



# NEWSLETTER



October 2012

## Menominee Dickinson Iron FSA Office

E106 South Drive  
Stephenson MI  
49887 8845

906 753 6921 phone  
906 753 2217 fax

### Hours

Monday - Friday  
8:00A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

### County Staff

#### Program Technicians

Denise Wilson  
Haili Thoney  
Jennifer Micheau

#### County Executive Director

Susan DeVoe  
[susan.devoe@mi.usda.gov](mailto:susan.devoe@mi.usda.gov)

#### County Committee

Nick Hanchek  
Janis Linderoth  
Michelle Pellegrini  
Roy Forray  
Mike Brzoznowski

#### Farm Loan Manager

Bruce Stephenson  
Gladstone Service Center  
906 428 1060

### Website

[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

## Increased Guaranteed Loan Limit

The Farm Service Agency has announced that the loan limit for the Guaranteed Loan Program will increase to \$1,302,000 on Oct. 1, 2012. The limit is adjusted annually based on data compiled by the National Agricultural Statistics Service.

The lending limit increases every year according to an inflation index. The maximum combined guaranteed and direct farm loan indebtedness will also increase to \$1,602,000.

As a reminder, the one-time loan origination fee charged on FSA guaranteed Farm Ownership and Operating loans is 1.5 percent of the guaranteed portion of the loan.

Producers should contact the FSA Loan Staff in Gladstone @ 906 428 1060 with questions.

## County Committee Elections

Watch your mailbox for your official county office committee election ballot starting early next month. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters on Nov. 5, 2012 for those areas holding elections.

Completed and signed ballots must be returned to the county office by close of business on Dec.3, 2012.

## 2012 DCP Final Payments

DCP payments for 2012 will be issued after Oct. 1, 2012. These payments will be deposited directly into participating producers' bank accounts.

## IRS 1099 Changes

In past years, IRS Forms 1099-G would be issued to show all program payments received from the Farm Service Agency, regardless of the amount.

Starting with calendar year 2012, producers whose total reportable payments from FSA are less than \$600 will *NOT RECEIVE IRS Form 1099-G*. Also, producers who receive payments from more than one county will only receive one Form 1099-G if the total of all payments from all counties is \$600 or more.

## 2013 Reporting of Fall Seeded Crops

All producers are reminded that the acreage reporting date for fall seeded crops and forages has changed. The new acreage reporting date is Nov. 15, 2012. This applies to all fall seeded crops including winter wheat and forage crops.  
**Please call for an appointment to certify**

## Electronic Services Available

A producer that has Internet access can access many services from home 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to participate in these services, you must meet all program eligibility requirements. Online services have stringent security measures to protect your private information. To utilize electronic services you need an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account, which requires an e-mail address & filling out an online registration form at [www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/](http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/) followed by a visit to the county office for identity verification. If you would like assistance establishing your account, just contact your local USDA Service Center.



## Rural Youth Loans

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5,000.

### Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- Reside in a rural area, city or town with a population of 50,000 or fewer people
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the project and the loan, along with providing adequate supervision.

Stop by the county office for help preparing and processing the application forms.

## Loans for the Socially Disadvantaged

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operating type loans and/or purchase or improve farms or ranches.

While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, the FSA has provided priority funding for members of socially disadvantaged groups.

A socially disadvantaged applicant is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as members of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities.

## Beginning and Limited Resource Farmers

FSA assists beginning farmers and or members of socially disadvantaged groups to finance agricultural enterprises. Under these designated farm loan programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:

- Has operated a farm for not more that 10 years
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the county's median size.

Additional program information, loan applications and other materials are available at your local USDA Service Center. You may also visit [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)