



Twin Harbors/Lewis FSA Office

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October 2010

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Committee

Byron Bentson, Chair
Leo Zylstra, V-Chair
Vic Boekelman, Member
Allen Devlin, Member
Ann Aho, Member

Office Staff

Martha Dorsey, CED
Julie Moldenhauer, PT

Farm Loan Staff

Jon Wilson, FLM
Jeff Peterson, FLO
Ruth Wynn, FL PT

Next COC Meeting

December 09, 2010
9:30 am

Web Sites

National:
www.fsa.usda.gov
WA State
www.fsa.usda.gov/wa

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FSA County Committee Elections

County Committee elections will begin in November. We have Local Administrative Areas (LAA's) 1 & 2 on the ballot this year. LAA 1 runs along the coast of Pacific and Grays Harbor counties, encompassing the Quinault reservation at the northern end. LAA 2 covers the remainder of Grays Harbor County.

The candidate running for LAA 1 is Allen Devlin. Allen is a long-time cranberry grower and has been serving on the County Committee for the past three years.

The candidates running for LAA 2 are Christy Kriegsman and Jane Zepp. Christy and her husband run beef cattle on Green Gate Farm out of Oakville. Jane and her husband run Zepp Farm out of McCleary, and grow fresh vegetables and herbs.

The FSA County Committee is the most direct link between USDA farm programs and local growers. The County Committee system helps shape nation-wide programs into programs that work at the local level by making decisions related to commodity price support loans and payments, establishing allotments, yields, and marketing quotas for some crops. The Committee also makes eligibility determination for conservation programs, as well as disaster assistance.

Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters November 5, 2010. Ballots must be returned to the county office no later than December 6, 2010. Ballots will be counted December 9th at 9:30 a.m. ***Please vote!!!***

Maintaining Eligibility for Disaster Assistance

USDA's Spokane Risk Management agency (RMA) Office reminds producers of the important link between Federal crop insurance and FSA's disaster assistance programs including the new Supplemental Revenue Assistance (SURE) program.

To maintain eligibility for SURE and other supplemental disaster programs, including the Tree Assistance Program (TAP) and ELAP (Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm Raised Fish), producers must obtain a policy or plan of insurance of at least the catastrophic level for all crops for the 2011 crop year. ***Please note: Supplemental means that there is no additional cost for these programs. They are a supplement that is included with your purchased insurance.*** For those crops that are non-insurable, coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) must also be timely obtained.

Important closing dates to obtain NAP coverage are:

11/20/2010 - berries, fruit trees, grapes, honey, asparagus, and hops.

3/15/11 - Spring planted crops, small grain forages (including wheat, barley, and oats including annual pea forage), mustard and summer planted buckwheat.

We definitely realize that the process for deciding on disaster coverage is complicated, and difficult to understand. If you would like further clarification on how these programs are implemented, please contact our office and we'll be glad to sit down with you and explain them so you can make a more informed decision.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), which is part of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), is a tool for landowners to enhance and protect water quality, fish habitat and stream stability through the use of riparian buffers. The program is administered locally through the partnership of the Grays Harbor, Pacific, and Lewis County Conservation Districts and the Twin Harbors – Lewis County FSA Committee.

Our goal for the CREP program is geared towards habitat enhancement for salmonid species. The CREP program provides for: stream stabilization, reduction of sediments, increasing wildlife habitat, and creating shade that lowers water temperature.

CREP – continued

The CREP program provides cost-sharing for developing your riparian buffer (for example, installing fences, planting trees, etc.) as well as providing annual payments for every year the practice is enrolled. Please contact our office for more information.

FSA Unveils Conservation Loan Program

Your local FSA office is now accepting applications for its new Conservation Loan Program. This will give farmers who want to implement conservation measures on their lands a chance to do so by providing assistance with their up-front costs. Conservation Loans (CL) funds can be used to implement conservation practices approved by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), such as the installation of conservation structures; establishment of forest cover; installation of water conservation measures; establishment or improvement of permanent pastures; implementation of manure management; and the adaptation of other emerging or existing conservation practices, techniques or technologies. Direct CLs can be obtained through local Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices with loan limits up to \$300,000. Guaranteed CLs up to \$1,119,000 are available from lenders working with FSA. For more information on the Conservation Loan program, contact your local FSA office or visit the FSA website at www.fsa.usda.gov.

Rural Youth Loan Activity Heats Up

It's that time of year again! The Farm Loan Team has very busy meeting with students, parents, leaders, and advisors to set up a Rural Youth Loan for next year's projects. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes operating loans of up to \$5,000 to eligible individual rural youths age 10 through 20 to finance income-producing, agriculture-related projects. The project must be of modest size, educational, initiated, developed and carried out by rural youths participating in 4-H clubs, FFA or a similar organization. We've had meetings with FFA chapters at Enumclaw and Buckley High Schools explaining the FSA youth loan program. We can come to your club or high school too. Call Jeff Peterson at 360-748-0083.

Mo.	BCI Price-\$ (16.94)	Pymt Rate- \$ (Before Adjust.)	NAD-FRC-\$ (7.35)	Adjust. Trigger	Final Pymt Rate Adj. for Feed Cost (\$/cwt)
Sep	14.18	1.2420	6.51	16.94	1.24200
Fiscal Year 2010					
Oct	15.60	0.6030	6.81	16.94	0.60300
Nov	16.11	0.3735	6.85	16.94	0.37350
DEC	17.24	0.0000	6.83	16.94	0.00000
Jan	18.28	0.0000	6.95	16.94	0.00000
Feb	18.09	0.0000	6.96	16.94	0.00000
Mar	17.59	0.0000	6.76	16.94	0.00000
Apr	16.47	0.2115	6.68	16.94	0.21150
May	17.05	0.0000	6.90	16.94	0.00000
Jun	18.53	0.0000	6.80	16.94	0.00000
July	18.91	0.0000	6.88	16.94	0.00000
Aug	19.02	0.0000	7.05	16.94	0.00000
Sep	18.75	0.0000	TBD	TBD	TBD
Fiscal Year 2011					
Oct	19.83	0.0000	TBD	TBD	TBD

Milk Income Loss Contract Program (MILC)

MILC payments for April 2010 Milk Production were processed in June at a rate of \$0.21150 per hundred weight of production. The rate dropped to zero, and there have not been any more payments as of October 2010.

Current and previous payment rate information is listed here and can also be found on our Washington State FSA website.