

Assistance Available for Ag Producers

Who is eligible? Agricultural producers in Tehama County.

What is provided? Technical assistance in developing a Carbon Farm Plan for your farm or ranch.

Why should I apply? A Carbon Farm Plan will help you prioritize conservation practices to increase carbon capture, improve soil health, and prepare you for future funding opportunities.

How do I apply? Complete and submit the <u>Carbon Farm Plan Application</u> by the due date noted below. The application is also available at the Tehama Conservation Fund / RCD office noted below.

Monday, June 5th

When is the application due? Wednesday, May 24th by 5 p.m. PST.

Submit to: Tehama Conservation Fund, c/o RCD of Tehama County, 2 Sutter Street, Suite D, Red Bluff, CA 96080 Or email: brin@tehamacountyrcd.org

About Carbon Farming

What is Carbon Farming? Carbon (CO_2) can be stored long-term (decades to centuries or more) in soils in a process called, "Soil Carbon Sequestration." Carbon Farming involves implementing on-farm practices that are known to improve the rate at which plants transfer CO_2 from the atmosphere and convert it to plant material and soil organic matter.

What are the benefits of Carbon Farming? An increase in soil organic matter on a farm or ranch through Carbon Farming allows for improved water holding capacity, water quality and erosion control, fertility and production, pest and invasives control, and tilth.

Why create a Carbon Farm Plan? A Carbon Farm Plan serves as a guidance document for producers to meet their natural resource management goals while supporting productive lands, wildlife habitat, and carbon sequestration. It is also a valuable tool to assist the producer in securing funding to implement the Plan.

What is in a Carbon Farm Plan? The Plan identifies and quantifies practices for a farm or ranch to increase carbon sequestration and reduce emissions. As defined by the USDA's NRCS, Carbon Farm practices are a subset of standard agricultural practices that increase plant biomass and build soil organic matter. The Plan features recommended Carbon Farm practices that have the greatest potential for carbon sequestration as calculated by using COMET-Planner and COMET-Farm. The Plan ensures that the Carbon Farm practices compliment the producers short-term and long-term operation plan.

Examples of standard NRCS Conservation Practices featured in a Carbon Farm Plan:



Hedgerows



Crop cover



Herbaceous filter strip