



January 2008

# Pike County News

**Pike County  
USDA Service Center**

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Complete and return  
by Feb. 4



## Farm Safety Isn't just for kids

Recently a producer requested a tractor safety program as he did not grow up on a farm and has learned to operate his tractor by trial and error. Although he has operated a tractor for several years on the weekends, he realizes he could benefit from additional training as his adult children who help on the weekends and some of his friends, who like him, grew up in the city and acquired a farm in the country as an adult. To meet this need, we enlisted the assistance of the Hunter Behlmann Memorial FS4JK Chapter.

### Pike County Farm Safety Chapter to host "Family Tractor Safety Luncheon"

Each year, there are an estimated 350-450 fatalities due to tractors. Tractor related incidents including overturns, runovers, entanglements in power drivelines, and highway collision account for nearly 250 deaths per year. Unfortunately children account for a high percentage of these injuries and fatalities. The "Family Tractor Safety Luncheon" sponsored by the Hunter Behlmann Memorial Farm Safety 4 Just Kids will focus on tractor safety and injury prevention because tractors are generally the farm machinery identified with the most hazards. Children and youth frequently become "extra riders" on tractors and farm machinery because it has been a life long tradition. Unfortunately children under the age of 15 account for almost 90% of all fatalities due to "extra riders". Data has also indicated that 33% of all farm-related injuries within the pre-school age group are tractor related. However, it is not just children that need to learn tractor safety. Adults need to learn proper safety techniques in order to become role models for children and youth.

The "Family Tractor Safety Luncheon" will be held on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 from 10:00am-2:00pm at the Pike County Fair Grounds in Bowling Green, MO. Marilyn Adams, founder

of the Farm Safety 4 Just Kids organization, will be the keynote speaker for the event. Tickets for the luncheon may be purchased for \$6.00 in advance or \$8.00 at the door. Area vendors will be available to promote products and door prizes will be awarded for those that attend. For more information or to order tickets contact the Hunter Behlmann Memorial Farm Safety 4 Just Kids Chapter at 573-324-6373 or 573-324-2111.

## USDA Issues Disaster Payments For Crop and Livestock

Recently, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) began issuing payments to tens of thousands of farmers and ranchers across the country who suffered losses because of natural disasters.

USDA is currently processing about \$1 billion in payments under the Crop Disaster Program, Livestock Compensation Program and Livestock Indemnity Program. Sign-up for these programs is ongoing. The programs provide payments to agricultural producers who suffered crop, livestock and feed losses in 2005, 2006, and 2007 crops planted before February 28, 2007. Rules for other 2007 crops are still being formulated. Producers must choose one year for which to receive payments.

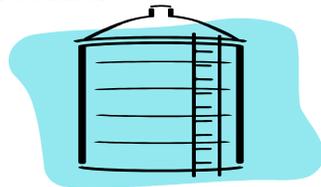
Livestock producers must certify to the number of cows and bulls on hand as of Jan.1, 2005 and 2006 as well as their own grazing loss.

The Crop Disaster Program is based on Crop Insurance downloaded records but producers who did had crop insurance, suffered a loss, but did not receive a crop insurance indemnity, may still qualify.

We have issued payments for those applications received and approved to date.

If you have any questions, give us a call. If not, get your livestock numbers and come by our office or call for an appointment.

**If you are considering a new grain bin, ask FSA about a Farm Storage Facility Loan! Loans are seven year fixed payment loans. Eligibility is determined by the bushels of crops normally raised on the farming operation, and the amount of storage already available. Documentation is provided to show repayment ability. The loan can be made up to 85% of the total cost of the structure, concrete, wiring, fan, and other equipment. If the loan amount is over \$50,000, a deed of trust will be taken on the real estate.**



Dates to Remember	
Jan. 21	Martin Luther King Jr Holiday. <b>Service Center Closed</b>
Jan. 31	Deadline on 2007 LDP's for wool, mohair and unshorn lamb pelts
Feb. 18	George Washington's Birthday <b>Service Center Closed</b>
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loans
Continues	Grasslands Reserve Program
Continues	MILC Program

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