

# Central Oregon FSA Newsletter

Deschutes, Crook, and Jefferson Counties **September 2010**



Central Oregon Farm  
Service Agency

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Hours  
Monday-Friday  
8:00am-4:30pm

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

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## Your FSA Staff:

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## Your County Committee:

Ken Miltenberger, Chairperson  
Adam Barney, Vice-Chairperson  
Mike Macy, Regular Member  
Brigette Whipple, Regular Member

## County Committee (COC) Election

This year's election will be held in Local Administrative Area (LAA) 1, covering The Confederative Tribes of Warm Springs in Jefferson County. Ballots will be mailed no later than **November 5, 2010**. Please don't forget to sign your ballot return envelope. Ballots must be received by our office no later than 4:30 p.m. on **December 6, 2010**. The following nominee has expressed that she is willing to serve if elected:

### Biographies of Candidate(s)-

**Brigette Whipple** is nominated in LAA-1 covering The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs to serve as COC member for a 3-year term. Brigette resides in the Warm Springs area and has been involved with producing livestock for over 25 years. Brigette is an active member of Metolius Grazing Group and a current member of the County Committee.

## Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP)

Producers who have paid for NAP coverage and suffer a weather related crop loss must notify our office and file a notice of loss within 15 days of the date of the weather event or are aware of the crop damage. An inspection must be performed on any acreage for which the intended use has been changed or for any acreage that will not be taken to harvest prior to destroying or abandoning the crop acreage. Before destroying or replanting the failed acreage producers must file an acreage report for the failed acres.

## USDA Begins Conservation Loan Program

USDA Farm Service Agency State Executive Director, Lynn Voigt, announced the launch of a Conservation Loan (CL) program that will provide farm owners and farm-related business operator's access to credit to implement conservation techniques that conserve natural resources. "This will provide farmers, who want to implement conservation measures on their lands, a chance to do so by providing assistance with their up-front costs," said Voigt. "In return, these producers will help reduce soil erosion, improve water quality and promote sustainable and organic agricultural practices." Direct CLs can be obtained through local Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices with loan limits up to \$300,000. Guaranteed CLs up to \$1,112,000 are available from lenders working with FSA. 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. For more information on the Conservation Loan program, contact a local FSA office or visit the FSA website at [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

## Paper Check Conversion – Over the Counter (PCC –OTC)

Over the next year, FSA/CCC is moving toward an electronic method for processing producers' checks. This will allow FSA/CCC to process collections faster. When producers present checks, either in person or through the mail, the checks will be converted into an Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). The funds will be debited from the producer's account, usually within 24 hours of receipt. Please see the U.S. Department of Treasury legal notices posted in the Service Center or visit the following

U.S. Department of Treasury Internet site for detailed information:

<https://www.pccotc.gov/pccotc/pcc/usingpcc/Legal%20Notices/legalnotices.htm>

**Note:** FSA/CCC will begin this process in the coming months.

<p><b>What is PCC - OTC?</b> PCC – OTC is a process for converting paper checks presented to FSA into electronic debits to the producer's bank account. It presents many benefits, such as reducing lost/misplaced checks and paper handling. This improves customer relations, speeds the check clearing process, and reduces the potential for human error.</p> <p><b>How will my checks be handled?</b> If the check is presented in person, the check will be scanned into the system, voided, and stamped with the words, "Electronically Processed" or "Electronically Presented" and the voided check will be returned to the customer. If the check is mailed to FSA, the check will be scanned into the system and voided. The customer will not receive the check back from FSA. FSA will hold checks for up to 14 calendar days to ensure that the item was successfully processed, and then FSA will shred the check.</p>	<p><b>How quickly will funds be transferred from my account?</b> The transfer of funds from your account could occur within 24 hours. Therefore, you should be sure that you have sufficient funds in your account to process the transaction. If you do <b>not</b> have sufficient funds, we may initiate the transaction again.</p> <p><b>How will this transaction appear on my account statement?</b> The transfer of funds will be reflected on your account statement. The transaction may be recorded in a different place on your statement than where your checks normally appear, such as under "other withdrawals" or "other transactions".</p> <p><b>What are my rights if there is a problem with the transaction?</b> You have protections under Federal law for an unauthorized electronic fund transfer from your account. You should contact your financial institution immediately if you believe that the transaction reported on your account statement was not properly authorized or is otherwise incorrect.</p>
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### **County FSA Office Upcoming Dates To Remember**



