

PRESS RELEASE

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From: Resource Conservation District of Tehama County

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Subject: Healthy Soils Program Seeks Farmers to Apply for Funding

RED BLUFF, CA - The Resource Conservation District of Tehama County (RCDTC) is hosting two Technical Assistance Workshops to help farmers and ranchers, as well as Federal and California recognized Native American Indian Tribes apply for the California Department of Food and Agriculture's (CDFA) 2017 Healthy Soils Incentives Program (Program) grant funding. There is no cost to attend the workshops.

Funding of up to \$50,000 per agricultural operation will be available to growers and ranchers to implement agricultural management practices that provide quantifiable carbon sequestration, atmospheric greenhouse gas emissions reduction, and improve soil health. The project types that are eligible for program funding and address the required management practices include mulch and compost, cover cropping, reduced tillage, and the planting of herbaceous and woody plants such as windbreaks, riparian plantings, filter strips, and more. The Program requires that these practices be implemented for a total of three years, with the third year of project costs required as matching funds.

The RCDTC's Technical Assistance Workshops will provide hands-on help with the application process and will be held Thursday, August 24th from 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at the Tehama County Farm Bureau, 275 Sale Lane in Red Bluff and Tuesday, September 5th from 3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. at the Gerber Community Services District, 331 San Benito Avenue in Gerber. Both workshops will provide guidance on the application process, give examples, and answer any questions. In addition to the workshops, the RCDTC is available by appointment for one-on-one application assistance. Please contact the RCDTC at 530-737-5191 if you are interested in attending a workshop, to schedule an appointment, or have further questions.

Additional technical assistance workshops are posted on the program website at <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/healthysouls/IncentivesProgram>. For detailed information on eligibility and program requirements, prospective applicants should visit the CDFA Healthy Soils Program website at <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/healthysouls>. The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) is currently accepting applications for the Healthy Soils Program (HSP). The program, authorized by the Budget Act of 2016, receives funding from California Climate Investments, with proceeds from the state's cap-and-trade auctions targeted to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions while providing a variety of additional benefits to California communities. Applications and all supporting information must be submitted electronically using the Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool (FAAST) by September 19, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. PST.