

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

RHODE ISLAND COUNTY FSA

County Committee Elections

Just a reminder to watch your mailbox for your official County Committee election ballot. Early in November ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters for Providence County. If you don't receive a ballot please notify the county office. Completed and signed ballots are due back in the county office by the close of business on December 4, 2006. Newly elected County Committee members take office on January 1, 2007.



Leyden Tree Farm, West Greenwich RI

NAP Deadline Approaching

The NAP (Non Insured Assistance Program) can soften financial losses caused by natural disasters, but only if you have applied for coverage and paid the application fee. This program can be likened to an insurance policy.

NAP is a federally funded program that provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory, or prevented planting occurs as a result of natural disasters. NAP also provides coverage for crops for which the catastrophic level of insurance is not available.

If your crop is not eligible for crop insurance, then you can purchase NAP coverage for your crops. The Cost is \$100 per crop, not to exceed \$300 per producer, per county, or not to exceed \$900 for a multi-county producer. **November 20, 2006 is the final day to sign up perennial crops for 2006 NAP coverage.**

Report Changes In Farming Operation

Please notify FSA of ANY changes in your farming operation or entity status through out the year. Changes that may affect a determination include, but are not limited to; a change in contract shares; a change of land leased; a change in the size of the producer's farming operation by the addition or deletion of a farm; a change in the structure of the farming operation, including any change in the member's share; a change in the contributions of farm inputs of capital, equipment, active personal labor, or active personal management.

County Committee

Louis Escobar
Chairperson

Ruth James
Vice—Chair

James Steere
Member

Paul Brule
Member

Vincent Confreda
Member



Dates to Remember

November 3rd

COC Ballots mailed

November 10th

Veterans Day

November 23rd

Thanksgiving

November 20th

NAP Deadline
(perennial crops)

December 4th

Last day to return ballots

December 6th

COC Ballots Counted

December 25th

Closed for holiday

November / December
Newsletter

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Devon Edmiston—PT
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Were on the Web!
www.usda.fsa.gov

About FSA



The Farm Service Agency (FSA) administers and manages farm commodity, credit, conservation, disaster and loan programs as laid out by Congress through a network of federal, state and county offices.

These programs are designed to improve the economic stability of the agricultural industry and to help farmers adjust production to meet demand. Economically, the desired result of these programs is a steady price range for agricultural commodities for both farmers and consumers.

In the Eisenhower administration, the Congress split the functions of the Triple A committees, creating the state and county office system to take care of administrative functions and kept the farmer county committee to oversee implementation of federal programs in their county.

State and county offices directly administer FSA programs. These offices certify farmers for farm programs and pay out farm subsidies and disaster payments. Currently, there are 2,346 FSA county offices in the continental states. FSA also has offices in Hawaii, and a few American territories.

More than 8,000 farmer county committee members serve in FSA county offices nationwide. Committee members are the local authorities responsible for fairly and equitably resolving local issues while remaining dually and directly accountable to the Secretary of Agriculture and local producers through the elective process. They operate within official regulations designed to carry out Federal laws and provide a necessary and important voice in Federal decisions affecting their counties and communities.

Seasons Greetings

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status. (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).

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