

Derecho damage loans

If you suffered crop damage in Rock Island County due to derecho, you may be eligible for emergency loans through the Farm Service Agency. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue states that “A Secretarial designation makes farm operators in primary counties and those counties contiguous to such primary counties eligible to be considered for certain assistance from the Farm Service Agency, provided eligibility requirements are met. This assistance includes FSA emergency loans. Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of a Secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loans. FSA considers each emergency loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of production losses on the farm and the security and repayment ability of the operator.” For more information or application assistance, contact your local USDA Service Center at (309) 582-5153 ext 2.

WANT TO STAY UP TO DATE WITH UPCOMING EVENTS?
Send us your email to accounts@ricofarmbureau.org and like us on Facebook!

Let's celebrate food!

'Tis the season for family gatherings and holiday celebrations. With food-centric holidays like Thanksgiving coming up, it's the perfect time to celebrate our food and the hands that grow, raise, transport, and prepare it for our family feasts. We live in a time when food eats up (pun intended) a small share of our disposable income. In 2019, Americans spent just under 10 percent of their disposable income on food, including food purchased to consume at home and food purchased to consume away from home (United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service, 2019). Food has maintained its 10-percent share for the last two decades, following a steady drop from

its share of nearly 17 percent of total disposable income in 1960, leveling out at around 10 percent in 1998 (USDA ERS, 2019). Getting back to the holidays, research conducted by the American Farm Bureau Federation estimates the cost of a traditional Thanksgiving dinner at \$48.91 (AFBF, 2019). That's less than \$5 per person for plates full of turkey and all of the fixings, including stuffing, sweet potatoes, peas, cranberries, a vegetable tray, rolls with butter, pumpkin pie topped with whipped cream, and a glass of milk to wash it all down. And that's not even counting the meals made with the leftovers, including Thanksgiving turkey classics like turkey soup and turkey-and-stuffing

sandwiches! The reality is that we have lots of choices when it comes to preparing and serving food to our families. No matter the selections you make to carry out your holiday traditions, you can count on all of the options stocked on grocery store shelves, available at the farmers market, or served at your favorite restaurant to be nutritious and affordable. In the spirit of the season, Illinois farmers are grateful for our efficient food system and customers of food, fuel and fiber who keep our families in business. Happy Thanksgiving from our families to yours! Learn more about Illinois farming and agriculture at watchusgrow.org.

Illinois Farm Bureau members receive **\$1,000 BONUS CASH*** Our valued partnership highlights the great movement that we have together, and how farming and trucks have gone together for over 100 years.

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* Farm Bureau Bonus Cash is exclusively for active Farm Bureau members who are residents of the United States. \$1,000 Bonus Cash on most eligible new 2020/2021 Ford vehicles, and \$500 Bonus Cash on eligible new F-150 and Super Duty. This incentive is not available on Ford Mustang Shelby GT350®, Mustang Shelby® GT350R, Mustang Shelby® GT500®, Ford vehicles, and \$500 Bonus Cash on eligible new F-150 and Super Duty. This incentive is not available on Ford Mustang Shelby GT350®, Mustang Shelby® GT350R, Mustang Shelby® GT500®, Mustang Mach 1, Mustang Mach-E, Bronco, Bronco Sport, Ford GT and F-150 Raptor. This offer may not be used in conjunction with most other Ford Motor Company private incentives or AXZD-Plans. Some customer and purchase eligibility restrictions apply. Must be a Farm Bureau member for 30 consecutive days prior to purchase and take new retail delivery from an authorized Ford Dealer's stock by January 4, 2021. Visit FordFarmBureauAdvantage.com or see your authorized Ford Dealer for qualifications and complete details. Note to dealer: Claim in VINCENT using #37408.

Bushels for Hunger runs through January

The Bushels for Hunger program is kicking off its 11th year of Illinois Quad City farmers helping local families. Farmers can donate bushels of grain at participating elevators from Oct. 1, 2020, until Jan. 31, 2021. Proceeds from grain sales will benefit River Bend Foodbank and food pantries throughout the Quad City area. Since 2010, area farmers have donated a total of \$238,000 and provided over one million meals to those in need. Mercer County farmer and Illinois Farm Bureau District 3 Director Jeff Kirwan is excited about this year's campaign. “With the generous donations of thousands of bushels of grain to the Bushels for Hunger campaign, local farmers will work together to fight hunger in the Quad City community with these funds,” Kirwan says. Michael Miller, CEO and president of River Bend Foodbank, says “2020 has been a crazy year for all of us. The need is up 50 percent, but we've been able to respond with record food dis-

tributions since COVID because of all the support we've received from the community. Bushels for Hunger is a huge part of that support.” Mike Secymore, grain merchandiser with Gold Star FS, said, “I believe that the Bushels for Hunger program is a good way for the local farmers to give back to the community. It is nice that the money stays here locally and is helping neighbors who may be struggling to put food on the table.” The Bushels for Hunger program is a joint program coordinated by the following five Illinois County Farm Bureaus: Rock Island, Henry, Mercer, Stark and Whiteside in conjunction with the following area grain elevators and ethanol plants: Atkinson Grain, Big River Resources, Cargill, CHS, Consolidated Grain & Barge Co., Gold Star FS, Hillsdale Elevator, River Valley Cooperative and Rumbold & Kuhn. For more information, contact the Rock Island County Farm Bureau at 309-736-7432.

Is CFAP 2 application in?

If you haven't applied for Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2, you have until Dec. 11, 2020. For more information on eligible

commodities and how to apply, visit www.farmers.gov/cfap or contact your local USDA Service Center at 309-582-5153 ext 2.

Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER 2020

- 3 Election Day
- 5 Region 1 Managers' Meeting; Zoom
- 5 Market Outlook RSVPs due
- 12 Market Outlook with Brian Basting; 6:15 p.m., Lavender Crest Winery
- 16 RICFB Board of Directors meeting; 7 p.m.
- 26-27 Office closed for Thanksgiving

DECEMBER 2020

- 5 IAA Annual Meeting; held by district
- 21 RICFB Board of Directors meeting
- 24-25 Office closed for Christmas
- 31 Office closed for New Year's Eve

11th Annual BUSHELS FOR HUNGER

Grand total **Since 2010 \$238,000**

October 1, 2020 – January 31, 2021

Tell your participating elevator that you would like to donate.

**Atkinson Grain
Big River Resources
Cargill
CHS
Consolidated Grain & Barge Co
Gold Star FS
Hillsdale Elevator
River Valley Cooperative
Rumbold & Kuhn**

Proceeds benefit the **River Bend Foodbank**

Sponsored by the Henry, Mercer, Rock Island, Stark, and Whiteside County Farm Bureaus

We'd like to wish everyone a

Happy Thanksgiving!

Our office will be closed Nov. 26 and 27.