



USDA Designates Vermont Counties as Natural Disaster Areas

Emergency Designation | New York | February 13, 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.

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 8 or more consecutive weeks or 2) D3 Drought-Extreme or D4 Drought-Exceptional.

Impacted Area: Vermont

Triggering Disaster: Drought

Application Deadline: 6/1/2026

Primary Counties Eligible: Addison, Caledonia, Rutland, Washington

Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:

- **Vermont:** Bennington, Chittenden, Essex Lamoille, Orange, Orleans, Windsor
- **New Hampshire:** Grafton
- **New York:** Essex, 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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