

AGRICULTURE AGENCY & SERVICE DIRECTORY

Agriculture producers have available to them many agencies, businesses, and organizations that can provide assistance and information for the farm enterprise. This list provides an overview of a few of these outlets which are located in our area.

The Federal Land Bank provides rural residential and rural real estate loans. Borrowers who are serviced

include part-time farmers and ranchers, investor and gentleman ranchers and farmers, full-time farmers and people desiring to live in the country. Loans are made for rural land purchase, home site purchase, home construction, barns and other land improvements, and refinancing. The Federal Land Bank has a cooperative structure, and is owned by those persons making loans. The Federal Land Bank is located in McKinney :

HERITAGE LAND BANK

**1827 West Louisiana Street
McKinney, Texas 75069**

Phone number: (972)542-2778 ext. 4

Contact person: Oliver Spiller

The Farm Service Agency is an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture. Formerly

known as ASCS, the name changed when ASCS and the former FmHA combined into one agency, the FSA. The FSA administers Federal Programs on a local basis. Programs assist farmers and ranchers in the production of agricultural products. The categories include Commodity Programs, Conservation Programs, Agricultural Credit, Non Insured Crop Assistance Programs, and Emergency Relief Programs. Land owners should notify the FSA when they purchase agricultural land. If an owner is recorded with the FSA office they will be placed on the mailing list and will receive a regular newsletter that will inform them of the programs available to them. A copy of the deed is required when registering ownership. The FSA office maintains a complete set of aerial photographs for the county. Copies of these photographs are available to land owners. FSA has land measuring capabilities, both from the photographs and in the field. Field measurements require the payment of a fee. However, in most cases, measurements can be made in the office from the aerial maps at no charge. The FSA county office staff works under the supervision of an elected committee of farmers and ranchers. All registered land owners and operators are eligible to vote in the election and to serve on the committee. The county committee makes decisions that adapt the Federal programs to local needs. They represent a grass roots input into the local administration of Federal programs and are an important part of the operation of the FSA.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

Rockwall and Kaufman Counties have a joint office located in Forney at:

**P.O. Box 1829
Forney, Texas 75126**

**Physical location is
8628 FM 741
Forney, Texas 75126**

Phone Number: (972)552-5254.

Don Noles is the Rockwall/Kaufman County Director.

The Natural Resources
Conservation Service is a branch of
the United States Department of

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Agriculture that was established in 1935. Many people knew the agency under the name of the Soil Conservation Service. The NRCS helps farmers and ranchers to address their conservation needs and to apply beneficial conservation practices to their land. Some of the most common conservation practices are grass plantings, ponds, terraces, waterways, and grade stabilization structures. The NRCS office also has maps available for viewing concerning the following: Flood Plains, Soils, Topography, Wetlands, and Aerial Photos. Rockwall and Kaufman Counties have a joint NRCS Rockwall and Kaufman Counties have a joint office located in Forney at:

**P.O. Box 1829
Forney, Texas 75126**

**Physical location is
8628 FM 741
Forney, Texas 75126**

Phone Number: (972)552-5254.

Joel Wardlow is the representative. Office hours are 8:00
a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

AgriLand, Farm Credit Services is a borrower-owned credit cooperative which has catered to the financial

AGRILAND FARM CREDIT SERVICES

needs of agricultural producers for over 65 years. The firm is not a government agency. Lending policies are controlled by a 6 member board of directors elected by you, the stockholders.

Financing agriculture is, and always has been our only business. Our experienced loan officers are familiar with the adversities all ag producers encounter, and are focused on preparing our borrowers to meet those challenges with the ultimate goal of enabling producers to prosper regardless of external factors.

AgriLand, Farm Credit Services takes great pride in being large enough to meet the needs of any typical agricultural operation in Northeast Texas, yet small enough to offer personalized service. The loan accounting system and loan products were developed specifically for agricultural producers and are flexible enough so loan terms can be structured to fit any reasonable request.

