal management to the farming operation

*Note: There are exceptions for spouses.

Additional information on payment limitations is available at FSA county offices or online at: www.fsa.usda.gov

Dates to Remember

June 17, 2013 COC Nominations Opens

July 4, 2013 - Holiday - Office Closed

August 1, 2013 Last Day to File COC Nominations

August 2, 2013 DCP Sign up Ends

Crop Reporting Deadlines

July 15, 2013: Corn, Fresh Market Sweet Corn, Spring Forage Seeding, All Other Crops

November 15, 2013: 2014 Perennial Forage, 2013 Fall Forage Seeding, 2013 Fall Seeded Small Grains

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).