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Farm Service Agency  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## USDA Designates 10 Massachusetts Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas

News Release | Massachusetts | July 10, 2023

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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:** Massachusetts

**Triggering Disaster:** Freeze occurring from 5/17/2023 – 5/18/2023

**Application Deadline:** March 11, 2024

**Primary Counties Eligible:** Berkshire, Bristol, Essex, Franklin, Hampden, Hampshire, Middlesex, Norfolk, Plymouth, Worcester

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

**Massachusetts:** Barnstable, Dukes, Suffolk

**Connecticut:** Hartford, Litchfield, Tolland, Windham

**New Hampshire:** Cheshire, Hillsborough, Rockingham

**New York:** Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer

**Rhode Island:** Bristol, Newport, Providence

**Vermont:** Bennington, Windham

### **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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