



Disaster 2011

**U.S. Department of
Agriculture**

**Dutchess/Putnam/Ulster/
Westchester County FSA**

2715 Route 44
Millbrook, NY 12545

Phone:
845-677-3952 Opt. 2
Fax:
845-677-8354

Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**ATTENTION
PRODUCERS!!**

To better serve you we ask if you are coming in for paperwork or have interest in any of the programs please call the office to let us know you are coming or to make an appointment.
845-677-3952 Opt. 2

Thank you

Disaster programs available through FSA to help cope with the effects of Hurricane Irene

Hurricane Irene certainly has caused many wide-spread problems in our area, and we are all working towards helping each other through this crisis. Please make sure you are taking pictures of your damage and keeping records of your damage, loss, and expected cost to repair or replace what was damaged. Call us to report any damage as soon as you notice it. We hope everyone remains safe and we look forward to working with you.

Your FSA Staff,
Laura & Cindy

Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) - ECP provides funding for farmers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by wind erosion, floods, hurricanes, or other natural disasters.

- Eligible practices: Removing debris; grading, shaping or releveling damaged farmland; and restoring permanent fences and conservations structures that existed before the flood.
- Producers may receive 75% of the eligible cost to restore the damage.
- Contact the office to submit an application. An onsite inspection is usually required.
- Program availability is subject to the availability of funding but funds have been requested.

TREE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP)

TAP provides help to commercial orchardists and nursery tree growers to replant or rehabilitate trees, bushes and vines damaged or destroyed by natural disasters. Christmas tree and nursery tree growers are eligible for TAP. Trees grown for pulp or timber are not eligible. Eligible producers must have suffered more than a 15 percent death loss due to the natural disaster after adjustment for normal mortality. TAP is a cost-reimbursement program, with payments covering up to 70 percent of replant costs and 50 percent of pruning, removal and other salvaging costs for replacing or salvaging damaged trees. Producers can receive assistance for up to 500 acres of trees, bushes or vines. *Producers must have crop insurance or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP).* To apply for TAP benefits, applicants must file application in our office and provide supporting documentation **within 90 calendar days** from the occurrence of the disaster event.

Emergency Loans

FSA has two types of Emergency Loans – A **Physical loss loan** for repair and/or replacement of essential buildings; equipment; perennial crops such as fruit trees and vines; foundation livestock and stored crops.

A **Production loss loan** on annual crops is available if: the disaster year yield is at least 30 percent below the normal (3 year) production yield of the crop. Production loss loans may be used to pay operating bills, refinance loans, replace working capital, pay certain annual installments, and family living expenses.

Federal Statute prohibits FSA from making a loan to applicants who can obtain credit elsewhere. If your primary lender is unable to assist you, the FSA Loan Team may be able to help you with our Emergency (EM) or other loan programs. Normal eligibility and feasibility requirements still apply to EM loans.

Applicants must be: a US Citizen or green/blue card holder; an operator of a family farm and provide the majority of labor and day to day operational decisions; intend to continue farming; and possess a satisfactory credit history. Applicants must have had a standard hazard insurance policy in force at the time of the disaster covering all insurable real estate and chattel property.

FSA Emergency Loans can't exceed the lower amount of the calculated loss or \$500,000. The current EM actual loss loan interest rate is 3.75%. Loan terms are based on the useful life of the loan security, the applicant's repayment ability, and the type of loss.

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

Livestock that died in excess of normal mortality, as a direct result of Hurricane Irene and/or subsequent flooding may be eligible for compensation through the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP).

Eligible livestock must have died before October 1, 2011. Eligible livestock:

- Must be owned by an eligible livestock owner on the day the livestock died and maintained for commercial use.
- The livestock deaths must be as a direct result of the eligible adverse weather condition.
- Animals maintained for pets, show, pleasure, or recreational purposes, are not eligible for LIP.

LIP applications must be filed **within 30 calendar days of the livestock's death**.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

NAP covers non FCIC insurable crop losses caused by natural disasters. For those producers who purchased 2011 NAP coverage and have experienced crop losses, you should immediately file a notice of loss with the office. The deadline is 15 days from the date of the disaster or when the loss becomes apparent. DO NOT destroy any crop acreage until you have notified FSA and have requested an appraisal on your unharvested crop acres. To complete your loss claim you will need to provide FSA with records of your 2011 harvested production. After the appraisal and harvest ends, producers will apply for payment.

The deadlines to purchase 2012 crop NAP protection are fast approaching. September 30 is the deadline for HAY crops and November 20 is the deadline for most fruit crops. Cost for NAP is \$250.00 per crop not to exceed \$750.00 per producer per county.

Emergency Assistance for Livestock Program (ELAP)

Producers who suffered losses of livestock feed (purchased feed, mechanically harvested feed or loss of pasture) due to events created by Hurricane Irene could be eligible for compensation through ELAP.

Payments on eligible feed losses may be issued for loss of purchased feed or mechanically harvested feed. Additional feed purchased to compensate for disaster-loss feed and additional costs incurred to transport feed to the eligible livestock during and after the disaster may also qualify. Producers cannot be paid on both grazing losses and losses due to additional feed purchased.

To be eligible, producers must have purchased crop insurance or Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on all crops grown on their farm. (beginning farmers, limited resource producers and Socially Disadvantaged groups are not required to meet this criteria and grazing is not required to be covered).

Producers need to file a notice of loss the earlier of 30 calendar days from when the loss was apparent or October 31, 2011. Application for payments must be received by January 30, 2012.

Farmers need to provide proof of what feed was lost. Payment is based on the cost of replacing this feed.

Losses to farm raised fish and honey bees are also eligible under ELAP

Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP)

EFRP provides payments to eligible owners of nonindustrial private forest land (NPFL) in order to carry out measures to restore disaster damaged land. To be eligible, forest land must:

- Have existing tree cover (or had tree cover immediately before the natural disaster occurred and is suitable for growing trees); and
- Be owned by any nonindustrial private individual, group, association, corporation, or other private legal entity, that has definitive decision-making authority over the land.

In addition, the natural disaster must have resulted in damage that if untreated would:

- Impair or endanger the natural resources on the land; and,
- Materially affect future use of the land.

EFRP program participants may receive financial assistance of up to 75 percent of the cost to implement approved emergency forest restoration practices.

Funding for this program has been requested. Call the office for details.