



**Wisconsin State  
FSA Office**

For individual program information, please contact your local county office.

8030 Excelsior Dr.  
Suite 100  
Madison, WI 53717

**Hours**  
Monday-Friday  
8:00 am - 4:30 pm

**State Executive  
Director**  
Brad Pfaff

**WI State Committee**  
Bill Averbeck, Chair  
Patty Edelburg  
George Huber

**Website**  
[www.fsa.usda.gov/wi](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/wi)

**May 2012**

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**From the Desk of Brad Pfaff, Wisconsin State Executive Director**

This is a busy time of year for our state's farmers, with producers busy in the fields. Across the state, corn and soybean planting is in full swing; oats are planted and emerged, and the first cut hay is being cut and harvested. The weather, which is so important in ensuring a good crop, has been interesting this spring, with March being warmer than April in many parts of the state.

FSA is here to serve the busy and diverse needs of our farmers. Like you, we too have been busy. Our farm program staff continues to be busy with ACRE/DCP sign-up, crop certification, a new sign up for the conservation reserve program and other program requests. Our farm loan program staff also continues to remain busy providing agriculture with important credit through these difficult times.

As you know, in order to effectively carry-out farm programs, FSA utilizes a county committee system for program delivery. If you are interested in serving on our county committee, or know someone who may be interested, the County Committee Election nomination period begins on June 15, 2012.

The FSA County Offices across the state will host an "open house" on July 11, 2012 from 1-3 pm. I encourage all producers to learn more about the County Committees and the role they play in delivering FSA programs.

Thank you for your continued work in producing the food that feeds our nation and world. Your work is appreciated and respected.

All the best, Brad Pfaff

**FSA Moving to Electronic Information & Newsletters**

The USDA Wisconsin Farm Service Agency offices are moving toward a paperless operation.

Producers are asked to enroll in the new electronic mail system which will provide newsletters and electronic reminders instead of a hard copy through the mail.

Printed newsletters will no longer be mailed to producers. For those without internet or e-mail access, producers may visit the county office to obtain a printed copy of the newsletter or contact the office to have a copy sent via U.S. mail.

FSA, like many other organizations, is trying to work smarter and be more efficient. Moving to electronic notifications via e-mail will help conserve resources and save taxpayer dollars.

County Committee ballots will continue to be

mailed to all eligible producers.

Interested producers may sign-up to receive e-mail updates by contacting their local county FSA office.

**2012 DCP/ACRE Sign Up Deadline Approaching**

Producers are reminded that enrollment for the 2012 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program will end June 1, 2012.

USDA computes DCP and ACRE direct payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Payments will be issued in October to eligible producers at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. Annual contracts are required to be signed to receive program benefits.

Producers are advised to contact the local office to set up appointments as soon as

possible before the June 1, 2012, deadline.

All signatures must be obtained by the deadline for both the DCP and ACRE programs. In all cases, it is the responsibility of the operator and owners of a farm to obtain and submit all necessary signatures on election and enrollment forms by the June 1, 2012, deadline.

For more information or to schedule an appointment to enroll in the DCP/ACRE programs, please contact the local county FSA office or visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

### **Report Prevented, Failed Acreage and NAP Crop Losses to FSA**

With spring planting underway across Wisconsin, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds producers to timely report any prevented or failed acreage to their local office.

Prevented planting acreage, or acreage that could not be planted because of wet field conditions or other natural disaster, should be reported to FSA within 15 days of the final planting date of the crop. This includes crops covered by crop insurance or the Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP) and crops without insurance coverage. Producers should contact their local FSA office or crop insurance agent to verify final planting dates for all crops since they vary among counties and crop types.

Failed acreage not covered by crop insurance should be reported to FSA before plowing up the failed crop and replanting. Producers with crop insurance may report failed acreage by the July 15 crop reporting deadline by providing crop insurance documentation such as a loss claim to their local FSA office.

For crop losses on crops covered by the Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP), producers must contact their local FSA office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent to file a Notice of Loss. Producers with crop insurance should contact their local agent when losses occur and before destroying the crop.

