



**USDA - FARM SERVICE AGENCY – DOUGLAS COUNTY**



2593 NW Kline St  
Roseburg OR 97471  
[www.fsa.usda.gov/or](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/or)

**COUNTY COMMITTEE**

Mike Ritchie, Chair      Gerald Briggs, Vice Chair      Paul Santos, Member      Marilyn Manfrina-Burke, Advisor

**OFFICE STAFF:**

Jean A Larkin, Acting County Exec Director, X104	<a href="mailto:jean.larkin@or.usda.gov">jean.larkin@or.usda.gov</a>	<b>Voice:</b> 541.673.6071 Ext 2
Jim Jutson, Farm Loan Manager, X108	<a href="mailto:jim.jutson@or.usa.gov">jim.jutson@or.usa.gov</a>	<b>FAX:</b> 541.672.3818
Tyree Koester, Program Tech, X100	<a href="mailto:tyree.koester@or.usda.gov">tyree.koester@or.usda.gov</a>	<b>Office Hours:</b>
Dana Mahlberg, Program Tech, X117	<a href="mailto:dana.mahlberg@or.usda.gov">dana.mahlberg@or.usda.gov</a>	Monday – Friday
Mandie Ellenwood, Program Tech, X115	<a href="mailto:mandie.ellenwood@or.usda.gov">mandie.ellenwood@or.usda.gov</a>	8:00 am – 4:30 pm

**October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month      Issue Date: October 1, 2010**

**We're on the move...**

Our Service Center will be moving to a **new office site the week of September 27-29, 2010.** Because we will be packing and unpacking, there will be limited (if any) services available September 24 – October 1. If you will need our assistance during this time, contact us prior to the 24<sup>th</sup>. Phone, FAX and computer service will not be available during this time. We hope to be up and running on October 4. Please be patient with us!

New office info:      Same phone, FAX, and phone extension numbers.  
Same Office hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

**2593 NW Kline St  
Roseburg, OR 97471      The new office is two blocks to the east of the old office site.**

**SERVICE CENTER OPEN HOUSE – NOVEMBER 4**

We are celebrating our new office space by hosting an **Open House** for all. Stop by to see our new office, meet the staff, and have refreshments.



**Thursday November 4      1:00 – 4:00 pm**

**COMMITTEE ELECTIONS: BALLOTS DUE DECEMBER 6, 2010**

One candidate has been nominated for the Douglas FSA Committee election. Ballots will be mailed to known eligible voters the first week of November. You will be voting for one person to fill Local Administrative Area (LAA) One. The area includes the NW area of the county including Reedsport, Elkton and areas west of I-5. A map of the area is posted in our office. If your primary agriculture interest is in this area and you believe you should have received a ballot but didn't, call our office.

**VOTE FOR ONLY ONE** (you may also vote for a write-in candidate) and **SIGN THE BALLOT RETURN ENVELOPE** where indicated. **UNSIGNED BALLOTS ARE NOT VALID.** If you are voting as a representative of an entity, you must have signature authority and include the **BY** or **FOR** in your signature. Spouses cannot sign for each other.

Mail your ballot back or drop it by our office by 4:30 pm on Dec 6th. Ballots will be counted at the December 10 COC meeting. To assist you in voting, the following is a short biography of this year's candidate; he has indicated that he is willing to serve if elected.

**JACK LAURANCE** is a long time resident of Old Melrose Road out of Roseburg. Prior to 2005 he operated Laurance's Gardens fruit stand. He currently grows and sells hay.

**The FSA office is currently being managed by Jean Larkin, Manager for the Lane Co FSA office in Eugene. This is a temporary arrangement possibly through July 2011 when the COC will again attempt to hire a full-time Manager for the Douglas Co FSA office. Until then, stop by to meet Jean... she's in the Roseburg office 2-3 days per week and looks forward to meeting the people of Douglas.**

**NEW CONSERVATION LOAN PROGRAM** – This is a great opportunity for you to fund conservation projects

The Conservation Loan (CL) Program was recently announced by the Secretary of Ag Tom Vilsack. The purpose of the program is to help finance conservation measures based on an approved NRCS conservation plan. There will be \$75 million available for direct Conservation Loans and \$75 million for guaranteed Conservation Loans for use by the end of Fiscal Year 2010. Loans can be obligated this Fiscal Year and closed in the following year. Since time is so short this year, only those applicants with conservation projects ready to go with an approved NRCS conservation plan could possibly use this year's funding. Funding for next year is expected to be similar.

The test for credit and family sized farming operation requirements do not apply for Conservation Loans. Conservation projects could be totally financed upfront and any cost share received would be applied as an extra payment to the CL loan. Normal loan limits apply. Typically real estate would be taken as security for a CL loan. **More information is available at our office from Jim Jutson (Ext 108) or Dana Mahlberg (Ext 117).**

**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.

**What is PCC - OTC?**

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.

**How will my checks be handled?**

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.

**How quickly will funds be transferred from my account?**

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 **not** have sufficient funds, we may initiate the transaction again.

**How will this transaction appear on my account statement?**

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".

**What are my rights if there is a problem with the transaction?**

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.

PAYMENTS FOR 2010 CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP) AND DIRECT & COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENT (DCP) PROGRAM WILL BE MADE THE FIRST PART OF OCTOBER. CHECK YOUR DIRECT DEPOSIT ACCOUNT TO VERIFY YOU HAVE RECEIVED YOUR EARNED PAYMENTS.

**CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP) Call Tyree w/ questions 541.673.6071 x100**

CREP is a jointly funded program by the federal government and the State of Oregon. Program objectives include: reducing sediment and nutrient pollution from Ag lands, stabilizing stream banks with adequate vegetation, reducing water temperatures, improving habitat for fish species, and providing a mechanism for farmers to help meet water quality requirements established by federal and state laws.



FSA provides participants with annual rental payments for the life of the contract and cost sharing on practice installation. There are also incentive payments based on the cost of establishing the practice. The program targets the use of Riparian Buffers, Wetland Restoration, Wildlife Habitat Buffers, and Wetland Buffers to meet the objective of the program.

Ag landowners can enroll eligible riparian lands into a 10 to 15-year CREP Contract. CREP is a continuous sign-up program and are not ranked.

**Turn Your Natural Resource Problems into Opportunities**

The USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Douglas Soil & Water Conservation District and the Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District offer natural resource technical planning and financial incentive assistance to landowners of Douglas County. To learn more about services and programs you can access information anytime online at <http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov>. You can also contact these conservation offices at NRCS 541.673.6071 ext. 3; Douglas SWCD at 541.957.5061; or Umpqua SWCD at 541.271.2611.

**PRICE SUPPORT FOR PRODUCERS OF WOOL AND MOHAIR**

The purpose of the **loan deficiency payment (LDP)** program is to financially support producers when market prices fall below a set loan rate. The difference between the loan rate and the actual market price equals a payment rate available to producers if they forgo a loan on the commodity. If you have sheared any wool or mohair since January 1, 2010 you may be eligible for a cash payment based on the pounds of wool or mohair. Rates are in effect for graded and non-graded wool. Mohair only has one rate. **Deadline to apply for 2010 wool, mohair, and unshorn lamb pelts is January 31, 2011.**

**NON-INSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)** is available for all crops not covered under Federal Crop Insurance. NAP provides catastrophic level of coverage (50% yield / 55% price) to crops damaged by the eligible weather events that occur before or during harvest. Fees are \$250/crop, maximum of \$750/county, and a maximum of \$1875/multi County.

**October 1, 2010** Asparagus, garlic, mint, hops, meadowfoam, sugarbeet, triticale grain

**November 20, 2010** Apples, apricots, blueberries, caneberries, chestnuts, cherries, cranberries, grapes, hazelnuts, honey, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, prunes, strawberries, walnuts

**November 30, 2010** All forage and grazing crops except oats. All grasses and legumes for seed

**March 15, 2011** Beans, broccoli, camelina, cantaloupe, cauliflower, corn, cucumber, lentils, mustard, oats, peas, potatoes, pumpkin, safflower, sunflower, squash, tomato, watermelon

**May 15, 2011** Buckwheat

**Sign up for eGov, to conduct business with FSA. Go to <http://www.sc.egov.usda.gov> and use your home computer to file forms, apply for programs, check contracts and view your Customer Statement or payment history. All you need is Level 2 eAuthorization, a valid email account and your home computer. Contact us for more details.**

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**CONSERVATION COMPLIANCE** All participants in USDA programs are required to have a conservation system in place on all highly erodible land (HEL) they operate. Compliance problems can arise with a conservation system when: renting new cropland, purchasing new land, breaking out additional cropland, planting different crops, and changing or removing existing conservation practices.

Also, it is very important that you contact our office before modifying - tiling, draining, dredging, filling, or leveling - any wetland (WL) or drainage ditch. Failure to obtain advance approval for any of these situations can result in loss of all Federal payments and eligibility.

**CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES** Any person who is convicted under federal law of planting, producing, cultivating, harvesting, growing, or storing a controlled substance will be ineligible to participate and receive payments under USDA programs. Marijuana, opium poppies, and other drug producing plants are controlled substances. (7 CFR part 718.6)

**PROOF OF OWNERSHIP REQUIRED FOR LAND OWNERSHIP CHANGES** An owner is an individual or entity who has legal ownership of farmland, including individuals or entities that are any of the following: 1) buying farmland under a contract for deed; 2) retaining a life estate; 3) purchasing a farm in foreclosure; 4) spouses owning property jointly.

Proof of ownership must be provided when land ownership is transferred. Proof of ownership may include the following: a) copy of deed, if recorded; b) land contract; c) real estate tax assessment or bill.

**LAND RENTAL CHANGES** In order to be added to a farm on FSA records for program purposes, you **MUST** provide a copy of a lease or a signed statement from the land owner.

**UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER**

Sept 24-Oct 1	Office Move, Arrange for services before or after these dates
October	Celebrate National Disability Awareness Month
Oct 1, Nov 20 & 30	NAP crop policy purchase deadlines
October 11	Office closed, Columbus Day Holiday
October 19, 9:00 am	County Comm. meeting, call to confirm meeting is being held
November 4, 1 – 4 pm	<b>OPEN HOUSE, come and see the new office!</b>
November 11	Office closed, Veterans Day Holiday
November 25	Office closed, Thanksgiving Holiday
January 31, 2011	Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP) enrollment deadline for 2010 wool, mohair, pelts
Ongoing	Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) enrollment

