

USDA Agencies Tour Northeast Kansas Flood Damage

It was a cold rainy day on March 21 when representatives from Kansas USDA agencies met with producers in Leavenworth, Doniphan, and Atchison Counties and toured flood-damaged agricultural areas. The day started near Lansing along the Missouri River bottom, where the group viewed flooded farm fields and learned this flood's water level was higher than any previously recorded flood. The tour then moved to White Cloud for a firsthand look at the devastation caused by the fast-moving Missouri River flood waters, including broken levees, destroyed roads, and more agriculture land still underwater. The public meeting at the Highland, Kansas, Community Center drew 60+ attendees, where government officials listened to producer concerns, and in turn provided information about USDA assistance available. In addition to USDA, several other agriculture entities and government representatives were also in attendance, including Kansas Secretary of Agriculture Mike Beam, Senator Jerry Moran, and representatives for Senator Pat Roberts and Representative Steve Watkins.

Just some of the issues facing producers include removing sand, silt, and debris left from the flooding from farm fields; repairing conservation and flood structures damaged by the flooding and heavy rains; and the inability to plant spring crops due to the damaged and saturated farm ground.

For information about all USDA and other Federal disaster assistance programs available, see <https://www.farmers.gov/recover>. Follow us on Twitter @NRCS_Kansas.