To report prevented or failed acreage, producers must complete Form CCC-576, Notice of Loss for interested crops. Reporting prevented or failed acreage to FSA will ensure compliance with current farm programs, and possible eligibility for future disaster programs.

If a producer misses the reporting deadline for prevented planting, they may still report prevented planting acreage as long as the disaster condition may be verified by a field visit.

Producers may contact their local county FSA office if they have any questions about prevented and failed reporting or visit [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

### **FSA's 2010 SURE Program Sign-up Now Available**

Producers are reminded that Farm Service Agency's Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) program sign-up for the 2010 crop year began November 14, 2011, and continues through June 1, 2012.

SURE provides assistance to farmers and ranchers who have suffered losses due to natural disasters. Producers suffering losses during the 2010 crop year are encouraged to visit their local FSA office to learn more about the SURE program.

To be eligible for SURE a farm must have:

- At least a 10 percent production loss adjusted for quality on a crop of economic significance;
- A policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for all economically significant crops;
- Been physically located in a county that was declared a primary disaster county or contiguous county by the Agriculture Secretary under a Secretarial Disaster Designation. Without a Secretarial Disaster Designation, individual producers may be eligible if the actual production on the farm is less than 50 percent of the normal production on the farm due to a natural disaster.

In Wisconsin, the following counties were determined primary or contiguous for 2010:

-Barron	-Buffalo
-Chippewa	-Clark
-Door	-Dunn
-Eau Claire	-Florence
-Forest	-Grant
-Green	-Jackson
-Kewaunee	-La Crosse
-Lafayette	-Langlade
-Lincoln	-Marathon
-Marinette	-Menominee
-Oconto	-Oneida



- Pepin
- Price
- Rusk
- Taylor
- Vilas
- Wood
- Portage
- Rock
- Shawano
- Trempealeau
- Waupaca

Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without a policy or plan of insurance or NAP coverage.

For more information on the 2010 SURE program or to schedule an appointment, contact your local county office.

### **Producers Reminded to File Annual Report of Acreage by July 15**

The Wisconsin Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds producers to submit their annual acreage report to their local FSA county office by July 15, 2012, to meet FSA program eligibility requirements.

Producers must file their reports accurately and timely for all crops and land uses, including prevented and failed acreage, to ensure they receive the maximum FSA program benefits possible.

Since July 15th falls on a Sunday, producers will have until Monday, July 16th to file their reports.

Accurate acreage reports are necessary to determine and maintain eligibility for the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program and programs authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill, including the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program (SURE) and Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE),

Acreage reports are considered timely filed when completed by the applicable final crop reporting deadline of July 15, 2012. Prevented acreage must be reported within 15 calendar days after the final planting date. Failed acreage must be reported before the disposition of the crop. NAP crops that are harvested prior to July 15 must report by the earlier of July 15, 2012 or 15 calendar days before the onset of harvest or grazing. Producers should contact their county FSA office if they are uncertain about reporting deadlines.

Late-filed provisions may be available to producers who are unable to meet the reporting deadline as required. Reports filed after the established deadline must meet

certain requirements to be accepted and may be charged late fees.

Producers should visit their county FSA office to complete acreage reporting. For questions on this or any FSA program, including specific crop reporting deadlines and planting dates, producers should contact their county FSA office. More information on FSA programs is at: [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

### **2013 Change in Crop Reporting Deadline Dates**

Producers need to be aware of crop reporting deadline changes that will begin for 2013 crops.

For 2013 perennial forages, there will be a fall crop reporting date in November, more information will be coming in the near future.

2013 fall seeded small grains will need to be reported by November 15, 2012. Perennial fruit crops, such as apples, cranberries, blueberries, maple sap and asparagus will need to be reported by January 15, 2013. In addition, honey needs to be reported by January 2, 2013.

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### **County Committee Elections**

County committee members are a critical component of the operations of the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Since the committee members are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), producer participation in these elections is important.

