

January 2018



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

BULLETIN

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New Castle County FSA Updates

New Castle County FSA Office

2430 Old County Road
Newark, DE 19702

Phone: 302-832-3100
Fax: 855-401-6678

Program Technician:
Jamie Timson

County Committee:
Linda Brown - Chair

R Lee Emerson II - Vice Chair

Fred Stites - Member

County Executive Director:
Maryann Reed

Farm Loan Specialist:
Colleen Reed

New Castle County Office Hours - *NEW*

Staff is available to assist you in the **New Castle County FSA office** on **Wednesday and Thursday** each week. On Monday, Tuesday, and Friday, please call or visit the Kent County office for assistance.

To help us serve you better, we ask all producers to call the office before you visit so we can have your paperwork ready. Appointments are encouraged during busy periods.

Our mission is to serve you professionally, efficiently, equitably, and in a manner that is customer, taxpayer, and employee friendly. You are important to us! Please contact your local Farm Service Agency staff at either of the following locations:

New Castle County FSA Office

2430 Old County Road, Newark, Delaware

302-832-3100, extension 2

Kent County FSA Office

800 S. Bay Road, Dover, Delaware

Farm Loan Officer: 302-741-2600, extension 2

Corinne Russell

Farm Loan Officer Trainee:

Carrie Hudson

Important Dates

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices will be **closed on Monday, February 19, 2018** in observance of Presidents' Day.

New Castle County Farm Service Agency Announces County Committee Election Results

New Castle County U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) announced that County Committee elections are over and the ballots have been counted.

Linda Brown of Newark was elected to represent local administrative area (LAA) 1, Linda will be serving her 3rd term on the New Castle County Committee.

County Committee members are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA. They help deliver programs at the county level and work to serve the needs of local producers. All recently elected County Committee members will take office in January 2018, and will be joining the existing committee. Every FSA office is required to have a County Committee, and they are made up of local farmers who are elected by local farmers.

Nearly 7,800 FSA County Committee members serve FSA offices nationwide. Each committee has three to 11 elected members who serve three-year terms of office. One-third of County Committee seats are up for election each year. County Committee members impact the administration of FSA within a community by applying their knowledge and judgment to help FSA make important decisions on its commodity support programs, conservation programs, indemnity and disaster programs, emergency programs and eligibility.

County Committee members impact producers through their decision making and help shape the culture of a local FSA office. They also ensure the fair and equitable administration of FSA farm programs in their counties and are accountable to the Secretary of Agriculture. Members conduct hearings and reviews as requested by the State Committee, ensure socially disadvantaged (SDA) farmers and ranchers are fairly represented, make recommendations to the State Committee on existing programs, monitor changes in farm programs and inform farmers of the purpose and provisions of FSA programs. They also assist with outreach and inform underserved producers such as beginning farmers and ranchers about FSA opportunities.

For more information, visit the FSA website at www.fsa.usda.gov/elections or contact the New Castle County FSA office at 302-832-3100.

USDA Farm Service Agency Offers Text Alerts to New Castle County Producers

Subscribers Can Receive Important Program Reminders and Updates

New Castle County USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Executive Director Maryann Reed announced that farmers and ranchers in Delaware now can receive notifications from their county office through text messages on their cell phone.

Whether producers are in the field, on a tractor or even on horseback, this service enables FSA customers and stakeholders to receive notifications while on the go. Producers will receive text messages regarding important program deadlines, reporting requirements, outreach events and updates.

Producers can text **DENEWCATTLE** to FSANOW (372-669) to subscribe to text message alerts from New Castle County. Standard text messaging rates apply. Contact your wireless carrier for details associated with your particular data plan. Participants may unsubscribe at any time.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Maryann Reed at 302-832-3100 extension 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.
