



May 6, 2010



Halifax County News

Halifax USDA Service Center

Halifax County FSA
PO Box 250
Halifax, NC 27839-0250
252-583-4511 (phone)
252-583-1099 (fax)

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

County Committee

Andy Adkins
Ray P. Garner, Jr.
John Branham, IV
Sandra B. Rosser
William C. Evans

Committee meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m.

Staff

Diane Boyd
Sophia Floyd
Karen Garris
Carol Peebles
Candice Richardson
Debbie W. McGee, CED

District Director

Patricia Mabry

Farm Loan Officer

Bobby Capel



Office Closed:

May 31, 2010 – Memorial Day
July 4, 2010 – Independence Day

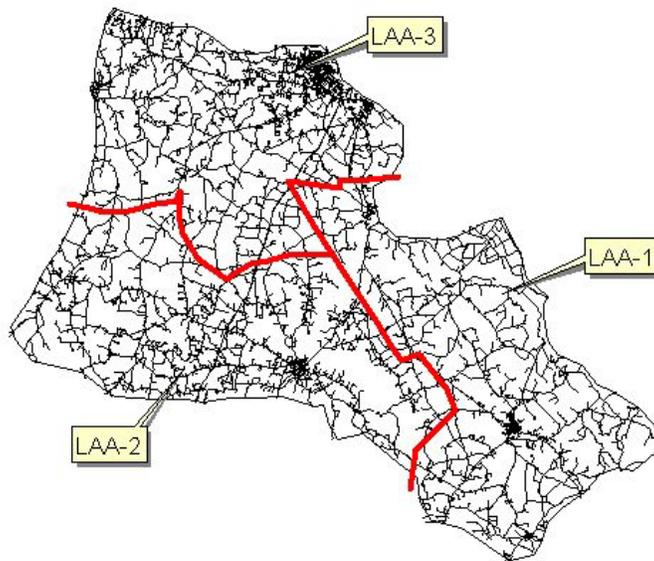
Wheat and Small Grains Crop Report due by May 15, 2010. All other crops must be reported by June 30, 2010.

Late-filed fees will be collected.

2010 COC ELECTION INFORMATION

The Halifax County FSA Committee annual election will be held in December. This election is held annually to select a person to serve on the committee for a three-year term. The Halifax County Committee (COC) consists of three persons selected from three Local Administrative Areas (LAA) in the county. The LAA descriptions are as follows:

LAA-1	Scotland Neck, Hobgood, Palmyra, Halifax, and Tillery areas
LAA-2	Enfield, Hollister, Ringwood, and Brinkleyville areas
LAA-3	Roanoke Rapids, Weldon, Littleton, and Darlington areas



Nominations from LAA-1 are being accepted through August 2, 2010. A nomination form is enclosed for your convenience if you would like to nominate an eligible person from the LAA-1 area. Additional forms may be obtained online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/> or from this office.

Persons nominated should actively participate in the operation of a farm or ranch in LAA-1; be well qualified for committee work; and be an eligible voter. County FSA Committee members may not hold positions in certain farm and commodity organizations, if these positions pose a conflict of interest with FSA duties. Additional Information of eligibility to hold office may be obtained at the Halifax County FSA Office.

Important 2010 Election Dates:

- August 2 Nomination Period Ends
- November 5 Ballots mailed to eligible voters
- December 6 Last day for ballots to be returned or postmarked
- January 1, 2011 Newly elected member and alternates take office

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign nomination form FSA-669A. The form includes a statement that the nominee agrees to serve if elected. Nomination forms for the 2010 election must be postmarked or received in the County Office by close of business on August 2, 2010. Eligible agricultural individuals who participate or cooperate in a FSA program may be nominated. Nominees must reside in the county.

The Halifax County Committee meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m.



**Crop Reports must be filed by June 30, 2010.
Please remember your appointment date.**

CROP REPORTS

2010 crop report packages with your appointment, maps, and instructions will be mailed in May. If you are missing any maps, please contact this office. Remember that filing accurate acreage reports for all crops and land uses, including idle land, conservation practices, failed acreage and prevented planting acreage; can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs. Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date. All reports of crops planted, idle land, and conservation practices must be filed by June 30, 2010. Late filed fee of at least \$46.00 per farm number will be collected if not reported timely.

NONINSURED CROP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

NAP crop acreage must be reported accurately and timely. When NAP crops are affected by natural disaster, notification of this loss must be completed on a CCC-576, Notice of Loss, within 15 days of the damage. Production evidence for the previous year's crop(s) must be provided by the earlier of the date crop was certified or the crop reporting deadline.

REPORTING CHANGES

Participants are reminded to report any farming operation changes. These changes include the following:

1) operator changes 2) owner changes 3) bank account or direct deposit changes 4) farm operation changes. Maintaining accurate FSA records are required for program eligibility.

MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOANS AND LDPs

To be eligible for loans and LDPs, you must comply with conservation and wetland protection requirements, beneficial interest requirements, report how you use cropland acreage on the farm, and ensure that the commodity meets Commodity Credit Corporation minimum grade and quality standards. CCC-633EZ, page 1 should be signed at the beginning of the crop year, before losing beneficial interest. To request a particular LDP rate, a page 2, 3, or 4 must be filed in addition to the page 1 before losing beneficial interest. Contact this office if you have any questions.

CRP CONTRACTS AND MAINTANCE

CRP Participants are reminded that all CRP practices must be maintained for the life of the contract. If the practice is not maintained or the contract is cancelled, participants will be expected to refund all payments plus interest. Contact the office before destroying any CRP practices.

RURAL ENERGY FOR AMERICA PROGRAM (REAP)

USDA Rural Development has grants and/or guarantee loans to help agricultural producers and rural small business to purchase and install renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements in rural areas. Contact Tobais Fullwood, Area Specialist, at (252) 438-3134, ext. 4 for more information.

REMINDERS

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| June 1 | DCP Signup Deadline |
| June 15 | File IRS Consent Form – CCC-927 or CCC-928 |
| June 30 | Crop Report Deadline |
| August 2 | COC Nomination Period Ends |
- Currently taking 2008 SURE Applications
 - Review Farm Operating Plans

OUTREACH AND SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Halifax County FSA Office is committed to ensuring that all persons are aware of programs and benefits available to them. Representatives are available to present information to groups upon request. Contact our office at (252) 534-4511 for more information.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (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 USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.