

In This Issue:

- [From the State Executive Director](#)
- [West Virginia State Fair](#)
- [Applying for Farm Storage Facility Loans](#)
- [USDA Opens People's Garden Initiative to Gardens Nationwide](#)

From the State Executive Director

Hay and vegetable season is winding down throughout the state and fields of corn, soybeans and orchard of apples are awaiting the fall harvest.

Farmers put so much at risk to bring their crops to the table.

Farm Service Agency and its sister agency, Risk Management Agency, provide options to help farmers manage the risk for their operations.

Crop insurance is available through RMA and local insurance representatives for field crops and FSA offers Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage.

The NAP sign-up period for 2023 crops has begun. September 30th is the deadline for perennial grasses, alfalfa, clover, and mixed forages; all small grains; and values loss crops such as aquaculture, Christmas trees, and mushrooms. NAP is a risk management tool for crops not covered through federal crop insurance in your county.

For more information contact your local FSA office.

Sincerely,

John Perdue



West Virginia State Fair



The USDA booth at the West Virginia State Fair was a great success! During the 10 days of the fair over 170,000 people attended.

There was a lot of interest in FSA and NRCS programs and we spoke with lots of you about how FSA and NRCS can help you and your farming operations.

We loved the opportunity to talk with you about your operations and answer your questions.

We will be out at many local fairs throughout the year. If you see us at your local fair please stop in.

Applying for Farm Storage Facility Loans



The Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program provides low-interest financing to help you build or upgrade storage facilities and to purchase portable (new or used) structures, equipment and storage and handling trucks.

Eligible commodities include corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, oats, peanuts, wheat, barley, minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain, pulse crops (lentils, chickpeas and dry peas), hay, honey, renewable biomass, fruits, nuts and vegetables for cold storage facilities, floriculture, hops, maple sap and syrup, rye, milk, cheese, butter, yogurt, meat and poultry (unprocessed), eggs, and aquaculture (excluding systems that maintain live animals through uptake and discharge of water). Qualified facilities include grain bins, hay barns and cold storage facilities for eligible commodities.

Loans up to \$50,000 can be secured by a promissory note/security agreement, loans between \$50,000 and \$100,000 may require additional security, and loans exceeding \$100,000 require additional security.

You do not need to demonstrate the lack of commercial credit availability to apply. The loans are designed to assist a diverse range of farming operations, including small and mid-sized businesses, new farmers, operations supplying local food and farmers markets, non-traditional farm products, and underserved producers.

For more information, contact your local USDA Service Center or visit fsa.usda.gov/pricesupport.

USDA Opens People's Garden Initiative to Gardens Nationwide



USDA is expanding its People's Garden Initiative to include eligible gardens nationwide. School gardens, community gardens, urban farms, and small-scale agriculture projects in rural, suburban and urban areas can be recognized as a "People's Garden" if they register on the USDA website and meet criteria including benefitting the community, working collaboratively, incorporating conservation practices and educating the public. Affiliate People's Garden locations will be indicated on a map on the USDA website, featured in USDA communications, and provided with a People's Garden sign. [<link to release>](#).