

Ties to the Land Newsletter

October-December 2013



**Racine/Kenosha/Milwaukee
FSA Office**
1012 Vine St.
Union Grove, WI 53182
262-878-3353



FSA's FAX NUMBER IS CHANGING

In an effort to save on costs, FSA is implementing a new system for sending and receiving faxed documents. While changes will be made internally within FSA, the only change that affects you, our customer, is the number that you will use when faxing us documents.

Effective immediately, please send all faxes for the Racine Kenosha Milwaukee Farm Service Agency (FSA) to our office using the following toll-free number 1-855-813-6651.

If you have any questions, please contact our office.

REMINDER: FALL ACREAGE REPORTING DEADLINE NOVEMBER 15TH!

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) would like to remind producers of new deadlines for submitting their annual report of acreage to local FSA county offices.

Producers of perennial forage crops, such as grass, hay, alfalfa, and pasture, as well as winter wheat and any other fall-seeded grains must submit a 2014 acreage report for those crops by Nov. 15, 2013. This date coincides with the deadline for these crops to be reported to your crop insurance agent when carrying federal crop insurance.

TABLE OF CONTENTS	
Farm Service Agency	
FSA's Fax Number is Changing	1
Reminder: Fall Acreage Reporting Deadline Nov. 15	1
Upcoming NAP Deadlines	2
Adding Tile/Removing Trees?	2
Kenosha County Land Conservation	
FEMA Rating System	3
Flood Hazard Areas	3
Racine County Land Conservation	
Wildlife Damage Program	4
Grass Waterways	4
Deer Donation Program	4
CREP	4
Rural Landowner Brochure	
	5-6
Natural Resources Conservation Service	
Equip Sign-Up Deadline	7
Wetlands Determination	7
UW Cooperative Extension	
Farm Transitions Survey	7

In prior years, reports for these crops were not due to FSA until later in the spring and summer.

ACREAGE REPORTING, Continued

This change is part of an initiative at the national level to align acreage reporting dates between FSA and Risk Management Agency (RMA) and reduce the crop reporting burden on producers.

All acreage must be reported for a farm, including crops on non-cropland such as hayed or grazed grassland. It is also important to accurately report crops' intended use. Intended use is used to determine eligibility in many FSA programs and cannot be revised once reported.

Producers should contact the FSA office if they are uncertain about reporting deadlines. In order to meet FSA program eligibility requirements, producers must submit timely acreage reports. Reports filed after the established deadlines must meet certain requirements to be accepted and may be charged late fees.

For more information on FSA crop reporting requirements, contact the FSA office at 262-878-3353.

UPCOMING NON-INSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM DEADLINES

FSA reminds producers interested in participating in the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) of the upcoming application deadline dates that must be met for NAP qualification.

NAP is designed to cover losses caused by damaging weather conditions. If losses are in excess of 50 percent, payment would be received. Losses are generally determined by the percentage of loss compared to the producer's actual yield history. Eligible production losses are paid at 55 percent of the established value for the crop.

Application deadline dates for specific NAP qualifying crops are listed.


- The application deadline date for the 2014 NAP coverage for "value loss" crops such as

ginseng, turf grass sod, Christmas trees, aquaculture, floriculture, and mushrooms is September 1, 2013.

- The deadline date for forage crops, including most spring planted forages and pasture land forages not covered by federal crop insurance, is September 30, 2013.
- September 30, 2013 is the application closing date for winter and spring plantings of wheat, barley, rye, triticale and mint.
- Perennial crop deadlines on fruit and other crops such as apples, pears, blueberries, strawberries, grapes, honey, maple sap, asparagus and other perennial fruits is November 20, 2013.

Producers with NAP coverage must remember to timely file acreage reports and or inventories, and keep track of harvested production using acceptable methods. A "Notice of Loss" must also be filed within 15 days of when a loss is apparent, due to drought, hail, flood, etc. to qualify for NAP.

Producers interested in NAP are encouraged to contact Angie at the FSA office to obtain coverage or for additional information on NAP prior to the above deadline dates.



Are you thinking about removing some trees or fixing/adding some drain tile?

