



FARM SERVICE AGENCY

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Hours: M-F 8:00am - 4:30pm

Salem/Gloucester Staff

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County Committee

Ken Porch, Chair

Wally Bradway, Vice Chair

John Cook, Member

Wally Eachus, Member

Jim Eller, Member

Carol Winchell, COC Advisor

Disaster Declaration

The U.S. Department of Agriculture designated Gloucester and Salem counties as primary natural disaster areas because of losses caused by the combined effects of high winds, excessive rain, flash floods and hail that occurred from May 12 through Aug. 10, 2008; and also because of losses caused by drought and high temperatures that occurred during the period June 10, 2008, and continuing.

Salem and Gloucester Counties were designated natural disaster areas Sept. 17, 2008. This makes all qualified farm operators in the designated areas eligible for low interest emergency (EM) loans 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.



Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)

The SURE program will be available to farms in Salem and Gloucester Counties since the counties are now declared disaster areas. To be eligible for SURE, you must have purchased insurance for every crop on the farm or participated in the Buy-in waiver process. SURE program payments will be issued to an eligible producer in an amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between the disaster assistance program guarantee and total farm revenue. The disaster assistance program guarantee shall be the sum obtained by adding the following, for each: insurable crop on the farm, 115 percent of the product obtained by multiplying the (crop insurance price election for the crop X the acres planted or prevented from being planted to the crop X the percentage of the crop insurance yield elected by the producer by the higher of the adjusted

APH or the counter-cyclical program payment yield); for each non-insurable crop on the farm, 120 percent of the product obtained by multiplying the (the NAP program established price for the crop X the acres planted or prevented from being planted to the crop X the higher of the adjusted NAP program yield guarantee or the counter-cyclical program payment yield.)

Total farm revenue for a farm shall be the sum obtained by adding the following: 1 - the estimated actual value of each crop produced on a farm which is the product obtained by multiplying the: (actual crop acreage harvested X the estimated actual yield X the national average market price for the marketing year for each crop). 2—15 percent of all direct payments. 3—the total amount of all counter-cyclical or average crop revenue payments. 4— the total amount of all LDP's and marketing loan gains. 5— the total amount of all crop insurance or NAP indemnities. 6— the value of any other natural disaster assistance payments for the same loss.

I know this all sounds complicated, but hopefully the application process will be simplified. Sign-up dates have not been announced at this time. More details will follow in the future.



Dates to Remember!

November 3, 2008— County Committee ballots mailed to voters
November 11, 2008—Veteran's Day Holiday
November 20, 2008—NAP sales closing date (see below for crops)
November 27, 2008—Thanksgiving Day Holiday
December 1, 2008—NAP sales closing date extension (see below)
December 31, 2008—NAP sales closing date (see below for crops)



Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP)

Reported a Crop Loss? If you have reported a crop loss, please remember to call when your harvest is completed. If the crop was hand-picked or not harvested, an appraisal will need to be performed. Please **do not**

destroy your field until a loss adjuster has given the field a final appraisal. Also, for those of you that sell at roadside stands or do not receive verifiable receipts, please remember to keep track of your production, whether on a calendar, ledgers, etc. **New policy rates for 2009—\$250 per crop, \$750 max per County. Remember, you must purchase crop insurance on all crops for 2009 to be eligible for any future 2009 disaster programs.**

It's not too late to get NAP coverage on the following for 2009!: Strawberries, Christmas Trees, Flowers, Fin Fish, Sod Grass, Clover, Grass (Hay), Mixed Forage and Rye. The deadlines have been extended until **December 1, 2008!** The following sales closing dates deadlines are coming up: Apples, Apricots, Blueberries, Caneberries, Cherries, Cranberries, Grapes, Honey, Nectarines, Onions, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Scallions and Shallots—**November 20, 2008.** (still have until 12/1/08 for NAP crops). Arugula, Asparagus, Beets, Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrots, Cauliflower, Collards, Escarole, Endive, Greens, Herbs, Horseradish, Kale, Kohlrabi, Leeks, Lettuce, Parsnip, Peas, Potatoes, Radishes, Rhubarb, Spinach and Turnips is **December 31, 2008.** (CAT crops through Federal Crop Insurance are underlined. You need to contact a private crop insurance agent to purchase. We have a list of agents available at this office)

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

Sign-up continues for CREP! The following practices are included in CREP: **Grass Waterways, Contour Grass Strips, Filter Strips and Riparian Buffers.** **Between Federal and State funding, most practices are fully installed at no cost to you with 100% cost share reimbursement! Rental payments are 100% to 150% greater than normal rates and most are over \$100 per acre! Also, a \$100 per acre sign-up incentive payment applies!** (except for contour grass strips).

Under CREP, program participants enroll in contracts of 10 to 15 years. Participants remove cropland or marginal pastureland from agricultural production and convert the land to grass, trees or other vegetation. Under the riparian buffer and filter strip practice, you may apply for permanent fencing and/or a watering facility, if you need to fence animals from a stream or pond. Please call now for further details.

County Committee Elections

Just a reminder: Be watching your mailbox for your official county committee election ballot starting early next month. Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters located in Local Administrative Areas 2 and 5 starting on November 3, 2008. LAA 2 consists of Carney's Point, Oldmans, Logan, Woolwich, Greenwich, East Greenwich, and West Deptford Townships. LAA 5 consists of Monroe, Franklin and Pittsgrove Townships. Completed and signed ballots are due back in the county office by the close of business on December 1, 2008.

