



USDA Designates 9 Massachusetts Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas

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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: Massachusetts

Triggering Disaster: Excessive Rain from 7/1/2023 - 10/31/2023

Application Deadline: 7/17/2024

Primary Counties Eligible: Berkshire, Bristol, Essex, Franklin, Hampden, Hampshire, Middlesex, Norfolk, Worcester

Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:

Massachusetts: Dukes, Plymouth, Suffolk

Connecticut: Hartford, Litchfield, Tolland, Windham

New Hampshire: Cheshire, Hillsborough, Rockingham

New York: Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer

Rhode Island: Bristol, Newport, Providence

Vermont: Bennington, Windham

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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