Operating loans revolving lines of credit and intermediate terms loans with maturities of 12 months to 10 years are available. The major enterprises financed include:

cow/calf	timber
stocker	poultry
crops	other specialized farming operations
dairy	
feedlot	

Loan purposes include:

- cattle purchases
- equipment and real estate purchases
- expenses for the farm and ranch facilities
- marketing and processing
- ag-related business ventures
- any other needs of qualifying applicants

Looking to the future, it is expected that agriculture will continue to change rapidly. From this change will come both opportunity and hardship. AgriLand is continually striving to improve both our loan products and delivery system in order to serve borrowers better, and to help each individual become more successful.

**1305 Shannon Road
Sulphur Springs, Texas 75482**

Phone Number : (903)885-7608

The Central Appraisal District appraises all property in Rockwall County. Agriculture Exemptions can be applied for by filling out an

application obtained from the office. There are various requirements that must be met to qualify for an exemption. There are basic guidelines that are followed when consideration is made and each piece of property is considered on an individual basis.

ROCKWALL CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT

**841 Justin Road
Rockwall, Texas 75087**

Phone Number: (972)771-0234

Texas Cooperative Extension is a branch of the Texas A&M University System which works to educate

Texans in the areas of agricultural production, environmental stewardship, horticulture, youth and adult life skills, human capital and leadership and community economic development. This is accomplished through community educational programs, distribution of factual information through brochures, fact sheets, and media outlets, and individual assistance with production questions. The Extension Service provides access to citizens in all 254 Texas counties and works cooperatively with other TAMUS parts and external agencies and organizations to achieve its goals. The Rockwall County Extension Office is located in downtown Rockwall at the Courthouse Annex. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

TEXAS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

**Phone Number : (972)882-0375
Fax Number: (972)882-0374**

Staff members include:

Todd K. Williams, MA
County Extension Agent - Agriculture & Natural Resources

Janie E. Squier, MEd
County Extension Agent - Family & Consumer Sciences

Marion Miller
Secretary

The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) is a state agency and is operated by 12 governor appointed Commissioners

TEXAS ANIMAL HEALTH COMMISSION

representing all phases of animal agriculture. The agency was founded in 1893 and is currently occupied with livestock disease control and eradication programs for cattle brucellosis, swine brucellosis, cattle tuberculosis, equine infectious anemia (EIA or Coggins). TAHC is always on the alert for potential introductions of livestock diseases or pests that are not currently present in Texas or the U.S.A., and ultimately has the role of assuring the marketability and mobility of Texas livestock.

The mission of the TAHC is the prevention, surveillance, diagnosis, control and eradication of targeted diseases and conditions affecting livestock, poultry and exotic livestock and fowl. Some of the targeted diseases have human health implications. These functions contribute to a solid foundation for economic prosperity, while decreasing human health risks for the people of Texas.

John Myracle
Rockwall County Inspector

Phone Number: 1-800-658-6560

Office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday

The Texas Department of Agriculture is a governmental agency with headquarters in Austin, Texas. It is both a marketing and regulatory agency with responsibilities that range from monitoring gas pumps and scanners, regulating pesticide use and certifying organic growers, to promoting Texas food, fiber, and wine. The agency's functions are divided among support-oriented divisions, program-based divisions and areas concerned with policy and intergovernmental affairs.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The Program Division consists of the following:

Field Operations - five regional offices and four sub-offices provide marketing and inspection services.

Marketing and Agribusiness Development - Promoting sales of raw and processed agricultural commodities, livestock and agricultural products.

Pesticide Programs - Administers federal and state pesticide laws, provides laboratory testing services, and pesticide applicator training and licensing.

Producer Services - Includes market information, ag statistics, guidance in ethics and safety issues and the Family Land Heritage Program.

Regulatory Programs:

Consists of Texas Cooperative Inspection Program, Agri-Systems, Seed Quality, Weights and Measures, and Commodities.

For Rockwall County, the regional field office is located:

**1720 Regal Row, Suite 118
Dallas, TX 75235**

Phone Number: (972)263-5035.