The committee members help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level and help in decision making that is necessary to administer the programs in their counties.

Counties are divided into local administrative areas (LAA). Each LAA selects one producer to serve a three-year term on the Farm Service Agency county committee.

Each year, an election is held in an LAA to replace the committee member whose three-year term is expiring. In counties with three LAAs, one seat is up for election and in combined counties, in some years, two seats may be up for election.



## Eligibility to Hold Office

To hold office, a person must meet the basic eligibility criteria.

1. Participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA.
2. Be eligible to vote in a county committee election.
3. Reside in the LAA in which the person is a candidate.

A person must not have been:

- Removed or disqualified from the office of county committee member, alternate or employee
- Removed for cause from any public office or have been convicted of fraud, larceny, embezzlement or any other felony
- Dishonorably discharged from any branch of the armed services

For additional clarification about county committees and elections, contact your local county office staff or visit: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

## Nomination Period June 15 - August 1, 2012

Candidate nominations for the FSA county committee election will be accepted June 15 through August 1, 2012. Producers who are residents in the LAA holding the election 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. Also, organizations representing socially disadvantaged minorities and women farmers or ranchers may also nominate candidates.

The nomination form, FSA-669A, is included in this newsletter and is also available at the county office or may be downloaded from <http://www.fsa.usda.gov> under News & Events/County Committee Elections.

To be valid, the nomination form must be signed by the person being nominated, indicating agreement to serve if elected. The completed nomination form must be postmarked or received in the county office by close of business on August 1, 2012.

## Who Can Vote

Producers of legal voting age may be eligible to vote if they participate or cooperate

in any FSA program. Because Wisconsin is a community property state, the spouse of an eligible voter also may vote. A person who is not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm can also vote.

A representative may be designated to cast a vote on behalf of a legal entity, such as a corporation, estate, trust, or limited liability company. If more than one member of an entity is designated to act on its behalf, the entity must designate in writing which representative has authority to vote in the COC election.

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 program.

## Role of Advisors

In addition to elected members, FSA county committees may also include advisors. Advisors are appointed to county committees in counties or multi-county jurisdictions that have significant numbers of minority or women producers and lack such members on FSA county committees.

Advisors play an important role by providing diverse viewpoints and by representing the interests of minorities and women in decisions made by the county committees. FSA state committees officially appoint advisors who are recommended by county committees or community based organizations.

## Don't Miss Out on Voting

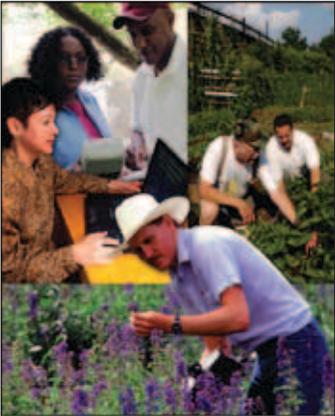
Ballots will be mailed to voters by November 5, 2012, and must be postmarked or returned to the FSA county office by December 3, 2012.

If you do not receive a ballot, eligible voters may contact their local FSA county office.

## Uniform Guidelines

USDA issued uniform guidelines for county committee elections to ensure that FSA county committees fairly represent the agricultural producers of a county or multi-county jurisdiction.

The following are just some of the specifics





of the guidelines that are now in effect:

- If no valid nominations are filed, the secretary of agriculture may nominate up to two individuals to be placed on the ballot
- County committees must annually review local administrative area boundaries to ensure the fair representation of minority and women producers in their county or multi-county jurisdictions
- FSA county offices shall actively locate and recruit eligible candidates identified as minority and women farmers and ranchers as potential nominees for the county committee elections through outreach and publicity

To read the guidelines in their entirety, visit the County Committee Elections web page.

