USDA Designates three Maryland Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas for Drought; Additional Contiguous Disaster Counties also located in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia

Emergency Designation | Maryland | July 03, 2025

Maryland

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.

Disaster #1:

Impacted Area: Maryland

Triggering Disaster: Drought

Application Deadline: February 2, 2026

Primary Counties Eligible: Frederick, Harford

Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:

Maryland: Baltimore, Carroll, Cecil, Howard, Kent, Montgomery, Washington

Pennsylvania: Adams, Franklin, Lancaster, York

Virginia: Loudon

Disaster #2:

Impacted Area: Maryland

Triggering Disaster: Drought

Application Deadline: February 2, 2026

Primary Counties Eligible: Washington

Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:

Maryland: Allegany, Frederick

Pennsylvania: Franklin, Fulton

Virginia: Loudoun

West Virginia: Berkeley, Jefferson, Morgan

Disaster #3:

Impacted Area: Virginia

Triggering Disaster: Drought

Application Deadline: February 2, 2026

Primary Counties Eligible: Fairfax, Loudoun

Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:

Maryland: Charles, Frederick, Montgomery, Prince George's, Washington

Virginia: Clarke, Fauquier, Prince William

West Virginia: Jefferson

Disaster #4:

Impacted Area: Virginia

Triggering Disaster: Drought

Application Deadline: February 2, 2026

Primary Counties Eligible: Fauquier, Prince William

Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:

Maryland: Charles

Virginia: Clarke, Culpeper, Fairfax, Loudoun, Rappahannock, Stafford, Warren, Manassas, Manassas Park

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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USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

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