

## USDA Designates Nine Minnesota Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas

News Release | Minnesota | July 28, 2023

[View PDF](#)

---

### *Numerous Contiguous Counties Eligible Due to Drought in Minnesota and Wisconsin*

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 8 or more consecutive weeks or 2) D3 Drought-Extreme or D4 Drought-Exceptional.

**Impacted Area:** Minnesota

**Triggering Disaster 1:** Drought- (Fast Track) S5464

**Application Deadline:** March 25, 2024

**Primary Counties Eligible:** Anoka, Benton, Dodge, Fillmore, Mower, Olmsted, Ramsey, Sherburne, Stearns

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

**Minnesota:** Chisago, Dakota, Douglas, Freeborn, Goodhue, Hennepin, Houston, Isanti, Kandiyohi, Meeker, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Pope, Rice, Steele, Todd, Wabasha, Washington, Winona, Wright

**Iowa:** Howard, Mitchell, Winneshiek, Worth

**Triggering Disaster 2:** Drought- (Fast Track) S5467

**Application Deadline:** March 25, 2024

**Primary Wisconsin Counties Eligible:** Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

**Wisconsin:** Burnett, Iron, Price, Sawyer, Washburn

**Minnesota:** Carlton, Pine, St. Louis

### **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)