



NEWSLETTER



June 2012
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
 Doreen Pezza-Chairperson
 Gilbert W Rathbun Jr.-Vice
 Chairperson
 Victor Hoogendoorn-Member
 Joseph Silveira-Member
 Lauri Roberts-Member

County Office Staff
 Ingrid Fratantuono, CED
 Anne Belleville, PT
 Leila Naylor, PT
 Andrew Neil, PT

Farm Loan Staff
 Roxanne Boisse, FLM
 Sandy Ford, FLA



2013 NAP Signup deadlines!

The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance program (NAP) provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory, or prevented plantings occur due to a natural disaster.

The service fee is **\$250** per crop per county or **\$750** per producer per county. Limited resource producers may request a waiver of service fees.

Application Closing Dates

Crop	Sign up Deadline	Crop Reporting Deadline
Annual	March 15	July 15
Value Loss Aquaculture Sod/ Turfgrass Christmas trees Ornamental Nursery	September 1st	September 30th
Perennial	November 20th	July 15th
Forage	November 20th	July 15th
Specialty Honey Maple Sap	December 1st	<u>Honey</u> January 2nd <u>Maple Sap</u> December 31st

Please contact the Rhode Island County FSA office for more information.

Don't forget to file your yearly Acreage Report!

Just a reminder to contact the Rhode Island County office once you have completed your planting. **The deadline to initially file your acreage report is July 15th**, but if you continue to plant after that date please let us know so we can adjust your acreage report accordingly.

Filing a yearly acreage report is required in order to participate in FSA programs and are highly recommended for everyone who harvests a crop to maintain their eligibility for current and future programs.



FSA's GovDelivery

The USDA Farm Service Agency offices are moving toward a paperless operation. Producers are asked to enroll in the new GovDelivery system which will provide notices, newsletters and electronic reminders instead of a hard copy through the mail.

FSA, like many other organizations, is trying to work smarter and be more efficient. Moving to electronic notifications via email will help conserve resources and save taxpayer dollars.

Producers can now subscribe to receive free e-mail updates by going to

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

New Microloan Program in the Works!

The Microloan program will enable FSA to lend to a broader base of beginning farmers. Paperwork required for this loan is much less than FSA's regular OL (Operating Loan) program.

The maximum loan is \$35,000.00 and the eligibility requirements have been changed. This program will be for the person who has worked on a farm and wants to farm or begin to farm, someone that was very active in 4H and wants to start out on their own.

If you would like to know more or comment on this new program visit the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>. In the search box type in "Microloan Operating Loans" then follow the online instructions for submitting comments, or mail your comments to:

Director, Loan Making
Division (LMD), FSA, USDA, 1400
Independence Avenue SW., Stop 0522,
Washington, DC 20250-0522.

Comments will be available for inspection online at www.regulations.gov. The last day for comments is July 24, 2012.

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Hispanic and Women Farmers

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation. For additional information on this and other settlement issues contact:

Hispanic and Women Farmer Claims Process:

www.farmerclaims.gov or call 1-888-508-4429

Pigford – The Black Farmers Discrimination Litigation:

www.blackfarmercase.com or call 1-866-950-5547

Keepseagle - The Native American Farmers Class Action Settlement:

www.IndianFarmClass.com or call 1-888-233-5506

Direct & Counter Cyclical Payment Program

Late File Enrollments can be accepted from

June 2nd to August 1st!

In addition to eligibility paperwork, participation in the DCP program requires:

- Certification of all cropland on the farm.
- The protection of Base acres from noxious weeds and erosion including providing sufficient cover if determined necessary.
- Compliance with fruit and vegetable provisions.

Mailed from Zip Code 02893

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

USDA - Farm Service Agency
Rhode Island County Office
60 Quaker Lane, Suite 49
Warwick, RI 02886