

EXPANDING AGROFORESTRY PROJECT

PHASE 1: APPLICATION TIMING: APPROX 3 MONTHS

The Expanding Agroforestry Project (EAP) is led by The Nature Conservancy in collaboration with multiple partners across 30 U.S. states. The EAP Incentive Payment Program provides producers financial and technical assistance for new agroforestry plantings. This competitive program requires a well-developed agroforestry plan as part of the application.

1

ENSURE YOUR ELIGIBILITY

Review EAP FAQ document on our webpage for all eligibility requirements. Producers must be located in one of 30 eligible states, planning to establish a minimum of 5 acres (3-acre minimum in HI) in alley cropping, silvopasture, and/or windbreaks. Eligible land cannot be currently in woodland or forested conditions.



2

DEVELOP YOUR AGROFORESTRY PLAN

Understand your soils, review site history, and determine: species lists, tree/shrub spacing, budget estimates, marketing plans, and grazing plans (if applicable). Contact your regional lead organization to schedule a 1-hour pre-application consultation using the form provided on our [webpage](#).



3

FILL OUT YOUR APPLICATION

Thoroughly answer all questions and include maps and/or other resources that will help us understand your farm. Check the EAP website for more information regarding application deadlines.



4

WAIT FOR A RESPONSE

Approximately 10 weeks after the application cycle closes, you will be notified by TNC whether you have been selected to move forward to the next phase. If you are not, you may apply again in the next cycle.



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PHASE 2: PRE-ENROLLMENT TIMING: CONTINGENT UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION & APPROVAL OF USDA REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION.

Note that moving to the pre-enrollment phase does not guarantee funding. This is only guaranteed when a contract is signed and fulfilled. The purpose of this phase is to finalize the details necessary for contracting, including USDA requirements, incentive payment amounts, and ensuring that the agroforestry plan, including the list of planted species, has the best chance of economic success for your farm and avoids any unintended conservation impacts.

- 1

FREE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDER ASSIGNED
Get paired with your free EAP Technical Assistant Provider.




- 2

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE KICK-OFF CALL
Virtual kick-off and orientation meeting with Technical Assistance Provider.



- 3

FINALIZE DESIGN
Work with your Technical Assistance Provider to finalize your site design to NRCS Conservation Practice Standards. This may involve a farm visit.



- 4

COLLECT REQUIRED USDA DOCUMENTATION
Acquire all approvals for USDA Eligibility Documentation (including CPA-52).



- 5

SUBMIT INCENTIVE PACKAGE TO TNC
Submit EAP Incentive Producer Package to TNC to initiate contracting process.



- 6

ENROLL: SIGN PRODUCER INCENTIVE AGREEMENT & RECEIVE 1ST INCENTIVE PAYMENT
Execute agreement with TNC and receive first incentive payment within approximately 60 days. Producers who have signed an agreement with TNC are considered fully enrolled in the program.





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PHASE 3: POST-ENROLLMENT

TIMING: THROUGH END OF AWARD PERIOD IN 2029

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1

PLANT AGROFORESTRY SYSTEM

Agroforestry plantings should be fully planted within 18 months from signature date of the agreement with TNC.



2

PLANTING VERIFICATION BY EAP REGIONAL LEAD STAFF

Verification of tree planting to NRCS Conservation Practice Standards.



3

FINAL INCENTIVE PAYMENTS

Producers will receive their second incentive payment within approximately 60 days of planting verification. The final payment will be disbursed within 60 days of TNC receiving final data reporting. Reporting requirements are specified by USDA and include both agronomic and economic information that could help inform future policies to support agroforestry.

