



## Lane County FSA Office

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### Hours

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

### Lane County Staff

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### Lane County Committee

Darrel Spiesschaert  
Bart Edwards  
Andy Petersen  
Pam Detering

### Farm Loan Staff

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**Vacant**, X105  
Farm Loan Manager

**Scott Nieman**, X109  
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Program Technician  
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## DCP Signup by June 1

Enrollment for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) continues through June 1, 2011. FSA staff urges producers to make use of the eDCP automated website to sign up, or producers can visit any USDA Service Center to complete their 2011 DCP contract. Call Phil for an appointment.

DCP Program payments are calculated using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2011, eligible producers may request partial direct payments as an advance on the total amount.

## CRP Signup Opens

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) general signup began on March 14, 2011, and continues through April 15, 2011. During the signup period, farmers and ranchers may offer eligible land for CRP's competitive general signup.

Land currently not enrolled in CRP may be offered in this signup provided all eligibility requirements are met. Additionally, current CRP participants with contracts expiring this fall may make new contract offers. Contracts awarded under this signup are scheduled to become effective Oct. 1, 2011.

FSA will evaluate and rank eligible CRP offers using an Environmental Benefits Index (EBI) and cost factors. The EBI consists of the five specific environmental factors of 1) wildlife, 2) water, 3) soil, 4) air and 5) enduring benefits. Decisions on the EBI cutoff will be made after the sign-up ends and after analyzing the EBI data of all the offers.

In addition to the general sign-up, CRP's continuous sign-up program will be ongoing. Continuous acres represent the most environmentally desirable and sensitive land. More information can be found online at:

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

## Committee Election Results

**THANK YOU** for voting in the latest Committee Election! Ballots were tallied at the Dec 2010 Committee meeting with these results:

**Andy Petersen**, Springfield cattle and tree producer re-elected to a three year term. **Gary Smith**, Springfield rancher elected as First Alternate.

The Organization meeting of the Lane County Committee held in January determined these Committee positions:

Darrel Spiesschaert, Eugene, Chair  
Bart Edwards, Junction City, Vice-Chair  
Andy Petersen, Springfield, Member  
Pam Detering, Junction City, Advisor

## Report Crop Acres by June 30, 2011

File an accurate and timely report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, to prevent loss of benefits for a variety of FSA programs.

All cropland on farms must be reported to receive benefits from: Direct & Counter-cyclical Program (DCP), marketing assistance loans and Loan Deficiency payments, Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), and Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP).

Crop reports on form FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. Producers are required to file reports by June 30, 2011.

Prevented Planted crops need to be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date.

Failed Acreage reports must be filed before disposition of the crop, and producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the county committee that

the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions.

Call Phil at Ext 105 for an appointment to report your acres.

## ACRE Signup by June 1

The ACRE Program provides a safety net based on state revenue losses and acts as an option in place of the price-based safety net of counter-cyclical (CC) payments under DCP. The June 1, 2011, signup deadline is mandatory for all participants. USDA will not accept any late-filed applications.

A farm's payment is based on a revenue guarantee calculated using a 5-year average state yield and the most recent 2-year national price for each eligible commodity.

An ACRE payment is issued when both the state and the farm have incurred a revenue loss.

The total number of planted acres for which a producer may receive ACRE payments may not exceed the total base on the farm. In exchange for participating in ACRE, in addition to not receiving CC payments, a farm's direct payment is reduced by 20%, and marketing loan rates are reduced by 30%.

The decision to enroll in the ACRE Program is **irrevocable**. The owner of the farm and all producers on the farm must agree to enroll in ACRE. Once enrolled, the farm shall be enrolled for that initial crop year and will remain in ACRE through the 2012 crop year.

## Livestock Programs Available

FSA administers several programs that may be available to assist livestock producers dealing with problems caused by winter weather. To apply for assistance, producers need to document the number and kind of livestock that have died as a direct result of these winter storms. In situations where additional transport costs are being incurred to feed livestock, producers should document these additional costs.

Among the key programs are the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) and the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP). For livestock death losses to be eligible under LIP, producers must file a notice of loss with their local FSA office within 30 calendar days from when the loss is apparent to the producer.

## NAP Enrollment

To maintain eligibility for several FSA disaster assistance programs, producers must obtain crop insurance or NAP coverage before a disaster strikes. Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) applications for coverage must be filed using Form CCC-471 and applicable service fees must be paid by the closing date. NAP provides catastrophic level of coverage (50% yield / 55% price) to crops damaged by the eligible weather events that occur before or during harvest. Fees are \$250/crop, maximum of \$750/county, and a maximum of \$1875/multi County. Purchase deadlines for 2012 crops:

**August 31, 2011** Beets, cabbage, canola, carrots, Christmas trees, flowers, greens, herbs (except mint), onions, radish

**October 1, 2011** Asparagus, garlic, mint, hops, meadowfoam, sugarbeet, triticale grain

**November 20, 2011** Apples, apricots, blueberries, caneberries, chestnuts, cherries, cranberries, grapes, hazelnuts, honey, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, prunes, strawberries, walnuts

**November 30, 2011** All forage and grazing crops except oats. All grasses and legumes for seed

**March 15, 2012** Beans, broccoli, camelina, cantaloupe, cauliflower, corn, cucumber, lentils, mustard, oats, peas, potatoes, pumpkin, safflower, sunflower, squash, tomato, watermelon

**May 15, 2012** Buckwheat

Producers must obtain NAP or crop insurance coverage on all crops in order to remain eligible for the agency's Disaster Assistance Programs such as SURE, TAP, and ELAP. Producers must purchase at least catastrophic (CAT) level of insurance for all insurable crops. LFP requires coverage only on grazed acres.

