WVDA COVID-19 Resources for Farmers and Food Producers

Issued 6/11/2020
A COVID-19 Resource Directory
for Farmers and Food Producers
Issue Date: 6/11/2020

WVDA Business Development Division

- The West Virginia Department of Agriculture’s Business Development Division remains available to help farmers, processors and distributors during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our staff quickly adopted teleworking technology and disease prevention practices to minimize the chance of spreading the coronavirus while maintaining our functionality. We have listed below several resources that may be of assistance to our farmers and producers.

- **CONTACT US:** If there’s anything we can do during this crisis or afterward, please contact our office at 304-558-2210, businessdevelopment@wvda.us or contact a staff member directly using their numbers listed in this directory.

General COVID-19 Web Resources

- **WV FARMERS MARKET GUIDANCE**

- **COVID-19 FEDERAL RURAL RESOURCE GUIDE**

- **WEST VIRGINIA COVID-19 HOMEPAGE**
  https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx

- **FUTURE HARVEST FEED THE NEED MINI GRANTS**, https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FeedTheNeedApp
  COMPLETE APPLICATION BY JULY 15, 2020

- **USDA-FSA CORONAVIRUS FOOD ASSISTANT PROGRAM**
  - USDA is accepting applications now through August 28, 2020. Producers should apply through the Farm Service Agency at their local USDA Service Center.

- **USDA CORONA VIRUS (COVID-19)**
  https://www.usda.gov/coronavirus

U.S. Small Business Administration Pandemic Programs

- **Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL)**
  AGRICULTURAL BUSINESSES ARE NOW ELIGIBLE FOR SBA’S ECONOMIC INJURY DISASTER LOAN
  https://covid19relief.sba.gov/#/

- **Paycheck Protection Program**

- **Express Bridge Loan program**
  Allows small businesses who currently have a business relationship with an SBA Express Lender to access up to $25,000 quickly. These loans can provide vital economic support to small businesses to help overcome the temporary loss of revenue they are experiencing
  https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/sba-express-bridge-loans

- **Debt Relief program**
  - The SBA will automatically pay the principal, interest, and fees of current 7(a), 504, and microloans for a period of six months.
  - The SBA will also automatically pay the principal, interest, and fees of new 7(a), 504, and microloans issued prior to September 27, 2020.
Child Nutrition Resources

- **Ensuring Access to the Child Nutrition Programs in the Event of School Closures**
  Guidelines from FRAC for adjusting Child Nutrition Programs if schools are closed.

- **Emerging Strategies & Tactics For Meal Service During School Closures Related To The Coronavirus**
  This resource from No Kid Hungry highlights meal distribution strategies put into place across the country in response to widespread school closures due to the coronavirus.

- **Summary of School Districts and Program Providers’ Efforts to Serve Meals During School Closings**
  An active spreadsheet compiled by FRAC of school districts serving meals and broken down by state, district, and model.

- **Emergency Meal Service Toolkit**
  Resources from Lunch Assist for planning and modifying school meal operations in response to COVID-19, including answers to frequently asked policy questions, templates, and safety tips and procedures to protect nutrition services staff and the families they serve.

- **Nationwide Waivers of Child Nutrition Monitoring**

Additional Guidance

- **Novel Coronavirus Prevention & Control for Farms**

- **USDA Temporarily Extends Expiration Dates for Some Good Agricultural Practices**

- **USDA Guidance on grants management requirements due to COVID-19 (includes Specialty Crop Block Grant Program & ACER Grant)**

- **American Farmland Trust Farmer Relief Fund Grant Programs**
  [https://farmland.org/farmer-relief-fund/](https://farmland.org/farmer-relief-fund/)

- **Shopping for Food During the COVID-19 Pandemic - Information for Consumers**

- **Helpful Questions and Answers about Coronavirus (COVID-19) and Your Pets**

- **Planning Considerations for Organizations in Reconstituting Operations During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

- **Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces, Workplaces, Businesses, Schools, and Homes**

- **Interim Guidance for Meat and Poultry Processing Workers and Employers**
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