# USDA Designates 15 Counties as Natural Disaster Areas

**Emergency Designation | Virginia | October 13, 2026**

Virginia

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**: Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, West Virginia

**Triggering Disaster:** Drought (Fast-Track)

**Application Deadline**: May 10th 2027

**Primary Counties Eligible:** Buchanan, Charles City, Chesterfield, Dickenson, Henrico, Isle of Wight, James City, Lee, New Kent, Prince George, Scott, Surry, Wise, York, Suffolk(city)

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

- **Virginia**:Amelia, Dinwiddie, Gloucester, Goochland, Hanover, King and Queen, King William, Powhatan, Russell, Southampton, Sussex, Tazewell, Washington, Chesapeake, Colonial Heights(city), Franklin(city), Hampton(city), Hopewell(city), Newport News(city), Norton(city), Petersburg(city), Poquoson(city), Portsmouth(city), Richmond(city), Williamsburg(city)
- **Kentucky:** Bell, Harlan, Letcher, Pike
- **North Carolina:** Camden, Gates
- **Tennessee:** Hancock, Hawkins, Sullivan

- **West Virginia:** McDowell, Mingo

### 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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## Contact:

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