

Wasco/Hood River

Your County Committee:

Jim Mullen~ Committee Chair
Carleton Clausen~ Vice Chair
Janie Dodge~ Member
Derek DeBorde~ Member
Paul Klindt~ Member

2325 River Rd. Ste. 1, The Dalles, OR 97058

Phone: (541) 298-8559 Ext. 2 Fax: (541) 296-7868

FSA News



Happy Summer

Your FSA Staff:

Jim Bishop~ CED
Charlene Banta~ PT
Lissa Biehn~ PT
Lynn Cotter~ PT
Judy Pointer~ PT
Karen Bloomdahl~ FLO
Dorothy Waters~ FLT

2006 Dates To Remember



- June 30th~ Last day to file acreage reports (FSA-578)
- July 4th~ Independence Day (Office Closed)
- July 7th~ Deadline for FLEP applications (ODF)
- Aug 31st~ NAP deadline for fall veggie seeds
- Sept 15th~ Deadline for FSA kids' coloring contest

File Annual Crop Reports

The final date to timely file 2006 crop reports is June 30, 2006, avoid late fees!

2006 County Committee Elections

The FSA County Committee is the farmers' voice for administration of Federal farm programs. Nomination petitions are available for election of committee people to serve for a three year term of 2007-2009.

Two Local Administrative Areas will be open for election.

- Central Wasco County – LAA 2
- Upper Hood River Valley – LAA 5

All producers in both Hood River and Wasco counties should have received a nominating petition with the May Wasco/Hood River FSA Newsletter. If you wish to submit a petition for a producer in either LAA 2 or 5, or for yourself, complete the petition and return it to the FSA Office no later than **8/1/06**. If you did not receive a petition, you can stop by the FSA Office or give us a call and we will send one to you. Nomination forms are also available online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections/Default.asp>.

Here is your opportunity to learn more about how the Federal programs work and how they are administered at the County level.

ODF Stewardship for Forestry

Cost share for on-the-ground projects:

ODF Stewardship Foresters are accepting applications for the Forest Land Enhancement Program (FLEP) now through July 7, 2006. Interested family forest landowners should contact their local ODF Stewardship Forester for applications, qualification information, and local availability of funds. FLEP applications are also available on the ODF web site: www.odf.state.or.us --> Private Forests --> Assistance to Landowners --> Financial Assistance --> Financial / Technical Assistance --> Forestry Incentive Programs --> Application and Eligibility

FLEP applications received by local Stewardship Foresters on (or before) July 7, 2006, will be evaluated, prioritized, and considered for funding on July 20, 2006. FLEP provides funds to offset a portion of the cost (up to 50%) of qualified, pre-approved stewardship practices such as afforestation, stand improvement, wildfire rehabilitation, water quality / watershed improvement, and wildlife habitat improvement. The specific activities typically funded include site preparation, tree planting, non-commercial thinning, stand release (weed control), tree protection (from animal damage), creation of cavities (bird habitat), nest boxes, and snag creation.

Had A Change in your Farming Operation?

To remain eligible for FSA Programs, you are required to have a CCC-502 "Farm Operating Plan For Payment Limitation". This form **MUST BE** updated if you change your farming operation. Examples of changes include, but are not limited to:

- Change of Contract shares, reflecting land lease from cash to share rent (or vice versa)
- Modification of variable/fixed bushel rent arrangement
- Changes in the size of producer's farming operation (more OR less cropland)
- Change in the structure of the farming operation, including member's shares
- Change of contributions of farm inputs of capital, equipment, active personal labor, or active personal management
- Acquisition of farming interests not previously disclosed; including those interests of a spouse or minor child



PLEASE UPDATE YOUR 502 IF YOU MAKE ANY CHANGES!

ATTENTION NAP HAY PRODUCERS!!!



For NAP policies, reliable records are required to be compliant with program rules. In order for Hay producers to provide acceptable records on their hay crops, FSA can provide a measurement service. This measurement service **MUST** be performed soon **after** harvest is completed, to discern the new hay crop from previous years. This measurement service **IS FREE OF CHARGE** since there are no other means for producers to provide acceptable records. Contact the FSA office so a Loss Adjuster can be requested.

NAP Notice of Loss Reminder

If you have a policy for the Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP), remember that you **MUST** file a Notice of Loss (FSA-576) in order to be eligible for payment. The FSA-576 must be filed **within** 15 days of the disaster event happening, or 15 days from the loss becoming apparent. Failure to file your loss claim in a timely manner may cause you to be ineligible for a NAP payment.



2005 NAP Production evidence must be filed along with acreage reports by June 30th 2006. Thank you for your cooperation.

Announcing the Farm Service Agency Coloring Contest

FSA is hosting a coloring contest for kids; they win a chance to have their drawing posted on the FSA Kids website at www.fsa.usda.gov/fsakids. Deadline for entering drawings is September 15th, 2006. Kids can pick up an entry form from the FSA Office, or create their own drawing.

Here are the directions for the kids:

- ✎ Draw a picture of you and your family and friends having a summer picnic and tell us which plants and animals helped make the food you are eating on your picnic
 - For example - milk, cheese and ice cream all start with cows.
 - Bread comes from grains like wheat and rye.
 - Potato salad contains lots of different things that grow on the farm.
- ✎ When you have finished your drawing, write just your first name, your age, and the city and state you live in on the back of your drawing and mail or drop off at: FSA Kids.

USDA Farm Service Agency
2325 River Rd Ste 1
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Reminder: Farm Loan Program through FSA has operating and real estate loans available to qualified applicants. Check our website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/or/>, or call Karen at 541-298-8559, ext 2.

Notice to Producers with Failed Crops

If you experience a crop failure on an UN-insured crop (that was insurable) please notify FSA. You have the opportunity to pay for a crop appraisal to verify **actual** losses. This is important for potential Crop Disaster Programs in order for you to earn maximum payments. Without the appraisal, FSA must assign you production at 50% of the county yield. This adjusted production may greatly reduce possible CDP payments.

****Sign-up for the e-mail FSA News Flash ****

E-mail me at jim.bishop@or.usda.gov. I'll place your name on the e-mail list for short e-mail flashes for program changes or upcoming deadlines. It is a quick and easy way to stay informed.

Sign up now for eGov, the new way to conduct business with FSA through eFiling

You can use your home computer to file forms, apply for programs, and learn how FSA can help you. Want to save fuel and time? You can check on your eForms, or by having Level 2 eAuthorization your home computer and eAuthorization be able to access your Customer Statement, Deficiency Payments, send forms electronically, and more. If you are interested in using the web to conduct USDA business, please contact the local FSA or logon to <http://www.sc.egov.usda.gov/>.



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**FARM SERVICE AGENCY
WASCO/HOOD RIVER COUNTY FSA
2325 River Road, Suite 1
THE DALLES OR 97058**

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CCC-633 EZ
To be ready for '06 LDP's