



Farm Service Agency  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

---

## [USDA Designates 3 Maryland Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas for Drought](#)

**News Release | Maryland | August 06, 2024**

[View PDF](#)

---

### **USDA Designates 3 Maryland Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas for Drought**

This Secretarial natural disaster designation allows the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) to extend much-needed emergency credit to producers recovering from natural disasters through [emergency loans](#). Emergency loans can be used to meet various recovery needs including the replacement of essential items such as equipment or livestock, reorganization of a farming operation, or to refinance certain debts. FSA will review the loans based on the extent of losses, security available, and repayment ability.

According to the [U.S. Drought Monitor](#), these counties suffered from a drought intensity value during the growing season of 1) D2 Drought-Severe for eight or more consecutive weeks or 2) D3 Drought-Extreme or D4 Drought-Exceptional.

**Impacted Area:** Maryland

**Triggering Disaster:** Drought (Fast Track)

**Application Deadline:** August 6, 2024 to April 7, 2025

**Primary Counties Eligible:** Frederick, Garrett, Washington

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

**State:** Maryland

**Additional Counties:** Alleghany, Carroll, Howard, Montgomery

**State:** Pennsylvania

**Additional Counties:** Adams, Fayette, Franklin, Fulton, Somerset

**State:** Virginia

**Additional Counties:** Loudon

**State:** West Virginia

**Additional Counties:** Berkeley, Grant, Jefferson, Mineral, Morgan, Preston

### **More Resources**

On farmers.gov, the [Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool](#), [Disaster Assistance-at-a-Glance fact sheet](#), and [Loan Assistance Tool](#) can help you determine program or loan options. To file a Notice of Loss or to ask questions about available programs, contact your local [USDA Service Center](#).

### **Farm Service Agency:**

1400 Independence Ave.  
SW Washington, DC 20250

### **Contact:**

FPAC Press Desk  
[FPAC.BC.Press@usda.gov](mailto:FPAC.BC.Press@usda.gov)