## **Annual Notifications**

### **Civil Rights/Discrimination Complaint Process**

As a participant or applicant for programs or activities operated or sponsored by USDA you have a right to be treated fairly. If you believe you have been discriminated against because of your race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, you may file a discrimination complaint. The complaint should be filed with the USDA Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights within 180 days of the date you became aware of the alleged discrimination.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

### **Changing Bank Accounts**

All FSA payments should be electronically transferred into your bank account. In order to make timely payments, you need to notify the office if you close your account or if your bank is purchased by another financial

institution. Payments can be delayed if we are not aware of changes to account and routing numbers.

### **Power of Attorney**

For those who find it difficult to visit the county office personally because of work schedules, distance, health, etc., FSA has a power of attorney form available that enables you to designate another person to conduct your business at the office. If you are interested, please contact our office or any Farm Service Agency office near you for more information.

### **Special Accommodations**

Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, individuals should contact the county FSA office directly or by phone.

### **Acreage Reporting**

Filing an accurate acreage report at your local FSA office can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs. Failed acreage is acreage that was timely planted with the intent to harvest, but because of disaster related conditions, the crop failed before it could be brought to harvest. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date. Annual acreage reports are required for most Farm Service Agency programs. Annual crop report deadlines vary based on region, crop, permanent vs. annual crop type, NAP or non-NAP crop and fall or winter seeding. Consult your local FSA office for deadlines in your area.

### **Change in Farming Operation**

If you have bought or sold land, or if you have picked up or dropped rented land from your operation, make sure you report the changes to the office as soon as possible. You need to provide a copy of your deed or recorded land contract for purchased property. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in can lead to possible program ineligibility and penalties. Update signature authorization when changes in the operation occur. Producers are reminded to contact the office of a change in operations on a farm so that records can be kept current and accurate.

## Controlled Substance

Program participants convicted under federal or state law of any planting, cultivating, growing, producing, harvesting or storing a controlled substance are ineligible for program payments and benefits. If convicted of one of these offenses, the program participant shall be ineligible during that crop year and the four succeeding crop years for direct and countercyclical payments, price support loans, loan deficiency payments, market loan gains, storage payments, farm facility loans, Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program payments or disaster payments. Program participants convicted of any federal or state offense consisting of the distribution (trafficking) of a controlled substance shall, at the discretion of the court, be ineligible for any or all program payments and benefits:

- for up to 5 years after the first conviction
- for up to 10 years after the second conviction
- permanently for a third or subsequent conviction

Program participants convicted of federal or state offense for the possession of a controlled substance shall be ineligible, at the discretion of the court, for any or all program benefits, as follows:

- up to 1 year upon the first conviction
- up to 5 years after a second or subsequent conviction

## Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Risk Management Agency (RMA)

To prevent fraud, waste, and abuse FSA supports the RMA in the prevention of fraud, waste and abuse of the Federal Crop Insurance Program. FSA has been, and will continue to, assist RMA and insurance providers by monitoring crop conditions throughout the growing season. FSA will continue to refer all suspected cases of fraud, waste and abuse directly to RMA. Producers can report suspected cases to the county office staff, the RMA office, or the Office of the Inspector General.

## Foreign Buyers Notification

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required

to report the transaction to FSA within 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property. County government offices, realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

## Payment Eligibility and Payment Limitation Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)

For commodity and disaster programs, the AGI limitation is based on a three-year average non-farm AGI of \$500,000 such that a person or entity shall not be eligible for such programs if the non-farm AGI exceeds \$500,000. In addition, an individual or entity must have a 3-year average AGI less than or equal to \$750,000 per year from farm income in order to qualify for direct payments issued under the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program. For conservation programs, the average nonfarm AGI limitation is \$1 million or less for eligibility. However, an individual or entity who has non-farm AGI in excess of \$1 million remains eligible for conservation programs only if 66.66 percent or more of the total AGI is derived from farming, ranching and forestry operations. In addition, the AGI limitation for conservation programs may be waived on a case-by-case basis if it is determined that environmentally sensitive land of special significance would be protected.

