



NEWSLETTER



January 2011
Rhode Island County FSA
60 Quaker Lane Suite 49
Warwick, RI 02886

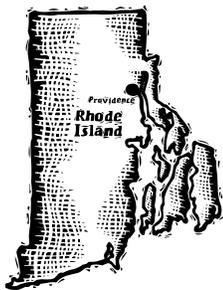
Hours
Monday-Friday
8:00 am-4:30 pm

Phone
401-828-3120 Option 2
Or 1-800-551-5144
Farm Loan: Option 3
Fax: 401-821-0780

County Committee
Ruth James-Chairperson
Gilbert W Rathbun Jr. Vice
Chairperson
Victor Hoogendoorn-Member
Joseph Silveira-Member
Doreen Pezza-Member

County Office Staff
Marilu Soileau, Acting CED
Anne Belleville, PT
Leila Naylor, PT
Stacey O'Brien, PT
Jake Felag, PT

Farm Loan Staff
Roxanne Boisse, FLM
Sandy Ford, FLA
Sarah Arena, SCEP



County Committee Elections

Thanks to all who participated in 2011 County Committee elections. RI FSA appreciates all of the voters for taking the time to complete the election ballot. County Committee meetings are held monthly. County Committee members are a critical component for day to day operations of FSA and help deliver programs at the local level.

Congratulations to the newly-elected members and alternates who took office on January 1, 2011. The new committee members held their organizational meeting on January 5th to determine who will serve as the County Committee Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Results from the Election held on December 8, 2010 are as follows;

LAA-2-Kent County
Gilbert W. Rathbun Jr.- Member
Brenda Titus-First Alternate

LAA-4-Newport County
Victor Hoogendoorn-Member

LAA-5-Bristol County
Joseph Silveira-Member

* *Women & Farming* * Conference

The Rhode Island Farm Service Agency is working with all USDA partners, State Department of Ag, University of Rhode Island and other private entities to host a Women in Agriculture Conference on March 31st at the URI Bay Campus from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Stay tuned for more information.



2011 Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) Signup deadline for Annual Crops March 15, 2011!

March 15th is the deadline date for producers to apply for Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, or NAP, coverage and to pay the service fee at the county office. The application and service fee must be filed by March 15, the application closing date for 2011 spring seeded crops along with vegetables.

The service fee is **\$250** per crop per county or **\$500** per producer per county. The fee cannot exceed a total of **\$750** per producer with farming interest in multiple counties. Limited resource producers may request a waiver of service fees.

To qualify, a producer must be a landowner, tenant or sharecropper who shares in the risk of producing an eligible crop.

SURE Signup

Signup for the 2009 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) begins **Jan. 10, 2011**. SURE provides benefits for 2008 through 2011 crop year farm revenue losses due to natural disasters.

A farm enrolled in SURE is eligible when either: a portion of the farm is located in a county covered by a qualifying natural disaster declaration (USDA Secretarial Declarations only) or a contiguous county; or, the actual production is less than 50% of the normal production.

Please contact us for more details.

IRS Form 1099-G

Producers annually receive CCC-1099-Gs detailing payments producers have received from the Commodity Credit Corporation. The annual report of program payments on CCC-1099-Gs is a service intended to help our customers report taxable income. It is not intended to replace the producers' responsibilities to report income to IRS.

FSA staff cannot interpret IRS regulations or advise producers about which payments to report on their income tax returns. However, county office staff can review payments for accuracy.

Pesticide Training



Rhode Island Farm Service Agency is planning to have a pesticide training worth three credits in February. When a date is finalized we will publicize it. The Rhode Island Farm Service Agency staff will be providing program materials and will be available to answer your questions.

*For local agricultural events, please visit the Rhode Island State Events Page at:
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/stateoffapp?mystate=ri&area=home&subject=stev&topic=landing>

Operating Loans Available!

Apply now for operating loans! Do you need an annual loan to buy seed and fertilizer or a term loan to purchase equipment, livestock, or any of the other uses? Start the process now before you get too busy! Operating interest rates for January are incredibly low at 1.75% fixed. Interest rates this low don't stick around for long. Also, don't forget about the conservation loan program if you are going to start an NRCS approved conservation project this year. Call the farm loan team with any questions.

DCP

Enrollment for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) has begun and will continue through June 1, 2011. USDA urges producers to make use of the eDCP automated website to sign up, or producers can visit any USDA Service Center to complete their 2011 DCP contract.

USDA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2011, eligible producers may request advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment.

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Warwick, RI 02886