

**November 2009**

**Farm Service Agency**

28 Farmvu Drive  
White River Jct., VT 05001

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(800) 789-6713

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[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

**Hours**

Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**County Committee**

**Paul Doton, Chair**  
**Heidi Dolloff, Vice Chair**  
**Michael Emerson**  
**Agnes Spaulding**  
**Sandra Whitney**

COC meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday  
each month at 10:00 am

**County Executive**

**Director**  
Christine Lary, ext 13  
[christine.lary@vt.usda.gov](mailto:christine.lary@vt.usda.gov)

**Farm Loan Manager**

George Button Jr. X15  
[george.button@vt.usda.gov](mailto:george.button@vt.usda.gov)



# Windsor-Orange County Updates

## 2009 County Committee Elections

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency county committees is important to ALL farmers, 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).

The election this year is for Local Administrative Areas (LAA) #2 and LAA #5. LAA #2 includes the towns of Strafford, Sharon, Norwich, Hartford, Pomfret, Barnard, Stockbridge, Bridgewater and Woodstock. LAA #5 includes the towns of Tunbridge, Orange, Topsham, Williamstown, Washington, Brookfield, Chelsea, and Braintree.

Nomination forms were received for candidates in both administrative areas. Paul Doton is the sole candidate for LAA #2. Sandra Whitney is running unchallenged for LAA #5. Ballots are scheduled to be mailed to voters in both areas on November 6, 2009. All ballots are to be received or post-marked no later than December 7, 2009



## Important Reminder – NAP Coverage – Deadline November 20<sup>th</sup>!

The 2008 Farm Bill amended the Trade Act of 1974 to create five new disaster programs, collectively referred to as Supplemental Agriculture Disaster Assistance programs. These programs include:

- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP)
- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)
- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)
- Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program
- Tree Assistance Program (TAP)

**To be eligible for these programs, producers must purchase at least catastrophic risk protection (CAT) level of crop insurance for all insurable crops and/or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for all non-insurable crops.**

**The deadline to purchase 2010 NAP coverage for perennial and forage crops is Nov 20, 2009.** The service fee is the lesser of \$250 per crop or \$750 per producer per administrative county.  
**Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)**

## Farming for Modern Markets

The VT Grass Farmers Association, the VT Beef Producers Association, VT Sheep & Goat Association and UVM Center for Sustainable Agriculture will host the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual VT Grazing & Livestock Conference at a new location – The Lake Morey Resort in Fairlee, VT – on January 22 & 23, 2010. The conference will offer a wide variety of educational opportunities for livestock producers and agricultural service providers seeking to more successfully and sustainably manage animals, land and farm business.

Keynote speaker Brian Moyer will highlight the conference theme of *Farming for the Modern Market*, speaking to the changing economic times and how we are positioned locally to address these challenges.

Registration discounts will apply for partnering organization members. Overnight lodging is available. For more information, visit [www.uvm.edu/pasture](http://www.uvm.edu/pasture) or contact Jennifer Colby, Conference Coordinator, at (802) 656-0858 or [jcolby@uvm.edu](mailto:jcolby@uvm.edu)

The conference is coordinated by the UVM Center for Sustainable Agriculture's Pasture Program.

## Emergency Livestock Assistance Program Sign-up

Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP) provides compensation to eligible producers of livestock, honey bees, and farm-raised fish for losses due to disease, adverse weather, or other loss conditions.

To be eligible you must have had insurance on ALL your crops (except pasture) for the year of the disaster!

Calendar year 2008 – Producers who suffered losses must provide a notice of loss and application for payment in their county office no later than **December 10, 2009**.

Calendar year 2009 – Producers who suffered losses by September 10<sup>th</sup> must file a notice of loss no later than December 10<sup>th</sup>. Producers who suffered losses after that date must file a notice of loss within 30 days of when the loss is apparent. An application for payment must be filed no later than **January 30, 2010**.

There are no late filed provisions for ELAP. Call the county office for more details.

United States Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency  
Windsor-Orange FSA Office  
28 Farmvu Drive  
White River Junction, VT 05001

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### Applications for FSA Farm Loan Assistance

Farmers and ranchers that intend to apply to the Farm Service Agency for loan assistance for the upcoming crop year are encouraged to file their applications as early as possible. Filing early will help ensure that your loan is processed and approved as early as possible so that planting decisions can be made. Failure to apply early can result in a delay in processing loans due to the volume of applications that must be processed in date order. Contact your local FSA Farm Loan Manager or Officer for more details and assistance in applying.

### Rural Youth Loans

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

### Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

- Be a citizen of the United or a legal resident alien
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- Reside in a rural area, city or town with a population of 50,000 or fewer people
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor.

For additional program information, loan applications, and/or other loan material contact the FSA loan staff toll free in VT at 866-241-2190 (Orange County), and 800 789-6713 (Windsor County).

*Happy Thanksgiving!*

