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Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

NEWSLETTER

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- [Deadline Approaches for Continuous Conservation Reserve Program Enrollment](#)
- [Removing CCC Loan Collateral](#)
- [FSA Reminds Producers of Approaching NAP Deadlines for 2019 Crops](#)
- [2018 Acreage Reporting Dates](#)
- [Submit Loan Requests for Financing Early](#)
- [Dates to Remember](#)

Ohio FSA State Newsletter

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**Production Adjustment,
Compliance and Risk**

Deadline Approaches for Continuous Conservation Reserve Program Enrollment

Producers Must File by August 17, One-Year Extension Available to Holders of Many Expiring Contracts

The deadline to sign up for enrollment in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is Friday, Aug. 17, 2018.

In return for enrolling land in CRP, FSA provides participants with annual rental payments and cost-share assistance to remove sensitive lands from production and plant certain grasses, shrubs and trees that improve water quality, prevent soil erosion and increase wildlife habitat. Landowners enter into contracts that last between 10 and 15 years.

For this year's signup, limited priority practices are available for continuous enrollment. These include grassed waterways, filter strips, riparian buffers, wetland restoration and others. [View a full list of practices.](#)

Management Chief:
Matt Kleski

FSA will use [updated soil rental rates](#) to make annual rental payments, reflecting current values. It will not offer incentive payments as part of the new signup.

State Committee Members:

Trish Levering, Chair
Ronnie Clifton
Daryl Knipp
Chase Powell
Joe Steiner

USDA will not open a general signup this year, however, a one-year extension will be offered to existing CRP participants with expiring CRP contracts of 14 years or less.

Visit the Ohio FSA website for additional information at:

www.fsa.usda.gov/oh

Additionally, FSA established new [ranking criteria](#) for CRP grasslands. To guarantee all CRP grasslands offers are treated equally, applicants who previously applied (prior to the current sign-up period) will be asked to reapply using the new ranking criteria.

Please contact your [FSA County Office](#) for questions specific to your operation.

Producers wanting to apply for the CRP continuous signup or CRP grasslands should contact their [County FSA office](#).

[Current FSA Farm Loan Interest Rates](#)

[Current Commodity Credit Corporation \(CCC\) Interest Rates](#)

Removing CCC Loan Collateral

Producers are reminded, if you have grain under Commodity Credit Corporation loan it cannot be removed or disposed of without prior county office staff authorization or repayment. The county office staff may issue release authorizations based on a telephone or in person request when you are ready to move the grain. A loan violation is subject to monetary and administrative penalties, such as repaying the loan at principal plus interest, liquidated damages, calling the loan and denial of future farm-stored loans and loan deficiency payments.

All commodity loans are subject to spot check. Locking in a market loan repayment rate is not a marketing authorization. If you are planning to move CCC loan grain, call your [County FSA office](#), before you HAUL!

FSA Reminds Producers of Approaching NAP Deadlines for 2019 Crops

The FSA reminds producers who are interested in the 2019 Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), of the need to apply for coverage by the following crop deadline dates.

- **August 31, 2018** is the deadline for 2019 NAP coverage on value loss crops such as for aquaculture, Christmas trees, floriculture, ginseng, mushrooms, turfgrass sod and watercress.
- **September 4, 2018** is the deadline for 2019 NAP coverage on nursery and ornamental nursery.
- **October 1, 2018** is the deadline for 2019 NAP coverage on winter wheat, rye, barley and speltz.
- **November 20, 2018** is the deadline for 2019 NAP coverage on apples, asparagus, blueberries, caneberries, cherries, chestnuts, forage for hay and pasture, grapes, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, strawberries, honey, maple sap and hops. NOTE: Hops is a perennial crop and the application deadline moved from spring to fall for coverage.
- **March 15, 2019** is the deadline for 2019 NAP coverage on forage sorghum, oats, potatoes, Soybeans, Sunflowers and all spring planted specialty crops grown for food.

The program offers coverage at 55 percent of the average market price for crop losses that exceed 50 percent of expected production. Eligible producers can apply for 2019 NAP coverage at their local FSA Office using form CCC-471, Application for Coverage. The service fee for basic NAP coverage is the lesser of \$250 per crop or \$750 per producer per administrative county, not to exceed a total of \$1,875 for a producer with farming interest in multiple counties.

