



NEWSLETTER



Summer 2012

FSA COC Nomination Deadline

Umatilla County FSA Office

200 SE Hailey Ave,
Suite 112
Pendleton, OR 97801

541-278-8049 x2
phone
541-278-8048
fax
www.fsa.usda.gov/OR

Hours

Monday - Friday
7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Staff

Darcy Sexson, CED
Donella Smith, CPT
Amanda Wight, PT
Blair Keithley, PT
Emma Lee Demianew,
PT
Jessica Westberg, PT
Kayci Sharp, PT

Kevin Jordan, FLM
Karie Walker, FLO
Kyle Pottala, FLO
Brittney Onstott, FLPT

Charles Newhouse,
DD

County Committee

David Patton
Richard Kopp
Dennis Burks
Bud Schmidtgal
Clyde Nobles
Bette McLean, Advisor

County committees (COC) play a crucial role in helping county office staff implement Farm Bill programs. Producers can participate in the FSA county committee election process by nominating an eligible candidate by the Aug. 1, 2012, deadline.

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign form FSA-669A. The form and more information about FSA county committee elections is available at: <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/efcommon/eFileServices/eForms/FSA669-A.PDF> During their three-year terms, FSA county committee members make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support programs and more. Nationwide, more than 7,800 farmers and ranchers serve on FSA county committees. Committees consist of three to five members who are elected by eligible local producer voters. Umatilla County will be holding elections for LAA 2 and LAA 3. LAA 2 serves North Pendleton, Helix, Holdman, Athena, Weston and Adams. LAA 3 serves the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

Filing for NAP Losses

With the recent weather we've had here in the county, we'd like to remind producers who have NAP policies about how to notify the FSA office when you think you may have a loss. Form CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing a Notice of Loss is required for all crops including grasses. For losses on crops covered by the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crop insurance, you must file a CCC-576, Notice of Loss, in the FSA County

Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent.

If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed within 15 calendar days of the final planting date for the crop.

Over the Counter Channel (OTCnet)

FSA/CCC is implementing OTCnet, an electronic method for processing customer check payments. When a check is submitted for payment either in person or through the mail, the check will be converted into an Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). Within 24 hours, the funds may be debited from the producer's account. Please see the U.S. Department of Treasury notices posted in the Service Center or visit the following Department of Treasury site for detailed information:

<http://fms.treas.gov/otcnet/legal.html>
What is OTCnet?

OTCnet is a web-based online application process for converting paper checks presented to FSA into electronic debits to the producer's checking account. Benefits include reducing lost/misplaced checks, less paper handling, improved customer relations, more efficient check clearing process and reducing the potential for human error.

How will my check be handled?

The check will be scanned into the system and voided. The customer will not receive the check back from FSA. FSA will hold checks for up to 14 calendar days to ensure that the item was successfully processed, and then FSA will shred the check

How quickly will funds be transferred from my account?

The transfer of funds from your account could occur within 24 hours. Therefore, you should be sure that you have sufficient funds in

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your account to process the transaction. If you do **not** have sufficient funds, we may initiate the transaction again.

How will this transaction appear on my account statement?

The transfer of funds reflected on your account statement may be recorded in a different place on your statement. The transaction may appear under withdrawals” or “other transactions”.

What are my rights if there is a problem with the transaction?

You have protections under Federal law for an unauthorized electronic fund transfer from your account. You should contact your financial institution immediately if you believe that a transaction reported on your account

statement was not properly authorized or is otherwise incorrect.

Disaster Assistance

The Farm Service Agency would like to remind crop and livestock producers that have recently experienced severe damage from natural disasters that FSA programs are available to assist with recovery.

We encourage all who have suffered a disaster due to the recent severe weather conditions to read the fact sheets and visit their local FSA county office to get a quick start in the recovery process.

Fact sheets for all of these programs can be found at www.fsa.usda.gov; click on *Newsroom*, then *Fact Sheets*.

Sign Up for FSA Fence Post for Daily Updates

The Farm Service Agency Fence Post is an online newsletter that is updated on an almost daily basis. It contains articles of interest on the agency’s programs and departments, as well as success stories from the field. To access Fence Post visit <http://fsa.blogs.govdelivery.com/>. Producers can sign up for weekly Fence Post updates by putting an email address in box that says “Get Email Updates.”

Selected Interest Rates for July 2012	
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%
Farm Operating - Direct	1.25%
Farm Ownership - Direct	3.375%
Limited Resource	5.00%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.50%
Emergency	3.75%
Farm Storage Facility – 7 year	1.125%
Farm Storage Facility – 10 year	1.625%
Farm Storage Facility – 12 year	1.875%
Sugar Storage Facility	2.125%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	1.250%

Dates to Remember	
Aug. 1	Last Day to file COC nomination form

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.