



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • FARM SERVICE AGENCY

USDA
Farm Service Agency

356 Mountain View Dr Ste 104
Colchester, VT 05446

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Contact: Robert Paquin
Phone number: 802-658-2803

USDA Farm Service Agency Emergency Conservation Funding Approved to Assist in Tropical Storm Irene Recovery

(*Colchester, VT*), February 16, 2012 –Vermont State USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Executive Director, Robert Paquin, announced that a total of \$4.74 million has been allocated to Vermont through the USDA Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) to help fund the restoration and rehabilitation of farmland damaged during Tropical Storm Irene.

"This funding will enable our county service center staff to offer cost sharing for nearly 200 pending applications from Vermont farmers," Paquin said.

The Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) provides up to 75 per cent cost share assistance to eligible producers to help remove debris from farmland, restore livestock fences and conservation structures, and grade and shape farmland damaged by a natural disaster. FSA county committees determine eligibility based on on-site inspections of damaged land and consideration of the type and extent of the damage.

For more information on ECP, contact a nearby FSA county office or visit the FSA website at www.fsa.usda.gov/ecp.

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