

October 2013



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Grafton County FSA Updates

Topics for October

- [2013 County Committee Elections](#)
- [Farm Storage Facility Loan Program](#)
- [UNHCE/RMA Corn & Forage Crop Growers Meeting](#)
- [Special Accommodations and Accessibility](#)
- [Reporting of Perennial Forage Crops](#)
- [Increased Guaranteed Loan Limit](#)
- [Selected Interest Rates for October 2013](#)
- [Dates to Remember](#)

Grafton County FSA Office

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2013 County Committee Elections

Watch your mailbox for your official county office committee election ballot starting early next month. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters on **Nov. 4, 2013**. If for some reason you don't receive a ballot, feel free to notify the Grafton County FSA office. LAA 2 will be holding this year's election including the towns of: Haverhill, Benton, Woodstock, Warren, Ellsworth, Thornton, Livermore, Waterville Valley, Holderness, Ashland, Hebron, Bridgewater, Bristol, and Alexandria. Completed and signed ballots must be returned to the county office by close of business on **Dec. 2, 2013**.

Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

The Farm Storage Facility Loan Program (FSFLP) allows producers of eligible crops to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities for corn, hay and cold storage for other crops. 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

County Committee:

David Clement
Jacqueline Lewis
Shirley Tullar

NH Acting Farm Loan**Manager:**

Brian Kuper
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Farm Loans:

The Concord Center
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Concord, NH 03301
Phone: 603-223-6003
Fax: 603-223-6030

County Committee Meetings:

The next COC meeting is
December 5, 2013 at 11:00 am

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 projected and 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.

For more information about FSFL please visit the Grafton County FSA Office or www.fsa.usda.gov.

UNHCE/RMA Corn & Forage Crop Growers Meeting

UNH Cooperative Extension will be hosting a Corn & Forage Crop Growers Meeting on November 12, 2013 at the Bath Congregational Church in Bath, NH. Attendees will receive 1 pesticide credit/3 crop advisors credits. For more information call Cheshire County Cooperative Extension at 603-352-4550.

Special Accommodations and Accessibility

Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment to attend or participate in meetings or events sponsored by the Farm Service Agency. If you require special accommodations to attend or participate in one of our events, please contact the Grafton County FSA Office and we will make any needed arrangements.

Reporting of Perennial Forage Crops

All producers are reminded that the acreage reporting date for **2014 Perennial Forage**, 2013 Fall Forage Seeding, and 2013 Fall seeded small grain crops is **Nov. 15, 2013**. This applies to all Perennial Forage crops including **hay and alfalfa**. Please call for an appointment to certify your Perennial Forage crops.

Increased Guaranteed Loan Limit

The Farm Service Agency has announced that the loan limit for the Guaranteed Loan Program will increase to \$1,355,000 on Oct. 1, 2013. The limit is adjusted annually based on data compiled by the National Agricultural Statistics Service.

The lending limit increases every year according to an inflation index. The maximum combined guaranteed and direct farm loan indebtedness will also increase to \$1,655,000.

As a reminder, the one-time loan origination fee charged on FSA guaranteed Farm Ownership and Operating loans is 1.5 percent of the guaranteed portion of the loan.

Producers should contact the Grafton County FSA Office or the Farm Loan Team with questions about farm loans.

Selected Interest Rates for October 2013

Farm Operating Loans - 1.875%
Microloans - 1.875%
Farm Ownership - 4.125%
Farm Ownership Loans - Joint Financing 5.00%
Emergency Loans - 2.875%
Farm Storage Facility Loans - (7 years) 2.25%

Dates to Remember

November 4, 2013: COC election ballots mailed to eligible voters
November 11, 2013: Office Closed - Veterans Day Holiday
November 12, 2013: UNHCE/RMA Corn & Forage Crop Growers Meeting
Nov. 20, 2013: NAP Sign Up Deadline for Perennial Crops such as blueberries, strawberries, etc.
November 28, 2013: Office Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday
December 1, 2013: NAP Sign Up Deadline for Honey and Maple Sap
December 2, 2013: Deadline for All ballots to be returned to USDA Service Center by Close of Business

Crop Reporting Deadlines

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

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