



U.S. Department
of Agriculture

Umatilla County FSA

1229 SE Third Street
Pendleton, OR 97801
541-278-8049 (phone)
541-278-8048 (fax)

E-Mail

kent.willett@or.usda.gov

Hours:

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

County Committee:

Don Weinke - Chairman
Ed Burlingame - Vice
Andy DuMont
Jeff Newtonson
Bob Walchli

Staff:

Kent Willett, CED
Kevin Jordan, FLM
Jared Lathrop, FLO
Virginia Lundberg, PT
Fran Mortier, PT
Lori Yokom, PT
Tina Campbell, PT
Virginia Klein, PT
Corrie Thorne, PT
Amanda Born, PT

In This Letter:

- Office Move
- CRP Changes in Oregon
- Bank Account Changes
- County Committee Elections
- 2007 DCP Contracts
- 2007 NAP Deadlines
- Proper Signatures



Farm Service Agency

FSA UPDATES

October
2006

Office Move

The Umatilla County USDA Service Center is moving into the ground floor of the John Murray Building located at 200 SE Hailey Avenue in Pendleton. All services will be severely restricted November 8th and 9th, and the office will be closed November 10th through November 17th. Please put these dates on your calendar if you are thinking of applying for or paying off commodity loans. Phone and fax services will be disrupted during this time period but we will be retaining our current phone numbers.

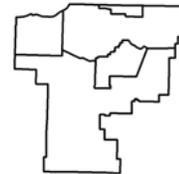
CRP Changes in Oregon

A recent settlement between the federal government and the National Wildlife Federation has resulted in two changes in CRP in Oregon. The first change is managed haying and grazing which was allowed once every three years and is now limited to once in every ten years. The other change is the nesting season has been changed back to March 1 through July 15. All CRP contracts approved after September 25, 2006 are subject to these changes. Almost all contracts approved prior to September 25 are subject to this change as well. For more information concerning managed haying or grazing and the nesting season, please contact Virginia Klein at extension 119.

Bank Account Changes

Since January 1, 1999, FSA payments are supposed to 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 another financial institution purchases your bank. Payments will be delayed considerably if we are not notified of changes to account and/or routing numbers. To report a change for your bank account you will need to complete a Direct Deposit Sign-Up Form and supply a voided check for the account the funds are to be deposited into.

County Committee Elections



Ballots for the 2006 County Committee election will be mailed to all eligible voters on November 3. This year the election is being held for the Umatilla Indian

Reservation District and the North Dryland District. Ballots will be sent only to owners and operators who have the majority of their farm operations in these areas. A list of eligible voters and a detailed map of the districts are available in the office. If you do not receive a ballot and you think you should, please contact the office. Completed and signed ballots are due back in the office by 4:30 p.m. December 4, 2006. For more information concerning the election process please contact Fran Mortier at extension 112.

2007 DCP Contracts

Sign up for the 2007 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payments (DCP) program has started, but our current priority is to issue 2006 final direct payments. Producers are reminded that the earliest a person can receive a direct advance on their 2007 contract is December 1. The advance payment percent will be 22% for 2007 (down from 40% or 50% in 2006). The remaining 78% will be issued in October of 2007. DCP still requires all participants to: comply with highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions; devote base acreage to agricultural or conserving use; not plant or harvest fruits and vegetables (other than lentils, mung beans, and dry peas) on base acres (some double cropping exceptions apply); file an acreage report by June 30, 2007 for all cropland on the farm enrolled; and notify the office of when there has been a change of interest on a contract. Most applications will be taken by appointment but some walk-ins will be allowed. For more information concerning DCP, contact Lori Yokom at extension 120.

2007 Non-Insured Assistance Program Deadlines

The Non-Insured Assistance Program is designed for all crops that can not be insured under federal crop insurance. This includes some insurable crops that do not meet some basic production requirements (apples, cherries) or crops grown under uninsurable practices or areas (onions, garbanzos). NAP only provides catastrophic insurance coverage (50% yield, 55% price). The cost of an application is \$100 per crop/year and no producer will be required to pay more than \$300 per county/year, no matter how many crops are grown. Producers who acquired NAP coverage in 2006 must reapply for 2007 coverage. Here are the deadlines to apply.

08/31/06	All fall planted crops not mentioned
08/31/06	Onions (fall and spring), Radishes, Canola, Carrots, Cabbage, Turf Grass Sod, Ornamental Nursery, Cut Flowers, Value Loss Crops
10/02/06	Grass (hay and seed), Alfalfa (hay and seed), Clover, Small Grains, all Forage and Grazing Crops, Other Perennials Crops not mentioned
11/20/06	Berries, Fruit, Honey
03/15/07	All spring planted crops not mentioned
05/31/07	Buckwheat

Producers who received 2003/2004 Crop Disaster Payments on uninsured crops need to purchase NAP or Crop Insurance in order for them to keep their disaster payment.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communications of program information (braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA's Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, please contact Kent Willett at (541) 278-8049 ext. 124. USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.

Proper Signatures

A common error found in our office is producers signing documents for individuals or for entities incorrectly. One improper signature can invalidate a contract for everyone. A proper signature should state who is signing the contract, an indicator, and who the person is signing for. Here are some examples of proper signatures:

John Doe for Jane Doe, Spouse
John Doe for ABC Partnership, Partner
XYZ Inc by John Doe, President
John Doe Sr Estate by John Doe Jr, Executor
James Doe by John Doe, Parent

The office will be monitoring for improper signatures but producers are responsible for signing documents correctly.

Calendar

November 1 – County Committee Meeting
November 10 – Veterans Day Observed (office closed)
November 13-17 – Office Closed
November 20 – NAP Deadline
November 23 – Thanksgiving Holiday (office closed)

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
UMATILLA COUNTY FSA OFFICE
1229 SE THIRD STREET
PENDLETON, OR 97801-4197**

**PRESORT
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
TUALATIN OR
PERMIT NO. 71**