2011 NAP deadline for all forage & grazing crops except Oats. All grasses and legumes for seed.	November 30, 2010
2011 Direct & Counter Cyclical (DCP) Advance payments of 22% may be requested by eligible producers starting in December 2010. Contact the county FSA office for more information.	December 1, 2010
2010 Loan Deficiency Program (LDP) for 2010 Wool Production deadline & to submit LDP request	January 31, 2011
2011 NAP application deadline for beans , camelina, mustard, oats, peas, potatoes, pumpkins, safflower, sunflower, squash, tomato, watermelon, broccoli, cantaloupe, corn, cauliflower, cucumber, lentils	March 15, 2011
2011 Direct & Counter Cyclical Program (DCP) contract deadline. Any changes to your farming operation must be submitted to the county office prior to program deadlines.	June 1, 2011
2011 Annual Acreage Reporting FSA-578 report of commodities. Crops must be planted to report. Requirement for most all FSA administered programs. Partial reports not acceptable.	June 30, 2011
2010 Actual Production History (APH) deadline (verifiable evidence of clean weights for crops) compliance with the NAP program, minimum of 4 years production if grown.	June 30, 2011

## Public Financial Management Information Web Page

FMD has established a new public web page to assist customers with their FSA financial reporting needs. Some FSA online services require a USDA Service Center Customer ID and password. This access enables customers to obtain accounts that will allow them to access USDA Web applications and services via the Internet. This includes submitting forms electronically, completing surveys online and checking the status of your USDA accounts. The Internet address for the Financial Management Information web page is <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/fmi>

<p><b>What is the FSA Financial Services website?</b></p> <p>The Farm Service Agency (FSA) Financial Services website allows producers to generate reports that show both current and historical financial information.</p> <p>Registered producers may view summary and detail information about specific payments, collections, outstanding debts (excluding loans) and CCC-1099G.</p> <p>Registered producers may enter their own information to assign a payment to a third party, request that a payment be made jointly to the producer and a third party, or route their program payments to their account at a financial institution.</p> <p><b>Benefits of Website</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Convenient- provides instant access to both current and historical data</li> <li>2. Availability- Financial information is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week</li> <li>3. Improves Customer Service- Provides better customer service and reduces the number of trips made to your local FSA office.</li> <li>4. Identity Security- the website is only available to registered eAuthentication users.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Who is eligible to use the web site?</b></p> <p>Currently, individual producers who have Internet access and have registered for e-Authentication level 2 may use the FSA Financial Inquires website.</p> <p><b>What types of financial inquiries are available?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<b>Payments</b>- provide summary and detailed financial information on payments made by FSA to you.</li> <li>•<b>Collections</b>-shows collections received from you and/or on your behalf, including what program &amp; amount</li> <li>•<b>Debt</b>-shows any outstanding principal owed by you. This does not show loan activity.</li> <li>•<b>CCC- 1099-G</b>-provides summary &amp; detailed information on amounts reported to the IRS.</li> <li>•<b>Customer Account Inquiry</b>- Provides a list of financial activity (payments, collections, and debt)</li> </ul> <p><b>What other Financial Services are available?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<b>Assignments</b> – enter your own assignment of a payment to a third party.</li> <li>•<b>Joint Payment</b>- enter a joint payment election to have your program payment made payable to yourself and a third party.</li> <li>•<b>Direct Deposit</b>- Enter your own bank routing number and account number to have payments made electronically to your bank account.</li> </ul>	<p><b>How does a producer sign-up to use the FSA Financial Services website?</b></p> <p>After a producer has signed up for an e-Authentication Level 2 Account the producer will have access to the Financial Service Website. Producers may sign up for an e-Authentication Level 2 Account on the <a href="http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov">www.eauth.egov.usda.gov</a> website.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To obtain a Level 2 Account you must complete a customer profile and submit it online.</li> <li>2. After submitting your customer profile, you will receive a confirmation email, and you must respond to it within 7 days to activate your account.</li> <li>3. Then you must complete the “Identity Proofing” process by visiting a local USDA Service Center and presenting a photo ID, such as your driver’s license.</li> </ol> <p style="text-align: center;">Register today!</p>
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**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
CENTRAL OREGON FARM SERVICE AGENCY  
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REDMOND, OR 97756-9580

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## **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 average size

Each member of an entity must meet the eligibility requirements. Loan approval is not guaranteed. 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)

## **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 \$5000. For loan questions in the Central Oregon area please contact the Salem FSA office at 503-399-5741 ext 2.

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## **Special Accommodations**

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FSA programs are available to all eligible interested persons. Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required please contact the FSA office.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs 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 programs. (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 Adjudication and Compliance, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202)-720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.