



## **USDA Designates 3 Pennsylvania Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas for Drought**

**News Release | Pennsylvania | August 08, 2024**

This Secretarial natural disaster designation allows the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) to extend much-needed emergency credit to producers recovering from natural disasters through [emergency loans](#). Emergency loans can be used to meet various recovery needs including the replacement of essential items such as equipment or livestock, reorganization of a farming operation, or to refinance certain debts. FSA will review the loans based on the extent of losses, security available, and repayment ability.

According to the [U.S. Drought Monitor](#), these counties suffered from a drought intensity value during the growing season of 1) D2 Drought-Severe for eight or more consecutive weeks or 2) D3 Drought-Extreme or D4 Drought-Exceptional.

**Impacted Area:** PENNSYLVANIA

**Triggering Disaster:** Drought beginning 7/30/2024

**Application Deadline:** 04/07/2025

**Primary Counties Eligible:** Bedford, Fulton, Somerset

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

**Maryland:** Allegany, Garrett, and Washington

**Pennsylvania:** Blair, Cambria, Fayette, Franklin, Huntingdon, Westmoreland

### **More Resources**

On farmers.gov, the [Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool](#), [Disaster Assistance-at-a-Glance fact sheet](#), and [Loan Assistance Tool](#) can help you determine program or loan options. To file a Notice of Loss or to ask questions about available programs, contact your local [USDA Service Center](#).

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