The Texas Farm Bureau is an organization of over 300,000 member families committed to the advancement of agriculture and

The logo for the Texas Farm Bureau, featuring the text "TEXAS FARM BUREAU" in white, uppercase letters on a dark grey rectangular background.

prosperity for rural Texas. Members are provided with a wide range of involvement programs, cost-effective services, and an attractive benefit package. Programs include Legislation, Research and Education, Regulatory Activities, Young Farmer and Rancher Leadership, and Youth Programs to name a few. In addition, membership services include Financial Services, Property Protection Program, Group Accidental Death Insurance, Auto Parts Discounts, Gate Sign Program, Car Seat Program, Travel Services, Long Distance Phone Service, Health Insurance, Discount Eye Wear, Dental Plans, Discount Prescription Drug Program, Texas Agricultural Service Company, Sherwin-Williams Discount Program, and Ford Truck Rebate. In Rockwall, the Farm Bureau Office is located:

**P.O. Box 726
Rockwall, Texas 75032**

**Physical Location is
311 East Interstate 30
Rockwall, Texas 75032**

Phone Number: (972)722-6936

Mary Beth Dutton is the office manager.

The Texas Wildlife Damage Management Service is a state and federal cooperative agency between the United States Department of

TEXAS WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT SERVICE

Agriculture and the Texas A&M University System. This agency was created to assist the public in controlling wildlife problems. The four objectives of the Service are:

- 1) to protect human health by controlling diseases related to wildlife;
- 2) to protect urban and rural areas from wildlife damage;
- 3) to protect forests, rangelands, and other natural resources from losses;
- 4) to protect crops and livestock from wildlife depredation.

Accomplishing these objectives saves Texas taxpayers millions of dollars each year.

Some of the wildlife causing problems in Rockwall County include, but is not limited to Coyotes, Beavers, and Vultures. If you are experiencing problems with nuisance or damaging wildlife you may contact one of the following Texas Wildlife Damage Management Service Representatives:

Steven C. Meek
Wildlife Damage Management Biologist
(214)904-3054

Ronnie Dickens (Hunt County Trapper)
Wildlife Damage Management Specialist
(903)662-5162

LOCAL

QUICK PHONE REFERENCE

Texas Cooperative Extension	972-882-0375
Natural Resources Conservation Service	903-455-7691
Farm Service Agency	972-552-5254
Rockwall County Tax Appraisal District	972-771-2034
Ronnie Dickens, Hunt Co. Trapper	903-662-5162
Rockwall County Farm Bureau	972-722-6936
Texas Parks & Wildlife (Game Warden)	972-636-9028
Greenville Livestock Commission	903-455-7124
Cooperative Research Office	903-886-5363
TAMU-C Agriculture Department	903-886-5358
Van Zandt County Livestock Commission	903-873-2117

REGIONAL

Texas Wildlife Damage Management Service	214-904-3054
Texas Predator Control Service (Sam Donaldson)	903-572-3370
or (Cliff Moore)	903-482-6919
Texas Animal Health Commission	1-800-658-6560
Federal Land Bank Association	972-562-6906
AgriLand Farm Credit Services	903-885-7608
North Central Texas Illegal Dumping	1-800-335-DUMP
Farmers Home Administration	972-542-2778
Texas Department of Agriculture - Dallas	972-263-5035

STATE

Texas Department of Agriculture - Austin	1-800-TELL-TDA
Texas Animal Health Commission - Austin	512-719-0700
Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association	817-332-7064

ROCKWALL COUNTY GOVERNMENT

County Judge Bill Bell	972-882-0240
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Commissioners

Precinct 1 - Jerry Wimpee	972-882-0368
Precinct 2 - Scott Self	972-882-0259
Precinct 3 - Bruce Beaty	972-882-0369
Precinct 4 - David Magness	972-882-0258
County Clerk	972-882-0220
District Clerk	972-882-0260
County Treasurer	972-882-0290
County Auditor	972-882-0250
Tax Office - Motor Vehicle	972-882-0350
Health Coordinator (Sanitation)	972-882-0378
911 Coordinator - Ben Kinder	972-882-0257

Educational programs of Texas Cooperative Extension are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in Extension programs are encouraged to contact the Rockwall County Extension Office prior to the engagement.