## Payment Eligibility

Program payments are limited by direct attribution to individuals or entities. A legal entity is defined as an entity created under Federal or State law that owns land or an agricultural commodity, product or livestock. Through direct attribution, payment limitation is based on the total payments received by the individual, both directly and indirectly. Qualifying spouses are eligible to be considered separate persons for payment limitation purposes, rather than being automatically combined under one limitation. Individuals and entities must be “actively engaged in farming” with respect to a farming operation in order to be eligible for specified payments and benefits. To be “actively engaged in farming,” the individual or entity must make significant contributions to the farming operation of: (1) capital,



equipment, land, or a combination; and (2) personal labor or active personal management, or a combination.

Payments and benefits under certain FSA programs are subject to some or all of the following:

- payment limitation by direct attribution
- payment limitation amounts for the applicable programs
- actively engaged in farming requirements
- cash-rent tenant rule
- foreign person rule
- average AGI limitations

No program benefits subject to limitation will be provided until:

- all required forms for the specific situation are provided
- necessary payment eligibility and payment limitation determinations are made

If any changes occur that could affect an actively engaged in farming, cash-rent tenant, foreign person, or average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) determination, producers must timely notify the County Office by filing revised farm operating plans and/or supporting documentation, as applicable. Failure to timely notify the County Office may adversely affect payment eligibility.

### Reconstitutions

For FSA program purposes, tracts having the same owner and the same operator are grouped under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary. The reconstitution or recon is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by August 1 for farms enrolled in specific programs. The following are the different methods used when doing a farm recon:

- Estate Method - the division of bases, allotments and quotas for a parent farm among heirs in settling an estate;
- Designation of Landowner Method – may be used when (1) part of a farm is sold or ownership is transferred; (2) an entire farm is sold to two or more persons; (3) farm ownership is transferred to two or more persons; (4) part of a tract is sold or ownership is

transferred; (5) a tract is sold to two or more persons; or (6) tract ownership is transferred to two or more persons. In order to use this method the land sold must have been owned for at least three years, or a waiver granted, and the buyer and seller must sign a Memorandum of Understanding;

- DCP Cropland Method - the division of bases in the same proportion that the DCP cropland for each resulting tract relates to the DCP cropland on the parent tract;
- Default Method - the division of bases for a parent farm with each tract maintaining the bases attributed to the tract level when the reconstitution is initiated in the system.

Note-- Reconstitutions must be requested by August 1 of the fiscal year for farms subject to DCP.

### Signature Policy

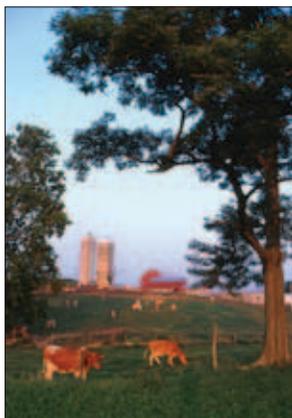
Using the correct signature when doing business with FSA can save time and prevent a delay in program benefits. The following are FSA signature guidelines:

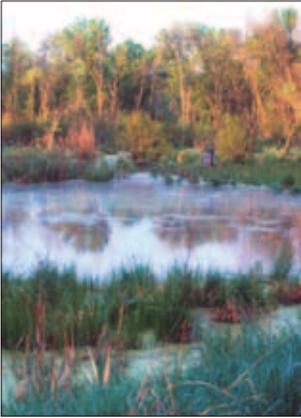
- A married woman shall sign her given name: Mrs. Mary Doe, not Mrs. John Doe
- For a minor, FSA requires the minor's signature and one from an eligible parent

Note, by signing the applicable document, the parent is liable for actions of the minor and may be liable:

- for refunds, liquidated damages, etc
- When signing on one's behalf the signature must agree with the name typed or printed on the form, or be a variation that does not cause the name and signature to be in disagreement. Example - John W. Smith is on the form. The signature may be John W. Smith or J.W. Smith or J. Smith. Or Mary J. Smith may be signed as Mrs. Mary Joe Smith, M.J. Smith, Mary Smith, etc
- FAXED signatures will be accepted for certain forms and other documents provided the acceptable program forms are approved for FAXED signatures. Producers are responsible for the successful transmission and receipt of FAXED information.

