

July 2016



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USDA Hosts County Committee Webinar

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) is co-hosting a County Committee webinar with the Agriculture Marketing Service (AMS) and Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food on Tuesday, July 12 at 2:00 p.m. EST.

The webinar will explain how county committees work and cover how to submit a nomination. Webinar attendees will hear current county committee members in New York, Nevada and Illinois talk about their personal experience serving on their local committee.

Producers who want to learn more about county committees are encouraged to attend the webinar.

To join the webinar, visit <https://cc.readytalk.com/cc/schedule/participantLogin.do?er=keiisil1xv90&eom>. For audio, dial 866-740-1260 and enter the code 7206000 when prompted.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this webinar should contact Cynthia Cuellar at (202) 690-4727 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

USDA Designates Crook County in Wyoming as a Primary Natural Disaster Area with Assistance to Producers in South Dakota

July 7, 2016 — The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has designated Crook County in Wyoming as a primary natural disaster area due to damages and losses caused by a recent drought.

“Our hearts go out to those Wyoming farmers and ranchers affected by recent natural disasters,” said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. “President Obama and I are committed to ensuring that agriculture remains a bright spot in our nation’s economy by sustaining the successes of America’s farmers, ranchers, and rural communities through these difficult times. We’re also telling Wyoming producers that USDA stands with you and your communities when severe weather and natural disasters threaten to disrupt your livelihood.”

Farmers and ranchers in Campbell and Weston counties in **Wyoming** also qualify for natural disaster assistance because their counties are contiguous.

Farmers and ranchers in the following counties in **Montana** and **South Dakota** also qualify for natural disaster assistance because their counties are contiguous. Those counties are:

Montana

Carter and Powder River

South Dakota

Butte and Lawrence

All counties listed above were designated natural disaster areas on July 6, 2016, making all qualified farm operators in the designated areas eligible for low interest emergency (EM) loans from USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for loans to help cover part of their actual losses. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability. FSA has a variety of programs, in addition to the EM loan program, to help eligible farmers recover from adversity.

Other FSA programs that can provide assistance, but do not require a disaster declaration, include the [Emergency Conservation Program](#); Program; Livestock; Emergency Assistance for [Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program](#); and the [Tree Assistance Program](#). Interested farmers may contact their local USDA Service Centers for further information on eligibility requirements and application procedures for these and other programs. Additional information is also available online at <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>.

FSA news releases are available on FSA's website at www.fsa.usda.gov via the "Newsroom" link.

USDA Designates 3 Counties in South Dakota as Primary Natural Disaster Areas with Assistance to Producers in Wyoming

July 7, 2016 — The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has designated Lawrence, Meade and Pennington counties in South Dakota as primary natural disaster areas due to damages and losses caused by a recent drought.

"Our hearts go out to those South Dakota farmers and ranchers affected by recent natural disasters," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "President Obama and I are committed to ensuring that agriculture remains a bright spot in our nation's economy by sustaining the successes of America's farmers, ranchers, and rural communities through these difficult times. We're also telling South Dakota producers that USDA stands with you and your communities when severe weather and natural disasters threaten to disrupt your livelihood."

Farmers and ranchers in Butte, Custer, Haakon, Jackson, Perkins, Shannon and Ziebach counties in **South Dakota** also qualify for natural disaster assistance because their counties are contiguous.

Farmers and ranchers in Crook and Weston counties in **Wyoming** also qualify for natural disaster assistance because their counties are contiguous.

All counties listed above were designated natural disaster areas on July 6, 2016, making all qualified farm operators in the designated areas eligible for low interest emergency (EM) loans from USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for loans to help cover part of their actual losses. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability. FSA has a variety of programs, in addition to the EM loan program, to help eligible farmers recover from adversity.

Other FSA programs that can provide assistance, but do not require a disaster declaration, include the [Emergency Conservation Program](#); Program; Livestock; Emergency Assistance for [Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program](#); and the [Tree Assistance Program](#). Interested farmers may contact their local USDA Service Centers for further information on eligibility requirements and application procedures for these and other programs. Additional information is also available online at <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>.

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Questions?

Please contact your local [FSA Office](#).

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