

# SALINE COUNTY NEWS

**Saline County  
USDA Service Center**

**Saline County FSA**  
1410 E Iron Ave, Ste 12  
Salina KS 67401-3285  
785-825-8269 (phone)  
785-825-1533 (fax)  
www.fsa.usda.gov/ks

**Hours**  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**County Committee**  
Leslie Berndt  
Jane MacDonald  
Mike Jensen

County Committee meets  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month at  
9:00 a.m.

**Farm Program Staff**  
David J Sweany, CED  
Pat Burt  
Jody Turner  
Jeanine White  
Deb Cornelius  
Eldon Moyer

**Farm Loan Program Staff**  
Bill Mahanay, FLM  
Amy Theurer  
Kim Fine  
Linda Hughes

**WEBSITES**

FSA - [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)  
Kansas FSA -  
[www.fsa.usda.gov/ks](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/ks)  
USDA - [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)  
Obtain a Level 2 e-  
Authentication Account -  
[www.eauth.egov.usda.gov](http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov)

**Emergency  
Conservation  
Program Sign up  
July 23 – August 22**

**Cost Share program to assist  
producers with damage from  
recent natural disasters!**

ECP provides emergency cost-share assistance for farmers and ranchers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by natural disasters. Participants can receive cost-share assistance of up to 75 percent of the cost to implement approved emergency conservation practices.

Practices approved for this county include:

- Removing Debris from farmland
- Grading, Shaping, Releveling measures
- Restoring Permanent Fences
- Restoring Conservation Structures such as terrace systems, waterways or diversion terraces
- Restoring Field Windbreaks and Farmstead Shelterbelts

**Some restrictions apply  
to this program**

- The damaged land has to be located in Saline County.
- The damaged land cannot be located in an area that is subject to frequent damage (flood plains).
- The damage must be of such a magnitude that it would be too costly for the producer to rehabilitate without Federal assistance. (at least \$1000 of damage)
- Conservation problems existing prior to the disaster are ineligible for ECP assistance

FSA will conduct an onsite visit to make a determination of eligibility for the program. Farmers, Ranchers or landowners who have damage are encouraged to contact the Saline County FSA office and make an application. This is only a **30 day sign up period**, July 23 through August 22.

**County Committee  
Election LAA-3**

**Nominations** are being accepted for candidates to serve on the Saline County Farm Service Agency Committee. The nomination period closes Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**This fall**, producers in LAA-3 the southwest part of the county, will hold its election. Jane MacDonald currently represents this area, which consists of Spring Creek North and South, Ohio, Washington, Summit, Falun and portions of Smoky Hill, Smolan and Smoky View townships.

**Each County Committee (COC)** member is elected by the eligible producers in their area. They are responsible for administering several FSA programs at the county level and determining producer eligibility for many of them. Election guidelines and other election information are available on the internet at:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections>

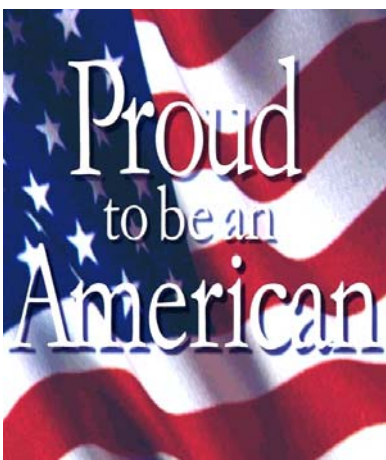
**! WELCOME !**

**NEW STAFF MEMBER**

We welcome Amy Theurer to the Saline County Farm Loan Program Team as Farm Loan Officer

***Farm Storage Facility  
Loans***

Seven-year Farm Storage Facility Loans are available to purchase and install eligible storage facilities, to permanently affix drying or handling equipment, safety equipment or to remodel existing facilities. Real estate liens are required for loans that exceed \$50,000. Loans are secured with a promissory note and security agreement. The maximum amount that may be borrowed is 85% of the net cost, up to \$100,000 for each borrower. A 15% down payment is also required.



**Disaster Program Update**

Many of you have called to ask how the Disaster Program passed by Congress will work. We have very little information to date but will make sure to let you know when it becomes available. About the only thing we have seen tells us the producer will have to select one of the following years, 2005, 2006 and crops planted prior to Feb 28, 2007. You will only be able to claim one year and had to have crop insurance or NAP insurance on the crops you are requesting. Hopefully we will here more soon.

**SELLING OR BUYING CRP REQUIRES EXTRA ATTENTION**

If you are buying or selling CRP make sure you visit your FSA office frequently during the process!

CRP contracts have to have a succession in interest from the new owners within 60 days of the sales closing date or the previous owner will have to refund all payments made to them from the contract. This information is in the CRP-1 appendix you receive at the time of enrollment. Failure on the part of the buyer to succeed to the contract will result in the previous owner owing the government a substantial amount of money. Also, be sure as a buyer you are aware of what the Conservation Plan of Operations is going to require you to do. Often there are annual food plots planted on the CRP. Maintenance is always an issue and if you don't know what you are buying – it could cost you a lot to get the CRP in compliance.

If you are unsure about the process call or visit your local FSA office for the details.

**FSA Farm Loans**

The Farm Service Agency makes both direct and guaranteed farm ownership and operating loans to family-size farmers and ranchers who cannot obtain commercial credit. FSA loans can be used to purchase land, livestock, equipment, feed, seed, supplies and carryover operating expenses. The loans can also be used to construct buildings or make farm improvements.

**FSA is currently offering direct real estate loans with fixed interest rates ranging from 4.00% to 5.375%; direct operating loans (to finance machinery, equipment, livestock, production expenses, etc.) with a fixed interest rate of 5.125%; and emergency loans are available for specific disaster designations in the area.**

**The guaranteed interest assistance program will allow FSA to pay 4:00% of an eligible customer's interest expense on guaranteed operating loans for a period of 5 years.**

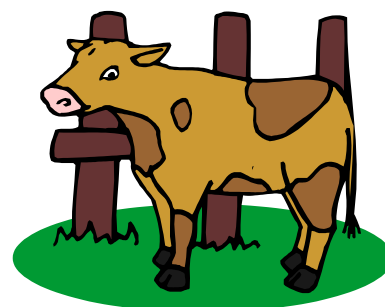
If you are having trouble getting commercial credit at affordable rates and terms, please contact the Farm Loan Program personnel in the Salina County Office about eligibility, as well as maximum loan amounts, rates, term and use of proceeds.



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its program and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

**Dates to Remember**

Aug 1	Deadline to report 2007 crop corn, sorghum, soybeans, sunflowers, CRP, Double Cropping and other land uses.
Aug 3	Deadline to timely file DCP Application - \$100 per farm late file fee
Continues	Rural Youth Loans for 10-20 Year Olds
Continues	Farm Operating and Farm Ownership Loans for Beginning Farmers and Socially Disadvantaged Applicants
Continues	Direct and Guaranteed Operating and Farm Ownership Loans
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loans
Continues	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program
Continues	MILCX Program



**FSA Youth Loans**

FSA makes loans of up to \$5,000 to rural youth to establish and operate income-producing projects of modest size in connection with their participation in 4-H clubs, FFA, and similar organizations. Each project must be part of an organized and supervised program of work. The project must be planned and operated with the help of the organization adviser, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience.

