

## USDA Designates 18 Georgia Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas

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### *One Contiguous County in South Carolina Eligible for Assistance*

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.

**Impacted Area:** Georgia

**Triggering Disaster:** Freeze

**Application Deadline:** 02/26/2024

**Primary Counties Eligible:** Banks, Jackson, Peach, Crawford, Johnson, Pike, Fannin, Macon, Taylor, Gilmer Madison, Towns, Habersham, Meriwether, Union, Hall, Monroe, and Upson

### **Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

**Georgia:** Barrow, Franklin, Laurens, Spalding, Bibb, Gordon, Lumpkin, Stephens, Butts, Gwinnett, Marion, Sumter, Clarke, Harris, Murray, Talbot, Coweta, Hart, Oconee, Treutlen, Dawson, Houston, Oglethorpe, Troup, Dooly, Jasper, Pickens, Washington, Elbert, Jefferson, Rabun, White, Emanuel, Jones, Schley, Wilkinson, Forsyth, and Lamar

**North Carolina:** Cherokee, Clay

**South Carolina:** Oconee

**Tennessee:** Polk

**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](#).

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