



USDA Designates 7 Vermont Counties as Natural Disaster Areas for Drought & Heat

Emergency Designation | New York | February 12, 2026

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.

Impacted Area: Vermont

Triggering Disaster: Drought & Heat

Application Deadline: 09/29/2026

Primary Counties Eligible:

Vermont: Bennington, Grand Isle, Windham

Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:

Vermont: Chittenden, Franklin, Rutland, Windsor

Massachusetts: Berkshire, Franklin

New Hampshire: Cheshire, Sullivan

New York: Rensselaer, Washington

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](#).

Farm Service Agency:

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SW Washington, DC 20250

Contact:

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