Now is the time to call the FSA office and fill out an AD-1026 form for authorization. Help maintain your eligibility for USDA benefits!
262-878-3353



FEMA Welcomes Kenosha County to the Community Rating System

Residents and business owners in the unincorporated areas of Kenosha County can now enjoy a reduction in flood insurance premiums because of the county's active participation in the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS). In addition to lower premiums, the CRS program helps to reduce the threat of damage due to flooding.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has verified that the voluntary actions undertaken by Kenosha County has exceeded the minimum standards of the NFIP and meet the criteria for a CRS Class 5 rating. The floodplain management activities implemented by Kenosha County qualify it for a 25 percent discount in the premium cost of flood insurance for NFIP policies issued or renewed in Special Flood Hazard Areas on or after May 1, 2013. This savings is a tangible result of the flood mitigation activities Kenosha County has implemented to protect lives and reduce property damage.

The Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary program for communities participating in the NFIP. The intended goals of the program are to reduce flood losses, facilitate accurate insurance ratings, and to promote the awareness of flood insurance. For more information on the NFIP's Community Rating System program go to <http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/crs.shtm>



Kenosha County's floodplain management staff has worked hard to insure that Kenosha County's participation in the program pays off. In addition to the reduction in insurance premiums, local officials are more knowledgeable about floodplain management and its residents are more knowledgeable about mitigation and flood insurance. The CRS program helps to make

Kenosha County a safer place to live, reduces the economic impact of flood hazards and saves citizens money on flood policy premiums.

Flood Hazard Areas

There are approximately 11,137 acres of land within the 100-year floodplain of the unincorporated areas of Kenosha County. Most flood events in Kenosha County are gradual - caused by excessive rain or snow. Although we suffered drought conditions in 2012 - the floods of 2007, 2008, and 2013 are a steady reminders that high water events occur much too often. In 2008 the Fox River reached an historic crest of over 15-feet, closing HWY 50. You should know if you are at risk. You can check on the Special Flood Hazard Areas in your neighborhood by looking at the Flood Insurance Rate Maps at FEMA's Map Service Center:



<http://msc.fema.gov> or visiting the Kenosha County Interactive mapping website at <http://www.kenoshacounty.org/index.aspx?NID=673>

The Kenosha County Interactive Mapping System also offers the following types of data: Parcels, Topography, Public Land Survey Information, Roads, Water Bodies, Zoning, Soils, Wetlands, Floodplain and Shoreland, and Aerial Photography dating back to 1937!!

Information on whether your property is in the 100-year floodplain can also be obtained by coming into the Department of Planning and Development. Maps are available to look at as well as other flood-related information or contact the Department of Planning and Development at 262-857-1895 for further assistance.

Natural & Beneficial Functions

Floodplains that are relatively undisturbed provide a wide range of benefits to both human and natural systems. Floodplains give a river system the wiggle room to naturally meander across the landscape providing natural erosion control and open space so further flooding damage does not occur. These benefits provide aesthetic pleasure as well as function to provide active processes such as filtering nutrients. Floodplains also enhance waterfowl, fish and other wildlife habitats and provide feeding/breeding grounds maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem sustainability.



Racine County Land Conservation
14200 Washington Ave.
Sturtevant, WI 53177
262-886-8440

<http://www.racineco.com/landconv/>

Staff Contributions by:
Chad Sampson, Jonathan Grove,
& Brian Sadler

Wildlife Damage Program

The Wisconsin Wildlife Damage, Abatement and Claims Program (WDACP) is available for Racine County residents. The county is contracted with USDA-APHIS – Wildlife Services to provide program assistance.



If you have crop damage due to deer, geese, turkeys, or cranes then contact USDA-APHIS – Wildlife Service at **1-800-433-0663**. **All crop damage must be reported within 14 days of the first damage each year.**

Grassed Waterways in 2014?

Our office is seeing high demand for grassed waterways the past few years. Gullies that you have seen for years are getting fixed with some cost-share assistance. Planting winter wheat this fall allows staff time to view the site, survey elevations, note existing tile issues, and have a general sense of the best management practice to use. Staff can put together a construction plan while you have an opportunity to sign all necessary contracts, permits, and related documents to prepare for summer construction.



Harvest Time,
Great Time to Plan for Next Spring

Are you looking for maximum return on your land with minimal hassle? Our grass buffer program is an extremely simple process with minimal requirements, minimal paperwork and very quick payment.