To help producers learn more about the NAP program and how it can help them, USDA, offers an online Web tool at www.fsa.usda.gov/nap. The webtool allows producers to determine whether their crops are eligible for coverage and gives producers an opportunity to explore a variety of options and levels to determine the best protection level for their operation.

For more information on NAP coverage or obtain coverage, please contact your [FSA County office](#).

2018 Acreage Reporting Dates

In order to comply with FSA program eligibility requirements, all producers are encouraged to visit their County FSA office to file an accurate crop certification report by the applicable deadline.

The following acreage reporting dates are applicable for Ohio:

Aug. 15, 2018 --- Report Cabbage (Planted 6/1/18-7/20/18).

Sept. 30, 2018 --- Report Aquaculture.

Nov. 15, 2018 --- Report Perennial Forage Crops.

Dec. 15, 2018 --- Fall Barley, Fall Wheat, and all other Fall-Seeded Small Grains.

The following exceptions apply to the above acreage reporting dates:

- If the crop has not been planted by the above acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after planting is completed.
- If a producer acquires additional acreage after the above acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendar days after purchase or acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county office.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy holders should note that the acreage reporting date for NAP covered crops is the earlier of the dates listed above or 15 calendar days before grazing or harvesting of the crop begins.

For questions regarding crop certification and crop loss reports, please contact your [County FSA office](#).

Submit Loan Requests for Financing Early

FSA offers a wide range of low-interest loans that can meet the financial needs of any farm operation for just about any purpose. The traditional farm operating and farm ownership loans can help large and small farm operations take advantage of early purchasing discounts for spring inputs as well expenses throughout the year.

Microloans are a simplified loan program that will provide up to \$50,000 to eligible applicants. These loans, targeted for smaller operations and non-traditional operations, can be used for operating expenses, starting a new agricultural enterprise, purchasing equipment, and other needs associated with a farming operation. The staff can provide more details on farm operating and microloans and provide loan applications. Loans to beginning farmers and members of underserved groups are a priority.

Other types of loans available include:

Marketing Assistance Loans allow producers to use eligible commodities as loan collateral and obtain a 9-month loan while the crop is in storage. These loans provide cash flow to the producer and allow them to market the crop when prices may be more advantageous.

Farm Storage Facility Loans can be used to build permanent structures used to store eligible commodities, or for storage and handling trucks, or portable or permanent handling equipment. A variety of structures are eligible under this loan, including bunker silos, grain bins, hay storage structures and refrigerated structures for vegetables and fruit. A producer may borrow up to \$500,000 per loan.

Please call your [FSA County office](#) if you have questions about any of the loans available through FSA.

Dates to Remember

Aug. 17 --- 2018 CRP Transition Incentives Program (TIP) Enrollment application deadline.

Aug. 17 --- 2018 CRP Continuous Enrollment signup deadline.

Aug. 31 --- Deadline to obtain 2019 NAP coverage for Aquaculture, Christmas trees, Floriculture, Ginseng, Mushrooms, Turf grass Sod and Watercress.

Sept. 3 ---- Labor Day Holiday. **FSA Offices Closed.**

Sept. 4 ---- Deadline to obtain 2019 NAP coverage for Nursery and Ornamental Nursery.

Oct. 1 ----- Deadline to obtain 2019 NAP coverage for Winter Wheat, Rye, Barley and Speltz.

Oct. 8 ----- Columbus Day Holiday. **FSA Offices Closed.**

Nov. 5 ---- County committee ballots mailed to voters.

Nov. 12 --- Veterans Day Holiday. **FSA Offices Closed.**

Nov. 15 --- The final acreage reporting deadline for perennial forage crops.

Nov. 20 --- **Last day to apply** for coverage for asparagus, blueberries, caneberries, cherries, chestnuts, forage for hay and pasture, grapes, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, strawberries, honey, hops and maple syrup.

Nov. 22 --- Thanksgiving Day Holiday. **FSA Offices Closed.**

Dec. 3 ----- **Last day** to return voted Ballots in county committee election.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).