



**Wayne County Farm Service
Agency County Committee**

Shelton Moore, Chairperson
John R. McClenny, Vice Chairperson
Steve B. Hooks, Member
Kelly Griffin, Advisor
Donald Graham, Advisor

**Committee meets on the 2nd
Tuesday each month at 9:00 am**

Office Staff

Rick Tharrington, CED
Clint Rideout, FLO ext 111
Vickie Jones, ext 103
Betty Kornegay, ext 107
Louise Rowe, ext 109
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Office Hours

Monday thru Friday
8:00 a. m. – 5:00 p.m.

Telephone (919) 734-5281

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USDA Website:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

OUTREACH - The Farm Service Agency is committed to informing all persons of the programs that it administers. As part of the Outreach Plan for the Wayne County FSA Office, the County Executive Director will be available to speak to groups upon request.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, please call Rick Tharrington at (919) 734-5281.

POLICY

“The United States department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its program and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual’s income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA’s TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or Call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.”



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE**

NEWSLETTER

WAYNE COUNTY FARM SERVICE AGENCY

June 2010

2010 FSA County Committee Elections

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers, whether beginning or long-established, with large or small operations. 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 make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers. This year’s election will be held in LAA # 1 which consist of **Stoney**

Creek, Saulston, New Hope, and Indian Springs townships.

County committees provide local input on:

- Commodity price support loans and payments
- Conservation programs
- Incentive, indemnity and disaster payments for some commodities
- Emergency programs
- Payment eligibility

FSA county committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws. County committee members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions.

Election Period

June 1, 2010 – The nomination period begins. Request nomination forms from the local USDA Service Center or obtain online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA> under News & Events/County Committee Elections.

Aug. 2, 2010 - Last day to file nomination forms (FSA-669A) at the local USDA Service Center

Nov. 5, 2010 - Ballots mailed to eligible voters

Dec. 6, 2010 - Last day to return voted ballots to the USDA Service Center

Dec. 9, 2010 – COC and County Offices to count FSA-669A’s

Who Can Hold Office

To hold office as a county committee member, a person must meet the basic eligibility criteria.

- Participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA
- Be eligible to vote in a county committee election
- Reside in the LAA in which the person is a candidate

Not have been:

- Removed or disqualified from the office of county committee member, alternate or employee
- Removed for cause from any public office or have been convicted of fraud, larceny, embezzlement or any other felony
- Dishonorably discharged from any branch of the armed services.

For more information about county committee elections, contact the county office staff.

Nominations

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign nomination form FSA-669A. The form includes a statement that the nominee agrees to serve if elected. This form is available at USDA Service Centers and online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA> under News & Events/County Committee Elections.

Nomination forms for the 2010 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on Aug. 2, 2010.

Agricultural producers who participate or cooperate in a FSA program may be nominated for candidacy for the county committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. Additionally, organizations representing minority and women farmers or ranchers may nominate candidates. Nomination forms are filed for the county committee of the office that administers a producer’s farm records.

Who Can Vote

Agricultural producers of legal voting age may be eligible to vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm may also be eligible to vote. More information about voting eligibility requirements can be found in the FSA fact sheet titled “FSA County Committee Election - Eligibility to Vote and Hold Office as a County Committee Member.” Producers may contact their local FSA Office.

Crop Reporting

The Wayne County Farm Service Agency reminds all farmers that **June 30, 2010** deadline is for reporting tobacco, peanuts, corn, cotton, sorghum, soybeans, fruits, vegetables and all other cropland. All Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) crops that are planted or growing after May 15, 2010 should also be reported.

Planting dates are required for all annual planted crops. This information must be the same information furnished to federal crop for crop insurance reporting.

It is important to start reporting crops as early as possible in order to prevent long lines. The following are options for giving crop reports:

1. Producers make an appointment and visit the office, identify crops with assistance from office staff, and waits to sign the computer generated report. This method is used most often.
2. Producers make an appointment and visit the office to complete maps with assistance from our staff. The operator leaves while the crop report is loaded in the computer, then returns to sign the report. The report must be signed before the applicable deadline.
3. Producers complete maps and tract sheets at home then bring them to the FSA Office for data loading. The following information will be needed: (A) Tobacco acreage and sled row pattern, (B) Shares for each crop, (C) Cropland balanced by field, (D) All fields reported, (E) Planting dates. Producers will be notified when to come by and sign the reports. All computer generated reports must be signed before the applicable crop reporting deadline.
4. Producers visit the office without appointment.

This method is not encouraged because lines may get long.

The annual crop certification process is the basis for all program benefits. Federal crop insurance is based on the information found on the FSA-578, Report of Acreage. It is important that all information be reported timely due to the recent increase in late filed fees.

BOLL WEEVIL ERADICATION PROGRAM

Producers will continue to report their cotton acreage as in the past to the FSA Office. However, NCDA&CS will be sending a billing invoice directly to the producer. Payments will not be accepted at the Wayne County FSA Office. The assessment for the 2010 Boll Weevil Eradication Program has not been announced.

Nomination Forms

In order to increase awareness of the County committee election process, FSA will be mailing nomination petitions to all producers in Wayne County. This year a producer is eligible to be a County FSA committee member if the producer resides in the LAA-3 which consists of Fork, Buck Swamp, Great Swamp, Nahunta, and Pikeville townships.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) 2009 Production

Producers that participated in NAP have until June 30, 2010 to furnish FSA with copies of their 2009 or earlier year's production. This production will be used to establish an actual production history (APH). The APH is the yield that will be used to establish losses. Producers who have had losses in the past years or have furnished past years production do not to have resubmit production. Prior year production submitted after June 30, 2010 or after a loss is filed will have to wait until the following year for the production to be added to their history.

Production records must include the name and address of the purchaser, date of purchase, the quantity purchased and price of the production. The information must be verifiable and reliable.

Transition Incentives Program

The Transition Incentives Program (TIP) was created to encourage retired or retiring owners or operators to transition their Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres to beginning or socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers.

TIP sign up began on Monday, May 17, 2010. If all program requirements are met, TIP provides annual rental payments to the retiring farmer for up to two additional years after the date of the expiration of the CRP contract, provided the transition is not to a family member.

To be eligible, TIP requires that the retired or retiring farmer or rancher:

- Have land enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) that is in the last year of the contract.
- Agree to allow the beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher make conservation and land improvements.
- Agree to sell, or have a contract to sell, or agree to long-term lease (a minimum of 5 years) the land under CRP contract to a beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher by Oct. 1 of the year the CRP contract expires.

Generally, TIP only applies to contracts that expire on September 30, 2010, or later. However, retired or retiring owners or operators with CRP contracts that expired on September 30, 2008, and September 30, 2009, may be eligible to enroll in TIP. To learn more about this program, producers interested in applying and participating in TIP should visit their USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) county office or www.fsa.usda.gov.

Dates to Remember

| Dates to Remember | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| June 30 | Crop Reports Deadline |
| June 30 | NAP Production Due |
| July 3 | All FSA Offices Closed |
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