

Wallowa County Harvester USDA Ag Service Center



USDA SERVICE CENTER

88401 Hwy 82, Box B
Enterprise, OR 97828-0387
(541) 426-4521
(541) 426-4789 FAX

Hours:

Monday – Friday
7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

FSA

Bill Williams

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Lela Kunkle

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Abby Marshall

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FSA Committee Members

Alan Klages
Chris Cunningham
Don Stonebrink
Donna Smith

NRCS

Tom Smith

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Nathan James

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SWCD

Cynthia Warnock

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Matt Zupich

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Wilsey Elected to Committee

Wes Wilsey was elected to the Wallowa County FSA Committee in the recent Committee election. He will begin his 3-year term on January 1, 2007 and will represent the agricultural producers from the Flora/Troy area. Other members of the Committee are: Don Stonebrink (Lostine/Wallowa), Alan Klages (Joseph/Enterprise) and Donna Smith, Advisor.

Dennis Beach was elected as the 1st Alternate for this area and will represent the Flora/Troy ag producers at any Committee Meeting that Wes is unable to attend. Wes replaces Chris Cunningham who served 11 consecutive years on the Committee but was ineligible to run due to statutory limits. Chris is to be commended for the exemplary job he did while serving on the Committee.

The County Office staff would like to thank all agricultural producers who voted in this election. The County Committee meets on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at the USDA Service Center at 9:00 a.m. (June through October) and at 10:30 (November through May). All meetings are open to the public.



At the December County Committee meeting, the County Committee and staff presented a certificate of award to Chris Cunningham for his 11 consecutive years of outstanding service on the local County Committee representing the agricultural producers of Wallowa County.

Office Move Completed

We, FSA, NRCS and Wallowa SWCD, are now in our new location in the Forest Service Building in Enterprise. We are located on the first floor in the West Wing of the building. When you visit us, please park in the visitors' parking lot. As you come up the sidewalk, take the diagonal sidewalk towards the USDA Service Center sign on the Southwest Corner of the building. Go through the door just past the sign and take the first door on your right. The NRCS and SWCD staffs are located on the right side of the hallway and the FSA staff is on the left side.

Our phone numbers and employee extensions are the same. Our new mailing address is 88401 Hwy 82 Box B, Enterprise, OR 97828-3042.

We will have an open house during the first part of 2007 to show you our new 'digs'.

The staff from the Ag Service Center would like to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and may the new year bring nothing but the very best.

2006 Dates to Remember

December 25 – Christmas Day (Office Closed)

2007 Dates to Remember

January 1 – New Year's Day (Office Closed)

January 10 – COC Meeting @ 10:30 a.m. (Service Center)

January 15 – Martin Luther King Day (Office Closed)



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Beginning Farmer & Rancher Land Contract Guarantee Pilot Program

Farmers and ranchers in Oregon may be eligible to participate in a unique pilot program. It is a tool that may help you, or producers you know, acquire or farm land. It also helps land owners that may have an interest selling farm or ranch land on contract to qualified beginning farmers or ranchers.

The program provides the seller of land a no-cost 10-year "prompt payment" guarantee of the installment payments under a contract sale to a beginning farmer or rancher (buyer). If the buyer does not pay an annual installment due on the contract, or pays only part of an installment, FSA provides the scheduled payment or the unpaid portion to the seller through an escrow agent. The guarantee is limited to the total of two annual installments and also covers the amount of unpaid taxes and insurance for a period of two years.

You can find out more about this program by calling Jared Lathrop, (541) 278-8049 ext. 114.

WHIP Applications

The WHIP application deadline has been extended to January 31st. Contact Tom or Nate if you are interested in this program.

2007 DCP Contracts

June 1, 2007 is the deadline to enroll in the 2007 Direct & Counter Cyclical Payment Program (DCP) without a late-payment fee. Please call Lela (extension 102) or Abby (extension 103) or stop by before the deadline. If you wait to enroll after the deadline, you will be charged a \$100 per contract processing fee.

This Newsletter...

...is the primary method we have of contacting you, our customer, directly. Our goal in producing the newsletter is to make you *aware* of the availability of farm programs and to periodically remind you of certain program requirements. Please let us know how we are doing and if and how we can improve it.

Foreign Landowner Notification

Foreign investors, who buy, sell or hold a direct or indirect interest in U.S. agricultural land must report their holdings and transactions to the Secretary of Agriculture. Failure to timely file an accurate report can result in a penalty with fines up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the agricultural land.

Puzzle

How long does it take Santa Clause to travel from the southern part of Australia to the northern part of Canada on Christmas Eve?

Answer to the last puzzle: There are 21 states in the U.S. that end in the letter "a".

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