



Laramie County FSA News

Office Hours: 8:00 – 4:30

Phone: (307) 772-2314

FAX: (307) 772-2120

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

May – 2010

Committee Election

Committee Nominations Open for LAA #2

Nominations of candidates for the Farm Service Agency county committee election representing producers in Local Administrative Area (LAA) number 2 will be accepted through August 2, 2010. Producers who are eligible to vote in LAA 2 and who participate or cooperate in an FSA program and are of legal voting age may be nominated to serve on the county committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as candidates. Organizations representing socially disadvantaged minorities and women farmers or ranchers may also nominate candidates. Beginning farmers and ranchers are encouraged to nominate themselves and participate in the election process.

Laramie County FSA will be holding an election for a person to represent LAA 2. LAA 2 includes the southeast corner of Laramie County east of County Road 136 and south of County Road 221.

Nomination form FSA-669 A is attached for you to fill out and submit for LAA #2.

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by November 5, and must be returned to the FSA county office or postmarked by Dec. 6, 2010.

All farmers, ranchers and other agricultural producers are encouraged to participate. The county committee provides local input on commodity price support loans and payments; establish allotment and yields; conservation programs; disaster assistance payments and other programs. More information on the elections, including nomination forms, is available at the county office or online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

Farm Program Information

Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) 2009 & 2010

Producers will be required to send a signed CCC-927 (Individual) or CCC-928 (Legal Entity) form to the Internal Revenue Service. This form gives consent to disclose your tax information to the USDA. USDA will receive the results of the AGI with indicators that show whether the producer has or has not exceeded the limits. No actual tax data will be included or dollar amounts. USDA county office personnel will not view tax return information at any time during this process. The information will be used to determine if producers are eligible according to the AGI limits.

Producers are required to complete the forms and mail the completed forms to IRS. (Please make sure forms are filed correctly.) The forms are required to be mailed within 60 days of the signature date. FSA will not accept the forms and keep a copy for you. **The deadline to have the forms submitted to IRS is June 15, 2010.** Forms not received by the deadline will result in all payments received through USDA to be considered ineligible and payments will have to be refunded.

Forms will be provided to you on request. The forms can also be obtained online at www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA and select Forms then select Browse Forms, put the form number in and fill out on line, print, sign and send to IRS.

Signup for 2010 Direct & Counter-cyclical Program (DCP)

Producers have from now through June 1, 2010, to timely file CCC-509 for DCP or ACRE. Enrollment is not permitted after June 1, 2010. Producers on a farm are solely responsible for ensuring that timely enrollment occurs. Please call for an appointment.

Crop Reports – Please file a crop report. Call for an appointment. The deadline is July 1, 2010, so don't wait until the last minute! Late filed acreage reports will cost a minimum of \$46 per farm.

Fruit and Vegetable (FAV) Planting

Participating DCP and ACRE farms are limited to the amount of FAV's that can be planted without a payment reduction/violation. FAV acres may not exceed the non-contract acres on the farm. Farms must have a FAV history on the farm or the producer must have a history of producing FAV to be eligible for planting FAV on base acres.

FAV's include dry beans, potatoes, onions and chicory. Planting FAV can cause you to lose benefits and could also include fines. Please contact the office before planting so we can keep you from losing benefits and avoid penalty.

Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) Reminders

A Notice of Loss, CCC-576, must be filed for crop losses within 15 days of loss event or whenever the loss became apparent. Losses not reported timely could result in a loss of eligibility for payment.

NAP participants must report the crop that was insured and all other cropland planted by July 1.

Conservation Reserve Program

Continuous CRP Signup

Laramie County's total CRP acreage has dropped below 25 percent of the total cropland in the county. This allows the County to be eligible for Continuous CRP. The Continuous CRP allows eligible producers to enroll small acreages of eligible cropland or marginal pastureland into the CRP. Participants agree to establish approved conservation practices (farmstead windbreaks, living snow fences, etc.) and remove land from agriculture production in return for annual rental payments for 10 – 15 years. Participants can receive 50% of the cost to establish the practices along with a 40% cost share incentive payment and a one-time signup incentive payment. Please call for an appointment.

General CRP Signup

There will be a General Signup this summer. No signup date has been announced.

CRP Management

CRP participants are required to control all weeds, insects, pests, and perform fire management according to your Conservation Plan. (Mow CRP around farmsteads and buildings for fire control.) We will be checking CRP for compliance. Violation will be subject to the CRP contract being terminated.

CRP Acreage Reports

CRP acreage is required to be reported annually by filing a crop acreage report by July 1.

