



KLICKITAT COUNTY FSA OFFICE
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National FSA Website:
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

Washington State FSA Website:
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/edso/wa>

NOVEMBER 2006

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION

County Committee elections will be held this year in Local Administrative Area (LAA) #1.

LAA #1 is defined as follows: The West Boundary is from the Columbia River north up Rock Creek to the Bickleton-Goldendale Hwy. North on the section line between Ranges 18 and 19 to the reservation boundary then following the reservation boundary to the Yakima County line. The North Boundary is the Yakima County line. The East Boundary is the Benton County line. The South Boundary is the Columbia River.

The following Producers from LAA #1 have been nominated by petition and are willing to serve if elected:

- Susan Powers: Roosevelt

Ballots will be mailed to producers on **November 3, 2006**. Please read the instructions on the ballot very carefully. Ballots must be postmarked or delivered to the Klickitat County FSA Office no later than **December 4, 2006**.

FARM LOAN PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

FSA has direct and guaranteed loan programs available for family-sized farm businesses. FSA's loan programs are designed to help farmers who are temporarily unable to obtain private, commercial credit.

The loan limits for direct operating and farm ownership loans are \$200,000 each. The loan limit for guaranteed operating and farm ownership loans is a combined total of \$899,000. Funding is allocated for these programs after October 1 of each year.

Depending on the type of loan, funds can be used to purchase farms, livestock, and equipment, operate the farm, build or repair farm buildings, pay for water development for conservation practices and in some cases refinance debts. For additional information contact our office.

2006 DIRECT AND COUNTER-CYCLICAL PROGRAM

Signup for the 2007 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) has begun and will continue through **June 1, 2007**. Late filed applications will be accepted through September 30, 2007. However, a fee of \$100 is required for any late filed application. Remember, you must sign an FSA-509 Contract each year in order to receive payment. Producers can elect to take 22% of the annual direct payment starting in December, 2006 with the remainder being paid October 2007.

PNW UNDERCUTTER PROJECT APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Washington Association of Wheat Growers (WAWG) is the recipient of an NRCS Conservation Innovative Grant (CIG) for a three year project to "Demonstrate and Advance the Undercutter Method for Winter Wheat – Summer Fallow Farming in the Inland Pacific Northwest" designated as the PNW Undercutter Project. The Grant will address the natural resources concerns of soil erosion reduction, overall soil quality, soil productivity; and atmospheric resources (Agricultural emissions of particulates). Project duration will be from the summer of 2006 through the summer of 2009, and will include a cost-share to the farmer, administered by WAWG. Applications and criteria are now available at the Washington Association of Wheat Growers website www.wawg.org or by calling 1-800-598-6890 #11.

NON-INSURED DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM DEADLINE

The final date to apply for 2007 coverage under the Non-Insured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for orchard crops including apples, cherries and pears, grapes and berries is **November 20, 2006**. This coverage applies only to crops that cannot be covered under federal crop insurance. The cost is \$100 per crop not to exceed \$300 for all crops in the county. Nap covers losses in excess of 50% of the proven yield at 55% of the market price.

EQIP DEADLINE APPROACHING

NRCS will be taking applications for the 2007 Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) through close of business **November 17, 2006**. The deadline of November 17 is a new deadline for EQIP. In past years, signup began in the fall, with the deadline in early January. With this new deadline, NRCS will have more time to work with growers to develop sound conservation plans, which will make for better contracts. EQIP is a cost-share program that provides financial assistance for growers to implement conservation practices. If you have interest in signing up, please contact your local NRCS office.

FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOAN PROGRAM

This program provides financing for construction of new grain storage facilities or for a remodeling of old facilities as long as storage capacity is increased. The loan term is 7 years at a fixed interest rate. Maximum loan amount is \$100,000. Applicants must pay 15% down and any costs determined to be ineligible for loan funds. Loans in excess of \$50,000 require a first lien on the taxable parcel of land on which the facility is constructed. Capacity is limited to 2 years storage needs less any suitable existing storage. Grain bins and flat storage constructed with the proper bulkhead, as well as most appurtenances that are permanent fixtures are eligible for loan. Once constructed the facility must be insured. Applicants are required to furnish a current Farm and Home Plan or equivalent balance sheet to county committee for review. In addition, a non-refundable fee of \$45 will be collected when the application is submitted to cover the cost of filing. The applicant must pay additional costs associated with obtaining a loan, such as title insurance and filing security instruments. Construction cannot begin until the county committee has approved the application.

SIGNATURE AUTHORITY FOR SPOUSES

A husband or wife may sign documents on behalf of the other unless written notification denying the spouse this authority has been filed with the county office.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

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| Office Closed for Veteran's Day | November 10 |
| Office Closed for Thanksgiving | November 23 |
| County Committee Meeting | December 11 |
| Office Closed for Christmas | December 25 |