Examples of documents not approved for





FAXED signatures include:

- Promissory note
- Assignment of payment
- Joint payment authorization
- NAP actual production history and approved yield record
- Acknowledgement of commodity certificate purchase
- Financing statement
- UCC financing statement
- Spouses may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and CCC programs in which either has an interest, unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided to the county office
- Spouses shall not sign on behalf of each other as an authorized signatory for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, or other similar entities
- All members of a general partnership must sign for the general partnership unless an individual is authorized to act on the behalf of the general partnership and bind all members
- Spouses may sign on behalf of each other's individual interest in a partnership, unless notification denying a spouse that authority is provided to the county office
- Acceptable signatures for general partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, estates, and trusts shall consist of an indicator "by" or "for" the individual's name, individual's name and capacity, or individual's name, capacity, and name of entity.

For additional clarification on proper signatures contact your local FSA office.

### **Conservation Compliance**

All USDA program participants are required to have a conservation system in place on all highly erodible land (HEL). Renting new cropland, purchasing new land, breaking up additional land, changing crops, and changing or removing existing conservation practices can result in compliance issues.

Contact your Farm Service Agency county office before taking any of the above actions. It is also important that you contact FSA before modifying, tilling, draining, dredging, filling or leveling any wetland or drainage ditches. Failure to obtain advance approval for any of these activities can

result in loss of all federal payments and program eligibility.

### **CRP - Annual Certification**

Before an annual rental payment can be issued, participants must certify to contract compliance using the FSA-578, Report of Acreage, or CCC-817U, Certification of Compliance for CRP.

### **Program and Payment Limits**

The following programs are subject to payment limitation and eligibility provisions:

- ACRE: Direct Payment earned reduced by 20 percent; Not to exceed \$32,000
- DCP/Direct Payment: \$40,000
- ACRE: Counter-Cyclical Payment: \$65,000 plus any ACRE Direct Reduction
- LDPs and Market Gains: Unlimited
- Conservation Reserve Program: \$50,000
- Emergency Conservation Program: \$200,000
- Non-insured Assistance Program: \$100,000
- ELAP, LFP, LIP & SURE: \$100,000 (total for all four programs)

<b>Dates to Remember</b>	
May 31, 2012	Deadline to apply for 9-month loans and LDPs for corn & soybeans
June 1, 2012	-DCP/ACRE enrollment deadline -2010 SURE sign-up deadline
June 15, 2012	COC Nominations period begins
July 4, 2012	Offices will be closed for Fourth of July
July 11, 2012	COC Elections Open House 1-3 pm at local FSA County Offices
July 15, 2012 (Due to the 15th falling on a Sunday, the following Monday, July 16th, will be the last day)	-Deadline for NAP producers to certify 2011 crop production -Deadline to report 2012 crop acreages on spring seeded crops, forages, small grains, winter wheat and some perennial crops -Deadline to report production evidence for ACRE and PTPP 2011 crop acreage
August 1, 2012	Deadline for submitting COC nominations
September 1, 2012	Deadline to obtain 2013 NAP coverage for ginseng, sod, aquaculture, Christmas trees, floriculture & mushrooms
September 3, 2012	Labor Day Holiday, FSA offices closed
September 30, 2012	-Deadline to obtain 2013 NAP coverage for winter & spring planting of winter wheat, rye, barley, triticale & mint -Deadline for 2013 NAP coverage for forage crops, including pasture land forage -Deadline to report 2013 crops on ginseng, sod, aquaculture, Christmas trees and floriculture
Continuous	-Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) continuous sign-up -CREP sign-up -SAFE sign-up -Farm Storage Facility Loans

**Civil Rights/Discrimination Complaint Process** As a participant or applicant for programs or activities operated or sponsored by USDA you have a right to be treated fairly. If you believe you have been discriminated against because of your race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, you may file a discrimination complaint. The complaint should be filed with the USDA Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights within 180 days of the date you became aware of the alleged discrimination. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.