

USDA Designates Eleven Minnesota Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas

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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 1: Minnesota

Triggering Disaster 1: Drought- (Fast Track) S5478

Application Deadline: April 8, 2024

Primary Counties Eligible: Aitkin, Chisago, Crow Wing, Freeborn, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Pine, Steele, Winona

Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:

Minnesota: Anoka, Benton, Carlton, Cass, Dodge, Faribault, Fillmore, Houston, Itasca, Mower, Olmsted, Rice, St. Louis, Sherburne, Stearns, Todd, Wabasha, Waseca, Washington

Iowa: Winnebago, Worth

Wisconsin: Buffalo, Burnett, Douglas, La Crosse, Polk, Trempealeau

Impacted Area 2: Wisconsin

Triggering Disaster 2: Drought- (Fast Track) S5481

Application Deadline: April 8, 2024

Primary Wisconsin Counties Eligible: Burnett, Sawyer, Washburn

Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:

Minnesota: Chisago, Pine

Wisconsin: Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Douglas, Polk, Price, Rusk

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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