

June 2019



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

BULLETIN

GovDelivery

- [CED Message](#)
- [2019 Spring Acreage Reporting Deadline](#)
- [Elections for the 2018 County Committee](#)
- [Higher Limits Now Available on USDA Farm Loans](#)

Park County FSA Updates

Park County FSA Office

1017 Hwy 14A
Powell, WY 82435

Phone: 307-754-9411
Fax: 855-415-3438

County Executive

Director:

Darla Rhodes

Farm Loan Officer:

Thomas Schambow

Program Technicians:

Marcia Shuler
Matt Yoose

County Committee:

Michael Hogg, Chairperson
Lynn George, Vice-Chairperson
Emily Karst, Voting Member

CED Message

Greetings to all Park County farmers and ranchers! We have been blessed with moisture this spring but still want to remind producers that if you suffer losses on crops/forages due to any weather conditions such as cool, wet weather, hail, etc., to please notify the office as soon as possible. The NAP program only has a 15 day window in which to file a loss. The livestock programs allow you to file a loss up to 30 days after it is apparent. Please keep this in mind.

There are going to be some changes to the Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage, ARC/PLC programs so if you have base acres, we will not be able to enroll your farms at crop reporting, per usual. We will call you and let you know when the program is open and remind you to come in.

Reminder* You are required to file an annual crop report to be in compliance with both ARC/PLC and crop insurance.** (Please see article below.)

Our national office would like to remind all producers that **Every Season is #scamseason:** Remember to discuss your USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) account information only with people you recognize and trust. If you have questions about your FSA accounts, contact the Park County FSA office at 307-754-9411.

Next County Committee Meeting: To Be Determined

Thank you for all you do... we wish everyone a productive growing season!
Darla

2019 Spring Acreage Reporting Deadline

In order to comply with FSA program eligibility requirements, all producers are encouraged to visit the Park County FSA office to file an accurate crop certification report by the applicable deadline.

The following acreage reporting dates are applicable for Park County:

July 15, 2019 for all spring planted crops

The following exceptions apply to the above acreage reporting dates:

- If the crop has not been planted by the above acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after planting is completed.
- If a producer acquires additional acreage after the above acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendar days after purchase or acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county office.
- If a perennial forage crop is reported with the intended use of "cover only," "green manure," "left standing," or "seed," then the acreage must be reported by July 15th.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy holders should note that the acreage reporting date for NAP covered crops is the earlier of the dates listed above or 15 calendar days before grazing or harvesting of the crop begins.

For questions regarding crop certification, crop loss reports and to make an appointment, please contact the Park County FSA office at 307-754-9411, extension #2.

Elections for the 2018 County Committee

Elections for USDA's Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Park County Committee are underway.

It is important that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the USDA. The 2019 election in Park County will be conducted for the representative Local Administrative Area – LAA #3, which is the Meeteetse area.

County committee members are a critical component of FSA operations. Committees should be comprised of members who reflect the diversity of producers involved in production agriculture in Park County. This means that producers representing underserved groups or communities should be on the committee to speak on behalf of their constituency.

Underserved producers are beginning, women and other minority farmers and ranchers and land owners and/or operators who have limited resources. Other minority groups including Native American and Alaska Natives; persons under the poverty level, and persons that have disabilities are also considered underserved.

County committee election ballots will be mailed to eligible voters on November 4, 2019. The last day to return completed ballots to the Park County USDA Service Center is December 2, 2019.

For more information on eligibility to serve on FSA county committees, visit: www.fsa.usda.gov/elections.

Higher Limits Now Available on USDA Farm Loans

Higher limits are now available for borrowers interested in USDA's farm loans, which help agricultural producers purchase farms or cover operating expenses. The 2018 Farm Bill increased the amount that producers can borrow through direct and guaranteed loans available through USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) and made changes to other loans, such as microloans and emergency loans. Key changes include:

- The Direct Operating Loan limit increased from \$300,000 to \$400,000, and the Guaranteed Operating Loan limit increased from \$ 1.429 million to \$1.75 million. Operating loans help producers pay for normal operating expenses, including machinery and equipment, seed, livestock feed, and more.
- The Direct Farm Ownership Loan limit increased from \$300,000 to \$600,000, and the Guaranteed Farm Ownership Loan limit increased from \$1.429 million to \$1.75 million. Farm ownership loans help producers become owner-operators of family farms as well as improve and expand current operations.
- Producers can now receive both a \$50,000 Farm Ownership Microloan and a \$50,000 Operating Microloan. Previously, microloans were limited to a combined \$50,000. Microloans provide flexible access to credit for small, beginning, niche, and non-traditional farm operations.
- Producers who previously received debt forgiveness as part of an approved FSA restructuring plan are now eligible to apply for emergency loans. Previously, these producers were ineligible.
- Beginning and socially disadvantaged producers can now receive up to a 95 percent guarantee against the loss of principal and interest on a loan, up from 90 percent.

About Farm Loans Direct farm loans, which include microloans and emergency loans, are financed and serviced by FSA, while guaranteed farm loans are financed and serviced by commercial lenders. For guaranteed loans, FSA provides a guarantee against possible financial loss of principal and interest.

For more information on FSA farm loans, visit www.fsa.usda.gov or contact your [local USDA service center](#).

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact [Darla Rhodes](#) at [307-754-9411](tel:307-754-9411) extension 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).