- A. Does your agricultural land border a canal, river, lake, or wetland?
- B. Do you think you may be within the Root River Watershed or Lake Michigan Drainage Area?
- C. Would you like an upfront payment of \$3,000 per acre?

The primary purpose of planting riparian buffers is to reduce erosion and runoff, improve water quality, and increase wildlife habitat. You won't find an easier way to improve local land and water quality and get paid up front for doing it. If you need more information, or would like to apply, please call our office at 262-886-8440.

Deer Donation Program

The Deer Donation Program will be celebrating its 14th anniversary this fall. Since its inception in 2000, Wisconsin hunters have donated over 90,000 deer which were processed into over 3.6 million pounds of ground venison to families in need. Not only are families being helped, but the donations help move the deer in Wisconsin closer to healthier populations. Visit the Wisconsin DNR website for more information on time and locations.



CREP is Back

After a brief stoppage, the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program is available once again. This program is available to most Racine County landowners with property along a stream, river or lake. Depending on where your property is located you may be eligible for very generous CREP payments up to \$225/acre for buffering along the water. For more information call our office or log on to the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water/Conservation/CREP/Landowners/.

RURAL LANDOWNER WORKSHOP - SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2013

Electronic Waste Recycling Event in the parking lot from 8am – noon

FREE

Laptops	Computers	Cell Phones
Printers	Scanners	Home Phones
Tablets	Handheld Games	<i>Dehumidifiers – New this year</i>
Electronic Medical Equipment		<i>Refrigerators – New this year</i>
Circuit board based equipment		<i>Freezers – New this year</i>

There will be a \$10 charge/television

DON'T WAIT TO REGISTER!

Early Bird Registration ends October 25th.

**Registration information and
brochure also available at:
<http://kenosha.uwex.edu/agriculture>**

8:00 – 8:30am	Registration		
8:30 – 8:45am	Welcome and Introductions		
	Breakout Sessions (subject to change)		
	A: Entrepreneurship Tract	B: Small Farm Tract	C: Conservation Tract
Session 1 8:45 – 10:00 am	<i>Liability Issues on the Farm</i> Rachel Armstrong, Farm Commons Inc.	<i>Raising Chickens, The Basics</i> Ron Kean, UW-Extension Poultry Specialist	<i>Rain Barrels and Rain Gardens</i> Andy Yench, Milwaukee County UW-Extension
Session 2 10:15 – 11:30 am	<i>Hoop Houses 101</i> Mary McNerny, The Grateful Gardener & Ryan Dale, Great Taste, LLC	<i>Raising Turkeys, The Basics</i> Ron Kean, UW-Extension	<i>There's a Raccoon in My Chimney and Mice in My Basement: How to Manage Nuisance Animals</i> David Drake, UW-Extension Wildlife Specialist
11:30 – 12:15pm	<i>Lunch (provided)</i>		
Session 3 12:15 – 1:30 pm	<i>Organic Certification</i> Janet Gamble, Turtle Creek Gardens	<i>Is Fish Farming Right for You?</i> Jim Held, UW-Extension Aquaculture Specialist	<i>Soil Conservation and Management</i> Gene Schriefer, Iowa County UW-Extension
Session 4 1:45 – 3:00 pm	<i>Loans and Cost Share Options through USDA Farm Bill Programs</i> Kim Iczkowski and Carol Nagel, Farm Service Agency and Brandi Richter, Natural Resources Conservation Service	<i>Grazing Sheep and Goats,</i> Gene Schriefer, Iowa County UW-Extension	<i>Silva culture: Using Trees for Crops</i>

Registration Form



SESSIONS: Help us plan for room space by indicating your preference (A-C) for each session.

SESSION # **Registrant 1** **Registrant 2**

1	_____	_____
2	_____	_____
3	_____	_____
4	_____	_____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Fee includes lunch & conference resource packet.

