

Emergency relief program is beginning again for those that had losses to their crops in 2022. Track 1 was for those who had crop insurance and NAP. Track 2 is for those who did not have crop insurance.

Sandra L. (Ferry) Scott
County Executive Director
Montgomery, Fulton, & Hamilton

- AED:**
- Harvest Connection – A commercial is running right now through the 10 most populated zip codes within the 8-county region. More data analytics will be available as that continues. They are also working on doing a social media training in March in Voorheesville.
 - Grants
 - Dairy Modernization and Innovation Grant due tomorrow. There are three applicants.
 - Milk Handling grant due in January.
 - Micro Grants through the county will be coming out soon.
 - First annual Tractor Parade was a success. The public and the fairgrounds and the farmers were all pleased with the outcome.

Becky Ferry
Ag Economic Development Specialist

NRCS:
Montgomery Co has 28 active contracts in the financial assistance programs.
2 AMA contract with one wrapping up today.
6 currently active EQIP contracts.
The majority of active contracts are under the Conservation Stewardship program (CSP). 7 CSP applications that came in through round 1; 5 forestry, and 2 cropland applications. There will be a round 2.

There is a push again for Wetland Reserve Program (WRP). The funding for the program is increasing.

All these contracts will be managed out of the Ballston Spa office until a replacement comes for the Fultonville position. There are three staff members in Ballston Spa, Mike Gerard, Toni Daino, Matt Martire.

Applications on hand 22 EQIP applications came in before the cut off. They are currently going through FSA to make sure they meet all the eligibility requirements. They are spread across different areas; 1 for a forest management plan, multiple high tunnels, 4 farmsteads, 1 pasture application, and one for energy improvement.
All the planning is being worked on now. The staff in Ballston Spa is already working with farms in the county that have applications submitted.

Adjournment:

Martin Kelly made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Richard Kennedy, all in favor, motion carried.
Meeting adjourned @ 12:12 pm.

NEXT MEETING: January 22, 2024, 7:30 PM

Respectfully, Karen Klemczak