NAP provides coverage to producers for non-insurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory or prevented planting occur due to natural disasters. Crops eligible for NAP coverage are those for which crop insurance is not available, including fruits and vegetables, aquaculture, pecans, turf grass and forage crops just to name a few.

More information about NAP may be found on the FSA web site located at [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

**Celebrate Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage during May**

## NOTICE TO HISPANIC AND/OR WOMEN FARMERS OR RANCHERS

### COMPENSATION FOR CLAIMS OF DISCRIMINATION

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

To register your name to receive a claims packet, call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or visit: [www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov)

The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process.



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## FSA Payment Record

During the last week of January, producers who have received payments from FSA should have also received a CCC-1099-G from the Kansas City office. A CCC-1099-G is a report to the Internal Revenue Service about FSA payments made to producers during the previous calendar year. The CCC-1099-G is a service to help participating producers report taxable income. It is not intended to replace the program participant's responsibility to report income to the IRS.

If you received a CCC-1099-G, we recommend you check the amounts shown with those in your records to see that the amounts are correct. Refunds will no longer be reported on the 1099-G, but will be available online from the FSA Financial Inquiries (FSA-FI) web-based database. Program participants with eAuthentication user ID's and passwords can access their refund information at FSA-FI and select "Inquiry Type 1099/Refund Reports". Refund amounts are displayed on the Producer's Year-to-Date Activity web page.

If you have a question concerning the 1099-G refund information, you may contact our office for assistance in locating the correct payment data. If you choose to visit the office, bring your CCC-1099-G with you.

## Actively Engaged

USDA has amended the requirements of being 'actively engaged' in farming. These rules apply to eligibility for payments under the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) or Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE).

Normally the stockholder or a member of a legal entity **must** make contributions of active personal labor and/or active personal management for the farming operation. The contributions are to be performed on regular basis, must be identifiable, and separate from the contributions of others.

The exception to this rule for a stockholder or member of a legal entity only occurs when both of the following apply:

At least half of the interest in the legal entity is held by stockholders or members who are providing active personal labor or active personal management; and

The total direct payments received by the legal entity and each of the members can't exceed \$40,000.

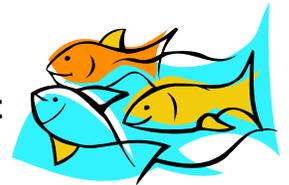
## Adjusted Gross Income

USDA and the Internal Revenue Service have an electronic information exchange process for verifying compliance with the adjusted gross income (AGI) provisions for farm programs. Written consent will be required from each producer or payment recipient for the tax review process. No actual tax data will be included in the report that IRS sends to USDA.

This to ensure that payments are not issued to producers whose AGI exceeds certain limits. The limits set in the 2008 Farm Bill are \$500,000 nonfarm average AGI for commodity and disaster programs; \$750,000 farm average AGI for direct payments; and \$1 million nonfarm average AGI for conservation programs.

Participants in CCC programs subject to AGI rules must submit form CCC 927 (Individual) and/or CCC 928 (Legal Entity) to the Internal Revenue Service by June 15 to avoid interruption of program benefits. These forms may be obtained from FSA and NRCS offices or online at: <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/eforms/mainervlet>.

## Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)



CREP is a jointly funded program by the federal government and the State of Oregon. Program objectives include: reducing sediment and nutrient pollution from Ag lands, stabilizing stream banks with adequate vegetation, reducing water temperatures, improving habitat for fish species, and providing assistance for farmers to help meet water quality requirements established by federal and state laws.

The program targets the use of Riparian Buffers, Wetland Restoration, Wildlife Habitat Buffers, and Wetland Buffers to meet the objective of the program. Ag landowners can enroll eligible riparian lands into a 10 to 15-year CREP Contract. CREP is a continuous sign-up program and are not ranked.

**Call Patti w/ questions at X 100.**



### **Special accommodations**

will be made upon request for those with disabilities, vision, or hearing impairments.

If such accommodations are needed, contact Jean Larkin 541.465.6443 Ext 101 or [jean.larkin@or.usda.gov](mailto:jean.larkin@or.usda.gov)

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## Hay Net – Your No-Cost Online Buying and Selling Market

Hay Net is a free, online hay locator service on the FSA website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/haynet>. Producers who want to buy or sell hay can post their ads at no charge to make connections. Hay Net is a popular site for farmers and ranchers who have an emergency need, such as the one caused by the current extreme winter conditions. Individual ads can be posted by producers after completing a simple online registration form.

### Selected Interest Rates for March 2011

90-Day Treasury Bill	0.1250%
Farm Operating - Direct	2.500%
Farm Ownership—Direct	4.875%
Conservation Loan	4.875%
Emergency	3.75%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.500%
Commodity Loans 1996 - Present	1.250%
Farm Storage Facility - 7 Yr Term	2.875%
- 10 Yr Term	3.500%
- 12 Yr Term	3.875%
<b>Call the office for current month rates</b>	

### Dates to Remember

Varies	NAP Signup Ends
15 days	Deadline to report NAP crop weather losses, within 15 days of when the loss becomes apparent.
April 14 9:00 am	County Committee meeting, call to confirm meeting is being held
April 15	CRP General Signup Ends
May 30	Memorial Day, office closed
June 1	2011 DCP Enrollment Ends
June 1	ACRE Signup Ends
June 30	Deadline to Report Acres

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