EARLY BIRD Registration (postmarked by Oct. 25)

___ # of adults @ \$25/person \$ _____

___ # of youth 14-18 @ \$15/person \$ _____

or

REGULAR Registration (postmarked on/after Oct. 26)

___ # of adults @ \$30/person \$ _____

___ # of youth 14-18 @ \$20/person \$ _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

Please make check payable to:
Kenosha County UW-Extension

Return this form & payment to:
Kenosha County UW-Extension
Rural Landowner Conference
19600 75th Street, Suite 2
Bristol, WI 53104

Conference Location:

19600 75th Street Bristol, WI

The Kenosha County Center is located at the intersection of Highways 45 and 50

7th Annual SE WI Rural Landowner Conference

Designed for rural landowners, existing farmers and/or individuals who are interested in farming options

For more information:

Rose Skora, 262-857-1945
rose.skora@ces.uwex.edu

Organizers of the 7th Annual Southeastern Wisconsin Rural Landowner Workshop

Farm Service Agency

Kenosha County Land Conservation

Kenosha, Racine and Walworth Counties
UW-Extension, Cooperative Extension

Natural Resources Conservation Service


Racine County Land Conservation

Seno Center

Businesses Conducting the Electronic Waste Collection

Legacy Recycling, Racine

Refrigerant Depot, Oak Creek

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7th ANNUAL SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN RURAL LANDOWNER CONFERENCE



Saturday

November 2, 2013

8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Kenosha County Center
19600 75th Street
Bristol, WI 53104

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EQIP SIGNUP DEADLINE

2014 Conservation Program Signups are under way. NRCS is urging farmers to plan ahead and have their permits in hand if they want to be considered high priority for conservation practice funding in 2014. The NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is the primary source of financial assistance (cost-sharing) for conservation practices on working lands, including those needing county, state or federal permits. The application deadline for 2014 funding will be Nov. 21, 2013.

WETLAND DETERMINATIONS

If you drain, clear trees, fill, or otherwise manipulate a wet area so that it can be cropped, you may lose eligibility for USDA programs. Before you do any alteration to a wet area, including clearing trees or maintenance of existing drainage, contact NRCS or FSA to request a wetland determination. We recommend that requests are made at least a month ahead of anticipated alterations so that our staff has time to complete the determination. Since spring usually sees a higher rate of wetland determination requests, it could take longer for USDA participants to receive a completed determination.



Cooperative Extension
University of Wisconsin-Extension
Kenosha & Racine Counties

Kenosha County 19600 75th Street, Suite 2 Bristol, WI 53104 262-857-1945	Racine County 209 N Main Street Burlington, WI 53105 262-767-2929
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Article Submitted by: Rose Skora
rose.skora@ces.uwex.edu

SURVEY REGARDING FARM TRANSITION AND SUCCESSION

Plan for the future of your farm or put it off and hope for the best—which will you choose? A planning effort can lead to a greater sense of ownership in the farm operations, enable greater financial security for each family member who is dependent on the operation, and can assist with decision-making. In short, a planning process promotes your family farm's lasting legacy.

This UW-Extension Farm Transition and Succession Planning Survey was created to support farmers and farmland owners while assisting in educational program development. The survey is intended to present many facets of farm transfer. 15 minutes is sufficient to complete the survey.

Participation in this survey is entirely voluntary; you can end the survey at any time. Confidentiality of survey results will be ensured unless survey participants wish to identify themselves for follow-up from UW-Extension educators.

The survey can be accessed at this long website address:

<http://kenosha.uwex.edu/2013/07/26/uw-extension-farm-transition-and-succession-planning-survey/>

DIRECTORY OF AGENCIES
Kenosha/Milwaukee/Racine Farm Service Agency (FSA)

1012 Vine Street, Union Grove, WI 53182 1330
Phone: 262-878-3353, Ext 2 Fax: 262-878-3283

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

1012 Vine Street, Union Grove, WI 53182 1330
Phone: 262-878-1243, Ext 3 Fax: 262-878-3283

Racine County Land Conservation Division

14200 Washington Avenue, Sturtevant, WI 53177
Phone: 262-886-8479, Fax: 262-886-8488

Kenosha County Land & Water Conservation

19600 75th St, Bristol, WI 53104
Phone: 262-857-1895, Fax: 262-857-6508

Kenosha County UW-Extension

19600 75th St, Suite 2, Bristol, WI 53104
Phone: 262-857-1945, Fax: 262-857-1998

Racine County UW-Extension

209 N. Main Street, Burlington, WI 53105
Phone: 262-767-2929, Fax: 262-767-2949



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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Ties to the Land Newsletter

Change Service Requested

**Farm Service Agency
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Racine County Land Conservation
Kenosha County Land and Water Conservation
UW-Cooperative Extension**

Your Resource Partners:

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