Maturing CRP Contracts

CRP participants with expiring contract acres in the final year of the CRP-1, who intend to destroy cover for preparation for spring or fall-seeded crops, need pre-authorization from FSA to avoid penalty. Authorization can only be granted after a completed CRP-1G (Modification to Allow Early Preparation) is reviewed and approved by a representative of the Commodity Credit Corporation and the producer completes a conservation plan with NRCS.

Disaster Programs

Tree Assistance Program (TAP)

TAP provides financial assistance to qualifying orchardists and nursery tree growers to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes and vines that were lost by natural disaster occurring on or after January 1, 2008 and before October 1, 2011. Tree growers must have had losses in excess of 15% mortality from an eligible natural disaster, must have owned trees when the disaster occurred, and must replace eligible trees within 12 months from the date the application is approved.

Tree growers may apply after May 10, 2010 for losses suffered during calendar years 2008 and 2009, and for losses suffered during January 1, 2010 to May 7, 2010. See chart below for deadlines.

Date of Loss	Final Date to Submit an Application and Supporting Documentation
Calendar Year 2008	July 6, 2010
Calendar Year 2009	July 6, 2010
January 1, 2010, to May 7, 2010	July 6, 2010
May 8, 2010, to September 30, 2011	Within 90 calendar days of the disaster event or date when the loss of trees, bushes, or vines is apparent.

FSA-669A
(03-24-10)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Farm Service Agency

NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

1. NAME OF NOMINEE (Type or Print Nominee's Full Name)	TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE		
	4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED		
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE	5. COUNTY		
	6. LAA	7. STATE	

<p>3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION:</p> <p><i>I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.</p>	<p>8. NOMINATOR'S CERTIFICATION:</p> <p><i>If this nomination is by other than self, the following eligible voter or representative of a community based organization hereby nominates the afore-named person to be a candidate in the next County FSA Committee election for the county.</i></p>
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3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	3B. DATE	8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR	8B. DATE
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate.		(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required).	

9. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE

VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES: The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

ETHNICITY	RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)		GENDER
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native	<input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American	<input type="checkbox"/> Male
<input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> Asian	<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	<input type="checkbox"/> Female
	<input type="checkbox"/> White		

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

Complete the form as follows:

- ITEM 1** Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:
 - A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
 - B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
 - C. Willing to serve if elected.
- ITEM 2** Enter the nominee's current address.
- ITEM 3** The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.
- ITEMS 3A & 3B** The nominee must sign and date.
- ITEMS 8A & 8B** The nominator must sign and date. (If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required.)
- ITEM 9** Completing this item is voluntary.

ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 2, 2010.

NOTE: The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246). The information will be used to obtain nominees for election to the County FSA Committee. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA/FSA-6. Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility for nomination for election to the County FSA Committee.

USDA / FSA
Laramie County FSA Committee
11221A U.S. Highway 30
Cheyenne WY 82009 8730

PRSRT STND
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit 110
Cheyenne Wyoming

Conservation Compliance

All participants in USDA programs are required to have a conservation system in place on all the highly erodible land (HEL) that they operate. Signed Conservation Plans are in place for each farm or tract and only allow certain changes to the original plan. Several areas where problems arise with complying with a conservation system/plan are; renting new cropland, purchasing new land, breaking out additional cropland, planting different crops not included in the original signed plan, expanding field strips and changing or removing existing conservation practices.

It is very important that you contact the FSA and NRCS office before doing any of the above. Plans may need to be modified before any changes are made to stay in compliance and earn farm program benefits.

Also, it is very important that you contact our office before modifying - tiling, draining, dredging, filling, or leveling - any wetland or drainage ditch.

Failure to obtain advance approval by modifying the conservation plan for any of these situations can result in loss of all Federal payments and eligibility.

Dates to Remember

May 31	Memorial Day Holiday – Office Closed
May 31	Loans / LDP Deadline for Feed Grains
June 1	DCP Signup Deadline
July 1	Crop Reporting Deadline
July 5	Independence Day Holiday – Office Closed
August 2	Deadline to submit Nomination Form for Committee Election

County Committee: Mark Child, Mike Peterson, Dave Bowman **Advisor:** Louise Jacobsen
Office Staff: Doris Scheel, Denise Hunt, Krista Macy and Kendal Sedman (temporary employee).
Dixie Mount – Farm Loan Officer – Laramie County office day is Tuesday of each week. Dixie may be reached by calling the Wheatland FSA Office at (307)322-4050.

/S/ Gary Gompert, CED – Email gary.gompert@wy.usda.gov

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (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 USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.