

What's News in FSA



June 2008

USDA Farm Service Agency

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County Committee

Kay C VanNatta, Chairperson
Crystal VanderZanden, Vice-Chairperson
Tom Duyck, Regular Member

Reminder: 2008 Crop Acreage Reports

The deadline to submit 2008 crop acreage reports is **June 30th, 2008**. Acreage reports are needed for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), and upcoming programs in the new Farm Bill. Crop acreage reports should be submitted to prevent a loss of benefits in a variety of Farm Service Agency programs. If you didn't receive your maps please contact the Washington/Columbia County Service Center at 503-648-3174 x2. Be sure to include the **crop type** and **planting date** when submitting your maps to the Service Center.



County Committee Elections

The Washington/Columbia County Service Center will be holding two election meetings to inform the public on the upcoming County Committee election for Local Administrative Area (LAA) 11. Individuals living in the **Columbia County** boundary will be eligible to run for office.



The first meeting will be held on **June 23rd, 2008, at 7:30 p.m.** in St. Helens during the Farm Bureau Meeting. The Farm Bureau Meetings are held at the Columbia County Extension Service Office, the address is: 505 N. Columbia River Hwy. St. Helens Oregon, 97051. The second meeting will be on **June 26th, 2008, at 8:00 a.m.** at the Hillsboro Service Center.

Eligible voters may nominate themselves or nominate candidates of their choice by petition. Petitions must be received by the County Office no later than **August 1st, 2008**. Nomination forms (FSA-669-A) and additional information can be found by going to the Farm Service Agency website: www.fsa.usda.gov; click on the "News and Events" link, and the "County Committee Elections" link posted under "Related Topics."

Persons nominated must be of legal age and have an interest in a farm or ranch as an owner, operator, tenant, sharecropper, and be eligible to participate in any farm program that is provided by law, regardless of funding.

Livestock Compensation Program and Livestock Indemnity Program Sign-up Deadline

The deadline to enroll in the 2005-2007 **Livestock Compensation Program (LCP)** and **Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)** is **July 18th, 2008**. The LIP provides payments to eligible livestock owners and contract growers who experienced the death of livestock due to a natural disaster. The LCP provides payments to eligible livestock owners and cash lessees who suffered feed losses or increased feed loss because of a natural disaster.



Do you need on-farm storage?

Producers considering expanding their on-farm storage capacity are reminded that the Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) Program is available for eligible storage and handling equipment. New structures used to store commodity loan program commodities (grass seed is not eligible) and having a useful life of ten years are eligible for loan. Permanently affixed grain handling and grain drying are eligible for loan when the County Committee determines that the equipment is needed and essential to a producer's storage system. The loan term is seven years at the Commodity Credit Corporation interest rate determined in the month of application approval. The interest rate for June is **3.375%**. Producers interested in using the FSFL Program for 2008 crop storage should speak with Peggy Kinkade at 503-648-3174 x105.

Are you a foreign owner of land?

Foreign investors who acquire, transfer, or hold interest in agricultural land must report these holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture **within 90 days**. This may be done by completing form FSA-153, available at any Farm Service Agency. The report is required by law and persons who fail to report, or who are late reporting, face possible fines.

WASHINGTON-COLUMBIA COUNTY FSA OFFICE
1080 SW BASELINE, SUITE B-3
HILLSBORO, OR 97123-3823

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Spousal Signatures

Husband and wife may sign documents on behalf of each other for Farm Service Agency and Commodity Credit Corporation programs in which either has an interest. A written request for exclusion may be filed by either person.

Are you a Beginning Farmer or Rancher?

Farm Service Agency reserves funds annually, for beginning farmers and ranchers. FSA can make and guarantee loans to beginning farmers or ranchers for the purchase and/or operation of family-sized farms and ranches.

A "Beginning Farmer" is described as having less than 10 years experience in farming; have materially participated in the management of a farm for at least 1-3 years; and in some cases do not own real property in excess of 30% of the median farm size in the county. Applicants must meet all requirements for FSA's regular farm loan assistance.



Do you want to learn more about Urban and Rural Reserves?

Portland metro area residents are invited to join a conversation about how the region will adapt to growth over the next 50 years. Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties and Metro are uniting in a planning process to determine where and how we will live, work, and play in the decades to come. The three counties and Metro have planned an initial broad study area- approximately 5 miles outside of the current Metro Urban Growth Boundary- as a starting place for considering rural and urban reserve designation.

Open houses will be held throughout the Metro area, providing citizens the opportunity to share their views and to learn about urban and rural reserves.

The following are scheduled open houses in Washington County:

Monday, June 16th, 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.	Thursday, June 26th, 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.	Thursday, July 10th, 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Beaverton Resource Center	Forest Grove Community Auditorium	Tualatin High School Commons Area
12500 SW Allen Boulevard, Beaverton	1915 Main Street, Forest Grove	22300 SW Boones Ferry Rd., Tualatin

Dates to Remember

June 23rd-County Committee Election Meeting
June 26th- County Committee Election Meeting
June 30th – Last day to submit acreage reports
July 4th-Independence Day (Office Closed)

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