



THE SHEAF

Summer 2020

3 Reasons to Consider Refinancing Your Home

You may have been thinking about refinancing your home for a while but thought the opportunity passed you by. However, rates are continuing to hover at near-record lows, making now an ideal time to consider refinancing your mortgage — especially if one of the following three reasons is relevant to you.

1. Lower Interest Rates

If mortgage rates are between 0.75 and 1 percent lower than your current mortgage loan, it's worth exploring your refinance options. One percent might not seem like all that much, but when you multiply it by the cost of your home and the life of your mortgage loan, the numbers add up fast. Whether your mortgage is for 15 or 30 years, the savings on interest could easily be tens of thousands of dollars, if not more.

2. Switching Loan Type

If you have an adjustable-rate mortgage, also known as an ARM, now, while the rates are still low, is the perfect time to refinance to a fixed-rate mortgage — before your current adjustable rate goes up on you. The truth is that no one knows when or how much rates will go up when they do. This is insurance against the potential of rising interest rates, that could end up costing you big the next time your rates “adjust.” Since rates are currently near record lows, it means they will likely only go up from here. Even if it isn't on your first adjustment, avoiding a rate hike before your next assessment can mean huge savings for you.

3. Changing Terms

Your loan terms matter — more than you may realize when it comes to how much you will pay to own your home. Refinancing will allow you to change these terms to fit your financial needs and goals better.

For example, with a drop in rates, you may be able to shorten your current term by five years and keep your current payment relatively the same. In this instance, your monthly expense would be unchanged, but you will pay off your mortgage quicker, potentially saving tens of thousands of dollars in interest. Or, you could extend your loan term. By lengthening your term, your monthly payment will likely decrease – providing you more money each month to manage your current expenses. It's important to note that extending your loan term will most likely increase the total amount of interest you pay on your loan.

We're Here to Help!

Refinancing your home is a big decision to make. There are many options to consider, such as loan types, terms, and rates, and how these will affect your current financial situation and long-term goals.

Our home loan experts are ready to answer all your questions and work with you one-on-one to find the best option for your unique situation. Simply email us at members@agfed.org or give us a call at 202-479-2270 to get started today.

CONTACT US

24/7 Member Services:
(202) 479-2270

24/7 Online Banking
www.agfed.org
Email us: members@agfed.org

24-hour Loan by Phone:
(888) 451-LOAN (5626)

24-hour Telephone Banking:
A.R.T. (Audio Response Teller):
(202) 488-3130 or (800) 872-2328

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 2225, Merrifield, VA 22116-9998

BEFORE VISITING A BRANCH
Please visit agfed.org for all updates on branch hours and status

USDA South Building Branch
1400 Independence Ave., SW, RM SM-2
Washington, DC 20250

USDA Cafeteria Branch
1400 Independence Ave., SW, RM 1218
Washington, DC 20250

George Washington Carver Center Branch
Temporarily closed due to renovations in the building, this branch has relocated to BARC West.

BARC West Branch
10300 Baltimore Ave., Bldg. 003, RM 327
Beltsville, MD 20705

Patriots Plaza Branch
Restricted Public Access
355 E Street, SW, Suite 3-190
Washington, DC 20024

Riverdale Branch
4700 River Road, RM 1C09
Riverdale, MD 20737

Smithsonian Branch
Smithsonian Castle, RM B-10
1000 Jefferson Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20560

Changes have been made to AgFed's Funds Availability and Membership Agreement. For further information, view the disclosures at <https://www.agfed.org/membership/disclosures/>



AgFed
Credit Union
Your Partner for Life

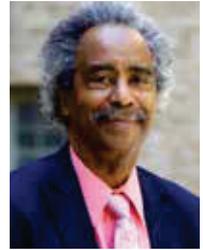


Federally insured by NCUA

CHAIRPERSON'S CORNER

Stay healthy, stay strong.

It's clear that 2020 is bringing unprecedented challenges to the entire world. The COVID-19 crisis is profoundly affecting every aspect of life.



As member-owners of our financial cooperative, it's important for you to know that AgFed is financially strong and your funds are safe. Deposits are insured up to \$250,000 per individual depositor by the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund (NCUSIF), which is an independent agency administered by the National Credit Union Association.

We're also very well-prepared to help our members manage throughout the crisis. If you are facing financial struggles due to the coronavirus crisis, please reach out. We are committed to helping our members find solutions.

It's also important to make note of our incredible team members. Even when branches had to restrict access and close temporarily, our employees have consistently gone the extra mile to pivot to remote service, making sure they're meeting our members' needs while keeping everyone safe and healthy. As events evolve, we will continue to make decisions and changes needed to help ensure the highest degree of safety along with the outstanding service our members deserve.

Whatever is ahead, AgFed is strong, stable, and we stand prepared to assist our members cope with the crisis in every possible way.

Stay healthy, stay strong. We'll be here for you.

Sincerely,
Elard J. Phillips, Chairperson
AgFed Board of Directors

Did You Know?

In 2005, a fortune cookie company correctly foretold lottery numbers, resulting in 110 winners and an investigation. No fraud was involved.

A duel between three people is actually called a truel.

The "I'm Feeling Lucky" feature in Google search costs Google \$110 million a year. 1% of all searches use this feature, which bypasses all advertising.

The University of Minnesota is older than the state of Minnesota!

The name for the shape of Pringles is called a 'Hyperbolic Paraboloid'. (But can you say that ten times real fast?)