

CARBON FARMING

Alameda County
Resource Conservation District

What is Carbon Farming?

Carbon Farming is the use of farming, ranching and ecological practices to capture and **retain carbon dioxide** in vegetation and soils. Carbon Farming is not new; it is simply a different way of planning and prioritizing on-farm management.

Compost addition, cover cropping, riparian planting, and prescribed grazing are a few practices that effectively improve soils and capture carbon.

Why is Carbon Farming important?

There are environmental and economic benefits. Certain practices **improve production while enhancing soil health**. For example, compost addition increases soil organic matter, which allows soils to absorb and hold more water, nourish plants, extend the green season, and reduce erosion, all of which provide economic benefits.



Be a Carbon Farmer

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Funding for Carbon Farming

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), and Alameda County Resource Conservation District (ACRCD) (via grants) provide **funding for most of the practices** identified in Carbon Farm Plans. Examples of practices include:

- ◇ Cover cropping
- ◇ Compost application
- ◇ Hedgerow
- ◇ No-till or reduced till
- ◇ Mulching
- ◇ Riparian planting

For more information, visit

<https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/healthysoils/>

Carbon Farm Plan

ACRCD can assist in developing a Carbon Farm Plan, which outlines opportunities to capture carbon and reduce on-farm carbon emissions on your property.

Get started or learn more.

Ian Howell

Email: ian.howell@acr.cd.org

925-371-0154

3585 Greenville Rd.
Livermore, CA 94550

www.acr.cd.org

