



**Wilson County**  
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### **News and Information from UT-TSU Extension Wilson County**

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### **FSA Emergency Conservation Program for Tornado Damage to Farmland**

The Wilson County Farm Service Agency (FSA) has announced an Emergency Conservation Program for tornado damage to farmland in Wilson County. Applications may be filed with the office from March 23 to May 8, 2020. Due to recent public health concerns, it is recommended that interested persons call to schedule an appointment in advance. You can call 615-444-1890, Extension 2 to make an appointment

Lots of Wilson County farms had tornado debris scattered over their farmland. Removal of that debris may be necessary to the production capability of that farm. Removal of that debris may be one of the things covered by this program if it affects the productive capacity or the land, prevents returning the land to productive agricultural use and is of the magnitude to require either hired or personal labor not normally required in the operation of the ranch or farm.

The program also addresses farm fences that were damaged by the tornado and they may qualify for the cost-share program. The basic requirement is the fences must have been permanent fences with damage caused by the storm and that fences are used for an agricultural purpose. No ornamental fences will qualify for this program

To be eligible for assistance, practices must not be started until an application for cost share assistance has been filed. Then a USDA employee must conduct an onsite inspection and complete a technical needs determination as well as an Environmental Compliance Evaluation

To qualify for ECP cost-share assistance, FSA policy requires that a producer's total cost of all practices needed must be at least \$1,000. A producer qualifying for ECP assistance may receive cost share levels not to exceed 75% of their out of pocket expenses. Limited resource, as well as certain socially disadvantaged and beginning farmers and ranchers may qualify for up to 90% cost share.

Although the county office may accept requests and conduct field visits, this does not imply that cost share assistance will be made available

Important Reminder: call the Wilson County Farm Service Agency, 615-444-1890, ext 2 to make an appointment and get additional information.

For information on Extension programs, contact the UT-TSU Extension Office in Wilson County at 615-444-9584. You can also find us on Facebook or visit our website: [extension.tennessee.edu/wilson](http://extension.tennessee.edu/wilson)

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