

Farm Credit of the Virginias
5/29/2020 Customer Email Send (Text version)
Subject: Updates from Your Cooperative

To our valued customer-owners and friends,

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Farm Credit of the Virginias remains committed to our mission to serve agriculture and our rural communities. We are focused on providing you the support you need during this time. We will work with you on a case-by-case basis, and encourage you to proactively reach out to your loan officer to discuss your changing financial needs so that we can best respond and seek solutions.

While our offices continue to be closed to the public, we remain committed to serving you and responding to your needs. As a reminder, you can access your accounts and services online by using [AccountAccess](#), our digital banking platform. To speak with a representative at your local branch, please call 1-800-919-3276 (FARM).

As we continue to monitor public health concerns and take precautions to ensure the health of our members, employees and their families, we are working to adjust our delivery of services for our customers in the coming weeks. Please consult the [Farm Credit of the Virginias website](#) for timely updates regarding our COVID-19 responses.

USDA Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP)

USDA recently opened the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) for farmers impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. The program provides up to \$16 billion in direct payments to producers of certain agricultural commodities who have suffered a five-percent-or-greater price decline or who had losses due to market supply chain disruptions due to COVID-19 and face additional significant market costs. Eligible commodities include: non-specialty crops; wool; livestock: cattle, hogs, and sheep (lambs and yearlings only); dairy and specialty crops.

To apply for payments, visit your Farm Service Agency (FSA). [Learn more about the CFAP.](#)

The Farm Credit of the Virginias photo contest is back! Visit our website today to learn more and enter photos for a chance to win!

Farm Credit Releases Video Celebrating Agricultural Literacy

Every March, Farm Credit of the Virginia's employees participate in Ag Literacy Week, a yearly observance organized by Virginia Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC). Volunteers visit local schools to read a designated agricultural book and lead related activities. This year, the association had more than 30 employees signed up to read to over 200 classrooms across Virginia and West Virginia.

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 disruptions, the majority of these classroom visits were cancelled. To celebrate ag literacy and deliver on Virginia AITC's mission to educate children about the importance of agriculture, FCV created a video showcasing employees and their families reading pages from this year's

Ag Literacy Week book, "PB&J Hooray!" by Janet Nolan. "PB&J Hooray!" connects children to agriculture by tracing the lunchtime favorite from field to lunchbox.

FCV Chief External Affairs and Marketing Officer, Katie Frazier, shared, "Our team at Farm Credit of the Virginias looks forward to celebrating ag literacy week every year, and we were disappointed that public health concerns limited our opportunities to do so this year. So, we decided to get a little creative to allow our team members to share this story and help spread ag literacy, not only to students in schools but also to our broader online audience and our customers."

We hope you'll take a few minutes to watch this storybook come to life and maybe see a few familiar faces from the FCV family! The video can be accessed on the association's primary social media channels (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) as well as on YouTube at the following link:
<https://youtu.be/c6FTvzSgf8E>

Farm Credit of the Virginias Features Bob's Market in Ag & Culture Video Series

The Ag & Culture video series is produced in collaboration of Farm Credit of the Virginias and its Knowledge Center team to provide viewers a behind-the-scenes glimpse into the day-to-day operation of a given farm or agribusiness. The quarterly videos are geared toward educating the general consumer who may not be exposed to the opportunities and challenges that lie within different sectors of the agriculture industry across our footprint.

The families featured in the Ag & Culture series are not only upstanding members of their rural communities, fierce advocates for the industry, and savvy business-owners, but also Farm Credit of the Virginias customer-owners who leverage our cooperative structure and reliable financing to meet their operational goals. Additionally, many of the business-owners highlighted in the series are participants and consumers of our Knowledge Center's programming, showcasing the value-add of their events and resources.

To access the full library of Ag & Culture videos, visit the Farm Credit of the Virginias YouTube channel (@FarmCreditVAs). The Bob's Market feature can be accessed directly at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qammGowmRGs>

Farm Credit Knowledge Center

Upcoming Educational Opportunities - June 2020

Farm Transition Planning Series – Estate Planning

This webinar will be the 9th in our year-long series. This month's webinar, brought to you by David Marrison from the Ohio State University, will include the topic of estate planning when working through transition and succession planning.

Tuesday, June 2, 2020; 12:00pm-1:00pm EDT

GoToMeeting: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/484852813>

Registration Required: <https://farmtransitionplanningestateplanning.eventbrite.com>

Farm Credit Webinar with Dr. Blake Brown: Open to Farm Credit Borrowers

This webinar will featured Dr. Blake Brown, NC State University's Hugh C. Kiger Professor and Extension Economist, who will discuss market interruptions, the recovery process and programs available for

farmer/producer assistance. This educational offering is offered in conjunction with other Farm Credit associations.

Tuesday, June 2, 2020; 8:00pm-9:00pm EDT

Registration Required: https://ncsu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wm-aLCC0R-uAUkA64p2uOA

Staying Positive During Stressful Times: A Farmer's Perspective

Join us as we welcome Robert Mills of Briar View Farm to discuss, from a farmer's perspective, staying positive during these unprecedented times.

Thursday, June 4, 2020; 12:00pm-1:00pm EDT

GoToMeeting: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/579126477>

Farm Stress: Mental Challenges in Agriculture

Listen to Dr. Amy Johnson, RN, DNP, FNP-C discuss recognizing signs of stress, understanding how stress contributes to increased poor health and accidents on the farm and advice on where to look for help and resources.

Tuesday, June 9, 2020; 12:00pm-1:00pm EDT

GoToMeeting: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/688395213>

Virginia Agritourism

Join us as we welcome Cora Gnegy, she will discuss the in's and out's of agritourism, including an overview on business development and operations, marketing, available resources and more.

Wednesday, June 17, 2020; 12:00-1:00pm EDT

GoToMeeting: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/314464981>

West Virginia Farmers Market Update & Virginia Farmers Market UpdatePresenters will discuss changes to states' farmers market operations, guidelines, and resources for producers and consumers. Week of June 22nd (Dates TBD)

Direct Sales and Off Farm Operations-Panel Discussion

Hear from a panel of producers utilizing off-farm and direct sales to consumers.

Save the Date: June 30, 2020

Farm Credit University Ag Biz Planner

Are you a young, beginning, small and/or minority farmer looking to take your operation to the next level? You're in luck, the Farm Credit Knowledge Center is now accepting applications for the 2020-2021 Farm Credit University Ag Biz Planner course. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/3bzVPnz>