USDA United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Under Secretary
for Farm Production and Conservation
Washington, D.C. 20250

September 23, 2025

THE HONORABLE JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor
State of Pennsylvania
Main Capitol Building, Room 225
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Shapiro:

Per 7 CFR 759.5(a), I am designating two Pennsylvania counties as primary natural disaster areas due to a recent drought. I am responding on behalf of the Department.

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor (see http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/), 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.

Per Section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, additional areas of your State and adjacent States are named as contiguous disaster counties. Enclosed you will find documentation that provides a detailed list of all primary and contiguous counties impacted by this disaster.

Other counties in Pennsylvania may have already been designated as natural disaster counties if they had previously met the requirements found under 7 CFR 759.5(a) for the current crop year.

A Secretarial disaster designation makes farm operators in primary counties and those counties contiguous to such primary counties eligible to be considered for Farm Service Agency (FSA) emergency loan assistance, provided eligibility requirements are met. Farmers in eligible counties have 8 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.

Local FSA offices can provide affected farmers with further information.

Sincerely,

Brooke S. Appleton
Deputy Under Secretary

Enclosure
cc: Brooke Rollins, Secretary of Agriculture

DISASTER DESIGNATION AREAS FOR PENNSYLVANIA AND CONTIGUOUS STATES

Primary Counties:

Pennsylvania	**(2)**	
Beaver	Washington	

Contiguous Counties:

Pennsylvania	**(6)**	
Allegheny	Fayette	Lawrence
Butler	Greene	Westmoreland

Contiguous Counties in Adjacent States:

Ohio	**(1)**		
Columbiana			
West Virginia	**(4)**		
Brooke	Hancock	Marshall	Ohio