USDA Designates Pipestone, Rock, and St. Louis Counties in Minnesota as Natural Disaster Areas

Emergency Designation | Minnesota | September 24, 2026

Minnesota

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.

Triggering Disaster #1

Impacted Area: Minnesota, Wisconsin

Triggering Disaster: S6395 - Drought (Fast-Track) beginning on June 23, 2026

Application Deadline: May 3, 2027

Primary Counties Eligible:

- **Minnesota:** St. Louis

Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:

- **Minnesota:** Aitkin, Carlton, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake
- **Wisconsin:** Douglas

Triggering Disaster #2

Impacted Area: Minnesota, Iowa, South Dakota

Triggering Disaster: S6327 - Drought (Fast-Track) beginning on June 9, 2026

Application Deadline: May 10, 2027

Primary Counties Eligible:

- **Minnesota:** Pipestone, Rock

Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:

- **Minnesota:** Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Nobles
- **Iowa:** Lyon
- **South Dakota:** Brookings, Minnehaha, Moody

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:

1400 Independence Ave.
SW Washington, DC 20250

Contact:

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