



## USDA Designates 7 Ohio Counties as Natural Disaster Areas due to Drought; 3 Indiana Counties are Eligible as they are Contiguous Counties Emergency Designation | Ohio | April 21, 2026

Ohio

COLUMBUS, Ohio, April 21, 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. The FSA will review the loans based on the extent of losses, security available, and repayment ability.

### Triggering Secretarial Designation S6194

**Impacted Area:** Ohio

**Triggering Disaster:** Drought that occurred on April 1, 2026.

**Application Deadline:** December 15, 2026.

### Primary Counties Eligible:

- **Ohio:** Defiance, Hancock, Henry, Paulding, Putnam, Van Wert and Wood counties.

### Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:

- **Indiana:** Adams, Allen, and Dekalb counties.
- **Ohio:** Allen, Auglaize, Fulton, Hardin, Lucas, Mercer, Ottawa, Sandusky, Seneca, Williams and Wyandot counties.

### 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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