

Sheridan – Johnson County FSA  
Office  
1949 Sugarland Drive, Suite 126  
Sheridan, WY 82801

(307)672-5846 Ext. 2

Toll Free Number:  
1-866-262-4396

#### FSA Office Personnel:

Tom Byrd, CED  
Linda Benzel, PT  
Janice Wheeler, PT

#### County Committee Members:

Celia Bolinger, Chairperson  
William White, Vice Chairperson  
Robert Belus  
Santiago Curuchet  
Juaquin Michelena

#### Dates to Remember:

**October 8, 2009** – Oilseed Crops  
and Biodiesel Seminar at Sheridan  
College

**October 12, 2009** – Office closed  
for Columbus Day

**October 28, 2009** – CoCoRaHS  
Public Meeting

**October 29, 2009** – Oilseed Crop  
Agronomics Seminar at Sheridan  
College

**November 1, 2009** – Application  
Deadline for NRCS:

- EQIP Program
- WRP Program
- AMA Program
- WHIP Program

**November 11, 2009** – Office  
Closed for Veteran's Day

**November 26, 2009** – Office  
closed for Thanksgiving Day.

**December 1, 2009** – Last Day to  
Purchase NAP Fall Crop Coverage

**December 7, 2009** – Deadline to  
return County Committee Election  
Ballots.



# Sheridan - Johnson October 2009

## Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

The final date to purchase NAP coverage on 2010 eligible crops is **December 1, 2009**. FSA's Non-insured Crop Assistance program, (NAP), provides coverage for crops not covered by Federal Crop Insurance. For both Sheridan & Johnson Counties this includes irrigated and non-irrigated grass hay harvested for forage; fall seeded grain harvested for hay, grazing land and honey.

The application service fee for NAP is \$250.00 per crop per county, with a county maximum of \$750.00. The fee cannot exceed a total of \$1875.00 per producer with farming interests in multiple counties.

### NAP Production Reports

Producers with NAP coverage must remember to complete the following:

- Timely file acreage reports and keep track of harvested production such as weight tickets, bale counts, etc.
- File a "Notice of Loss" claim (Form CCC-576) within 15 calendar days of the date the disaster event occurred or when damage to the crop became apparent.

Production records for individual crops need to be filed with our office to establish an approved NAP yield. We recommend producers submit 2009 production records as soon as harvest is complete. **All 2009 production records must be submitted by the subsequent crop year's final acreage reporting date of July 1, 2010.** Failure to timely report production can have an adverse impact on the overall crop yield history and payments.

For additional information, the NAP Basic Provisions Document is available for producers through the FSA web site located at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov> Or information can be obtained at county FSA offices.

**COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS**

Be watching your mailbox for your official county committee election ballot starting early next month. This year's election will be held for LAA's Local Administrative Areas number (2) & (4). LAA 2 correlates with school district 2 in Sheridan County, and LAA 4 is north of Township 44N and on the west side of I-90 and I-25 to the Sheridan County line.

Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters on November 6, 2009. If, for some reason, you do not receive a ballot, feel free to notify the Sheridan-Johnson County FSA office. Completed and signed ballots must be returned to the county office or postmarked by the close of business on December 7, 2009. Ballots will be counted December 14, 2009 and newly elected members take office on January 1, 2010

The election of agricultural producers to FSA county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers - whether an operation is large or small. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the United States Department of Agriculture.

**Attention Producers!**

Be a part of the ever growing rain and snow reporting network!

A National Weather Service (NWS) meteorologist will be conducting hands-on training to measure and report precipitation in support of the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow network, CoCoRaHS (pronounced Cocoa-Raws). Trained volunteer observers submit precipitation reports over the Internet. The data is then available for use by various agencies and individuals to understand precipitation patterns as well as to investigate weather events. Many government agencies including the NWS, Wyoming State Climatologist, and the USDA Farm Service Agency utilize quality CoCoRaHS reports. Training will consist of an interactive multimedia presentation and demonstration of the tools used by volunteer CoCoRaHS observers all over the country.

CoCoRaHS meeting date, time and location:

Johnson County Annex Building, (also referred to as the Johnson County Public Health Building.)  
26 North DeSmet Street  
Buffalo, Wyoming  
Wednesday, October 28, 2009  
6:00pm – 7:30pm

## **CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM**

NRCS has announced a signup for the new Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) nationwide. The program provides payments for landowners who are willing to document an existing basic level of conservation stewardship on all land uses in the operating unit, and improve conservation management on at least one land use. CSP contracts will be written for a 5-year term, and will include all lands in the operating unit. Actual per-acre/per-year payments will be determined based on the levels of management a producer elects with total contract payments capped at 20,000 per year.

Producers will need to complete a self-screening check sheet initially to see if the program may be compatible with their operation. Applicants must be the operator of record for USDA program participation, and be in compliance with all basic USDA eligibility requirements. Applicants will develop a schedule of conservation management activities, and provide conservation and production records to document ongoing management and compliance. Interested producers should contact the Johnson County (684-2526) or Sheridan county (672-5820) Service Centers for more information

### **DEADLINE ANNOUNCED FOR 2010 EQIP PROGRAM**

**November 1, 2009** will be the last date applications will be accepted for participation in the 2010 Environmental Quality Incentives (EQIP) Program. The program provides technical and financial assistance to land users for installing conservation practices on agricultural lands. Typical projects include irrigation upgrades for water conservation, rangeland improvements, erosion control, and water quality projects such as stream restoration and livestock waste management. Applications received by Nov. 1, 2009 will be prioritized and ranked through the winter, with approved projects contracted and funded in the spring of 2010. The November 1<sup>st</sup> date cutoff will also apply for the Wetland Reserve (WRP), the Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA), and Wildlife Habitat Incentives (WHIP) programs. Conservation Districts will convene Local Workgroup meetings in October to discuss local resource concerns and make recommendations to NRCS on ways to tailor the program to the highest local priorities. The Public is invited and encouraged to participate in Workgroup meetings. For more information on the Programs, or for dates and times of Workgroup meetings, please contact the NRCS offices in Johnson County (684-2526), or Sheridan County (672-5820).

### **ACCURATE RECORDS**

We cannot stress enough how important it is for producers to ensure that our office has accurate records. This includes updated records on all of your farming interests (all grain, forage and grazing crops, and livestock interest for livestock disaster programs) in this county and all others – nationwide, as well as deeded, share rent, cash lease and AUM grazing on all leases and agreements.

Additionally, when completing paperwork in our office you should ensure that your name, (either as an individual or as an entity - such as a trust), your id numbers (including social security and entity id numbers), and address are correct. Incorrect information can delay benefits to you. Each time you file an application or contract, please ensure all information is correct.

Sheridan-Johnson County FSA Office  
1949 Sugarland Drive, Suite 126  
Sheridan, WY 82801-5720

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**