



# Request for Applications - 2025-27 Biennium

## Sustainable Farms and Fields: Climate-Smart Livestock Management

### Alternative Manure Management

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- The application is available [here](#).
- The webinar sign-up and recording, and any additional information about this funding opportunity will be posted on the [Sustainable Farms and Fields website](#).
- Grant awardees must follow all applicable laws and regulations with respect to their projects and must follow the [SCC Grant & Contract Policy and Procedure Manual](#).

### Application Timeline

To be considered for the first round of review, applications must be submitted by September 2, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. Additional application pulls will occur on the first business day of every second month (November, January, etc.) until all funding is allocated. The status of Alternative Manure Management funding will be updated on the [Sustainable Farms and Fields website](#).

### Background

One-time funding from the Climate Investment Account was appropriated to the Washington State Conservation Commission, with the following language: *The commission may grant up to \$6,000,000 for technical and financial assistance to increase implementation of climate-smart livestock management, alternative manure management, and other best management practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration.* Some of this funding was allocated to projects in 2023-25. See more information on funded projects here: [SFF - Climate Smart Livestock Report to Legislature - 2025](#)

\$2,900,000 in reappropriated capital funding is available in the 2025-2027 biennium to support alternative manure management activities. This funding is from the Climate Investment Account. \$2,800,000 of this funding is available to fund projects.

## Objective

Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with manure handling systems from baseline levels at dairy and livestock farms in Washington through grants to conservation districts and other public entities for implementation of projects.

## Eligibility

Eligible applicants will apply on behalf of a livestock operation where manure is stored in anaerobic (liquid) form. The lead entity in proposals must be one of the following:

- Conservation districts
- State agencies
- Colleges, universities, and extension offices
- Federally recognized Tribes
- Counties
- Cities, towns, and other municipalities
- Special purpose districts

## Cost-Share Rate

Determined by applicant submitting proposal.

## Match Funding

None required, but projects that leverage additional funding sources will receive additional points in scoring.

## Maximum Request

Sustainable Farms and Fields (SFF) programmatic guidelines specify that ‘no more than 20% of total annual SFF funds may be awarded to any single grant applicant.’ A grant applicant is the conservation district or other public entity applying for funding. We will seek an exception to the SCC maximum of \$100,000 per landowner per fiscal year across SCC programs for projects moved forward for funding.

## Evaluation of Applications

SCC has assembled a team of evaluators consisting of representatives from SCC, Washington State Department of Agriculture, and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. The team assembled will evaluate applications using the [Alternative Manure Management scoring criteria](#).

## Expected Period for Grant

Projects must be completed by June 30, 2027

## Reporting

Project reporting will occur through Formstack and CPDS. Formstack reporting will look similar to what was required for AMM reporting in the previous biennium ([SFF Program Reporting](#) & [SFF Climate Commitment Act Reporting](#)).

## Climate Commitment Act (CCA) Requirements

The Alternative Manure Management funding opportunity is supported with funding from Washington's Climate Commitment Act (CCA). The CCA puts cap-and-invest dollars to work reducing climate pollution, creating jobs, and improving public health. Information about the CCA is available at [www.climate.wa.gov](http://www.climate.wa.gov).

For any SCC grant program that is funded by the Climate Commitment Act, the statute requires that applicants notify, "all affected federally recognized Tribes within the project area," about their proposed project as early as possible prior to approval of funding. Please follow [CCA Pre-Application Notification Instructions](#).

See [www.scc.wa.gov/cd/cca](http://www.scc.wa.gov/cd/cca) for all Climate Commitment Act Requirements.

## Eligible Projects

Projects must occur on livestock operations where manure is stored in anaerobic (liquid) form and may include multiple components of a manure handling system, including the following practices and associated upstream and downstream components needed to accommodate the change to the manure management system, including transporting manure for eventual field application.

Project must be located in Washington.

### Practices may include:

- Waste Treatment (629)
- Waste Storage Facility (313)
- Composting Facility (317)
- Combustion System Improvement (372) used for stationary or mobile engine replacement or repower to electric motor
- Waste transfer (634)
- Farmstead Energy Improvement (374)
- Pumping plant (533) used to reduce energy use
- Waste Separation Facility (632) in conjunction with manure treatment and/or storage practices:
  - Weeping Wall (system must have a minimum of at least two cells)
  - Stationary Screen
  - Vibrating Screen
  - Screw Press
  - Centrifuge

- Roller Drum
- Belt Press/Screen
- Conversion from flush to scrape
- Installation of compost bedded pack barn
- Other practices may be included in a project to aid in management of manure or nutrient management.

Applicants with unfunded projects from the 2024 application round must reapply with updated bids to be considered.

## Estimate of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions

Projects will be competitively evaluated on set criteria, including an estimated reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. Estimates of emissions reduction should include both those reductions due to reducing fossil fuel used in manure handling or from reductions of methane produced from anaerobic storage. Projects that reduce methane emissions the most are generally practices that reduce volatile solids stored in the lagoon.

Applicants should use either the [CARB AMMP tool modified for Washington](#) (preferred) or COMET Farm to estimate greenhouse gas emissions reductions. In situations where these two tools cannot be used to estimate emissions reductions, applicants should contact the program manager for guidance.

## Eligible Expenses

- Engineering costs
- Permitting costs
- Cultural resources review costs
- Construction costs
- Technical assistance to implement project