

**STATUS OF DISASTER  
DESIGNATION REQUEST**



RECEIVED AUG - 9 2010

## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

P.O. Box 1475  
Richmond, Virginia 23218

August 3, 2010

Mr. Michael W. Johnson  
County Administrator  
Southampton County  
P.O. Box 400  
Courtland, Virginia 23837

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Thank you for your recent letter to Governor McDonnell and the resolution adopted by the Southampton County Board of Supervisors requesting disaster designation due to the agricultural loss as a result of the recent drought conditions in your county.

At the Governor's request, I am coordinating a review of the damages experienced by Southampton County and have asked that the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services work with officials of the United States Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency in Virginia to obtain a formal, up-to-date report of agricultural damages experienced by Southampton County. The Governor will need to present this official loss assessment report when seeking a federal disaster designation for your locality. I will share with you any correspondence our office sends to the United States Secretary of Agriculture on behalf of Southampton County.

Thank you again for bringing your county's agricultural emergency to our attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Haymore", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Todd P. Haymore  
Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry

cc: The Honorable Marla Graff Decker, Secretary of Public Safety  
Melissa Laughner, Office of the Governor  
Matt Lohr, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
Michael M. Cline, State Coordinator, Department of Emergency Management

# SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY

26022 Administration Center Drive  
P. O. Box 400  
Courtland, Virginia 23837



757-653-3015  
1-800-229-3160  
Fax: 757-653-0227

July 27, 2010

The Honorable Robert F. McDonnell  
Governor of Virginia  
Patrick Henry Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
1111 East Broad Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Governor McDonnell:

At a regular meeting of the Southampton County Board of Supervisors held last evening, the attached resolution was adopted requesting that Southampton County be declared a primary disaster area due to drought conditions and excessive heat that have created significant damage to livestock and crop production.

Should you or your staff have any questions or if I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael W. Johnson'.

Michael W. Johnson  
County Administrator

cc: The Hon. Todd Haymore, Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA**

**RESOLUTION 0710-07**

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At a meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Southampton County, Virginia, held in the Southampton County Office Center, Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room, 26022 Administration Center Drive, Courtland, Virginia on Monday, July 26, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

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**PRESENT**

The Honorable Dallas O. Jones, Chairman  
The Honorable Walter L. Young, Jr., Vice Chairman  
The Honorable Carl J. Faison  
The Honorable Anita T. Felts  
The Honorable Ronald M. West  
The Honorable Moses Wyche

**ABSENT**

The Honorable Walter D. Brown, III

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**IN RE: Request for Disaster Designation and Federal Assistance for Southampton County**

Motion by Supervisor Wyche:

**WHEREAS**, Southampton County has experienced moderate drought conditions and excessive heat over the past 45 days, with well-below-average rainfall and temperatures exceeding 105 degrees; and

**WHEREAS**, the drought and excessively hot weather in Southampton County caused significant damage to crops produced by farmers in the County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Southampton County Review Committee, made up of representatives from the Virginia Cooperative Extension, the Farm Service Agency, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, and numerous local producers has reported that Southampton County has been adversely impacted by the drought and excessive heat with estimated losses in farm income

**SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Resolution 0710-07

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of more than \$3.7 million; and

**WHEREAS**, the yield from 11,000 acres of corn produced in Southampton County has been reduced by seventy percent (70%) or more; and

**WHEREAS**, pastures and forages are at a substantial loss in yields, forcing cattle and other livestock producers to cull their livestock and feed their winter hay supply during summer months; and

**WHEREAS**, continued limited rainfall and excessive heat will serve to exacerbate the problem, limiting the yields on peanuts, soybeans and cotton; and

**WHEREAS**, Southampton County farmers need federal assistance in responding to their losses.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Southampton County Board of Supervisors on this 26th day of July, 2010, that the Board hereby instructs the County Administrator to submit to the Governor of Virginia the Board's request for assistance in obtaining federal disaster designation for Southampton County and federal assistance for Southampton County farmers who have experienced crop or livestock damages/losses because of the ongoing drought and excessive heat.

Seconded by Supervisor Felts.

Voting on the Item:        YES – Jones, Young, Faison, Felts, West and Wyche.

                                      NO – None.

A COPY TESTE:



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Michael W. Johnson, Clerk  
Southampton County Board of Supervisors