

March 2014



Topics for March

- Important Dates to Remember
- AskFSA
- Updating Farm Records
- Production Records for NAP
- County Committee Election Results
- Selected Interest Rates for March 2014

Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Kalkaska County FSA Updates

Grand Traverse Area FSA Office

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Traverse City, MI 49684

Phone: 231-941-0951
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County Executive Director:
Gregory B. Shy

Farm Loan Manager:
James L. Monroe

Farm Loan Officer:
Caleb Boge

Program Technicians:
Jan Malik
Janet Howes

Important Dates to Remember

- **March 31st** - Final date to request a 2013 crop small grains and honey loan or LDP
- **May 12th** - Final date to apply for an Emergency Loan under designation S3584
- **May 26th** - Office closed in observance of Memorial Day
- **May 31st** - Final date to request 2013 crop feed grains, oilseeds loans or LDP
- **July 4th** - Office closed in observance of Independence Day
- **July 15th** - Deadline to report 2014 crop spring seeded grains, spring planted row crops, and hops; AND 2013 ACRE production
- **September 23rd** - Final date to apply for an Emergency Loan under designations S3622, S3623, or S3636

AskFSA

Are you looking for answers to your FSA questions? Then ASK FSA at askfsa.custhelp.com

AskFSA is an online resource that helps you easily find information and answers to your FSA questions no matter where you are or what device you use. It is for ALL customers, including underserved farmers and ranchers who wish to be enrolled in FSA loans, farm, and conservation programs.

Through AskFSA you can:

County Committee:

Brent Wagner - Chair
David Noonan - Vice-Chair
Bruce Cotton - Member
Joanne Gallagher - Member
Stanley Silverman - Member
Jaunita Send - Advisor

- Access our knowledge base 24/7
- Receive answers to your questions faster
- Submit a question and receive a timely response from an FSA expert
- Get notifications when answers important to you and your farming operation are updated
- Customize your account settings and view responses at any time

Next County Committee

Meeting: April 30th, 2014
9:00 AM

FSA's self-service assistance anytime, anywhere!

Updating Farm Records

Producers who have made changes to their farming operation for 2014 need to update their records with the local FSA office as soon as possible. Changes such as buying or selling land, or adding/dropping rented land should be reported to the office so farm records can be updated. A copy of the deed or recorded land contract for purchased property and a copy of any new leases are needed to maintain accurate records with FSA. Failure to do so can lead to possible program ineligibility and penalties.

For entities, changes in entity structure should also be made as soon as possible. These changes would include member shares, member changes, new entities, etc. Entities should provide updated entity documentation showing these types of changes.

While making record updates, be sure to update signature authorizations and/or banking information changes if applicable. Making these record changes now will save time later.

Production Records for NAP

Producers who are signed up with NAP are reminded to submit their 2013 production records to the FSA office. Production records for all crops must be reported to FSA no later than August 15th, 2014. FSA requires that any production reported in a loss year be verified according to agency specifications.

Also remember, NAP losses must be reported within 15 days of loss.

County Committee Election Results

Ballots have been counted and congratulations go to Joanne Gallagher for being re-elected to the County Committee as a member representing farmers from Local Administrative Area (LAA) #3 serving Grand Traverse County townships Acme, East Bay, Garfield, Long Lake, and Whitewater. Congratulations also go out to Bruce Cotton being re-elected to LAA #5 serving all of Kalkaska County.

The county committee system works only because of your participation, so thanks to all of those voters who took the time to complete and send back the election ballots. The county committee helps to deliver FSA programs at the local level.

The Grand Traverse County Committee consists of the following members: Brent Wagner, Chair; David Noonan, Vice-Chair; Bruce Cotton, Voting Member; Joanne Gallagher, Voting Member; Stanley Silverman, Voting Member; and Jaunita Send, Advisor.

If you are interested in running for a county committee seat in the future, please visit the [USDA FSA website](#).

Selected Interest Rates for March 2014

- 90-Day Treasury Bill: 0.125%
- Farm Operating Loans - Direct: 2.250%
- Farm Ownership Loans - Direct: 4.250%
- Farm Ownership Loans - Joint Financing: 2.500%
- Limited Resource Loans: 5.000%
- Farm Ownership Loans - Direct FO Down Payment: 1.500%
- Emergency Loans: 3.250%
- Farm Storage Facility Loans - 7 Year: 2.125%*
- Farm Storage Facility Loans - 10 Year: 2.750 %*
- Farm Storage Facility Loans - 12 Year: 2.875%*
- Commodity Loans: 1.125%*

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