

Osage County Ag Wire

Newsletter of the USDA Service Center in Lyndon Kansas:
Farm Service Agency - Natural Resources Conservation Service - Osage Conservation District

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

December 2009

Quick Reference Guide

SERVICE CENTER PHONE	(785) 828-4631
CONSERVATION DISTRICT PHONE	(785) 828-3458
FAX	(785) 828-3716
ADDRESS	115 West 17 th Lyndon, KS 66451-9561
E-MAIL	brandon.wilson@ks.usda.gov



Mark Your Calendar

December 15: CRP Enrollment Meeting

December 25: Service Center closed for Christmas

January 1: Service Center closed for new year.

January 15: EQIP and WHIP application deadline

January 18: Service Center closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.

January 25: Women Managing the Farm Early Bird registration

February 8: Conservation District Annual Meeting in Osage City.

Conservation District Annual Meeting

The Annual Osage County Conservation District Meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, **February 8, 2010** at the Osage City High School Lunchroom.

Please RSVP at the Service Center to Lori Kuykendall at 785-828-3458.

Farm Record Changes

If you have bought, sold or are renting different agricultural land, or if you have made changes to the structure of your farming operation, make sure you report the changes to the Farm Service Agency as soon as possible. Accurate farm records are not only used for all FSA programs but also NRCS and Conservation District programs such as EQIP, CSP, WHIP and District Cost share funds.

Farm ownership changes require submission of a recorded deed or recorded land contract. All landowners must furnish their tax ID number.

Meeting on CRP Re-Enrollment Options

An informational meeting on enrollment options for expiring Conservation Reserve Program contracts will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, **December 15th, 2009** at the USDA Service Center in Lyndon, Kansas. Topics will include enrollment of expired and new CRP acres, eligible acres, types of practices available and cost share options. Attendees will also learn about the differences between continuous sign-up CRP and general sign-up CRP.

Service Center Interrupted Phone Service

The USDA Service Center is currently experiencing interrupted phone service. When contacting the Service Center customers should dial 785-828-4631 for the Farm Service Agency or 785-828-3458 for the Natural Resources Conservation Service and Conservation District. Customers are encouraged to keep calling if the phones do not pick up on the first try. It is anticipated that this arrangement is temporary.

Wheat Certification, DCP & ACRE Sign Up

The FSA office is gearing up to begin 2010 wheat acreage reporting, Direct and Counter Cyclical (DCP) program and Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) sign-up.

Please call the office to schedule an appointment to report wheat acreage, sign up for DCP or ACRE. Calling for an appointment is important this year because we will also be taking new adjusted gross income forms as required by the Farm Bill.

Livestock Deaths

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather.

Applicants must provide adequate documentation to prove that the eligible livestock deaths occurred as a direct result of an eligible adverse weather event in the calendar year for which benefits are being requested. A Notice of Loss must be filed within 30 days after the death is apparent. The final date to submit an Application for Payment is January 30 of the following year.



"The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance programs. (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, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202)-720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

The Osage County Committee meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 a.m.

EQIP & WHIP Deadlines

The deadline to submit applications for 2010 EQIP & WHIP deadlines has been set for **January 15, 2010**. EQIP funds are available to qualifying land owners and operators to carry out various land conserving practices. Some of the practices include: brush management, no-till and sericea lespedeza control. WHIP funds are available for landowners and operators wishing to develop or improve wildlife habitat on agricultural lands. For more details visit with Art or Tim at the Service Center.

Women Managing the Farm

The Women Managing the Farm (WMF) conference will be **February 5th-6th**, 2010 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Wichita, Kansas. The WMF conference has been developed for all women involved in an operation from the full-time manager to the absentee landowner needing a bit of insight about managing their investment. Some of the topics discussed will include business planning, health and managing employees. Early registration is \$99 and is due by January 25, 2010. Registration rates are pro-rated if only attending part of the conference. You can find more details on the web at: <http://www.togpartners.com/wmf/>

