

Washington State Conservation Commission

**PROGRAM INFORMATION** 

Washington State Conservation Commission | May 2023

# Sustainable Farms and Fields (SFF)

# What can be funded?



Technical assistance



### Cost share projects



### Materials and supplies





### Program

Sustainable Farms and Fields (SFF) is a grant program that makes it easier and more affordable for farmers and ranchers to implement more climate-smart practices and projects that increase carbon sequestration and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. You can find the guidelines at www.scc.wa.gov/sff.

### How it works

Conservation districts and other public entities will be able to apply for SFF grants to help them deliver grant-eligible activities for interested farmers and ranchers in their communities.

Examples of potential grant-eligible activities include:

- Providing personalized and on-site technical expertise, such as developing climate-smart farm plans.
- Sharing the cost of climate-smart practices/projects, such as planting trees/shrubs, implementing no-till/direct seed, managing manure storage and application, planting cover crops, composting/mulching, and purchasing precision agriculture equipment/technology.
- Purchasing seed, spores, animal feed, and soil amendments.
- Purchasing shared-use equipment (e.g., no-till planter) that will be made available through local entities, such as conservation districts or farm co-ops.
- Demonstrations of climate-smart practices not commonly used in a particular area.

### More information at scc.wa.gov/sff Please contact your local conservation district or other public entity to apply.

# What are the major benefits of SFF?

#### **Climate Resiliency**

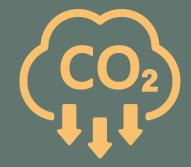
Sustainable Farms and Fields incentivizes farming practices that increase carbon sequestration and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. These practices can also improve water and air quality and increase habitat for fish, wildlife, and pollinators.

### **Farm Viability**

Numerous carbon-smart practices provide co-benefits for farm operations, such as improved soil health, improved yield, and long-term cost savings.

#### **Economic Vitality**

Sustainable Farms and Fields may help farms and ranches of all sizes be more competitive in a carbon market, including underserved, low-income, and first-time farmers.



SFF-eligible practices not only help:

- mitigate climate change
- increase farmers' resiliency
- provide environmental co-benefits
- increase long-term economic viability

## **Climate-Smart Practices**



### Equipment Sharing Programs

Sharing equipment can help landowners who may not be ready to purchase equipment use it for climate-smart practices like no till or direct seed.



Establishing Native Shrubs and Trees

Establishing native plant species help to create pollinator habitat and protect riparian areas, while sequestering carbon.



### **Cover Crops**

Cover crops can sequester carbon in the soil while preventing erosion and improving water quality and productivity of farmland.



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