



SAVANNA INSTITUTE

Climate Smart Commodities and Financial Investments

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The Savanna Institute works with farmers and scientists to lay the groundwork for widespread agroforestry adoption in the Midwest and beyond.

savannainstitute.org



AGROFORESTRY



An integrated approach to farming with trees and livestock that can produce many benefits for people and the land.

Healthy, local food

Clean air

Provides wildlife habitat

Diversifies farm income

Sustainable communities



Improves livestock comfort

Prevents erosion

Purifies water

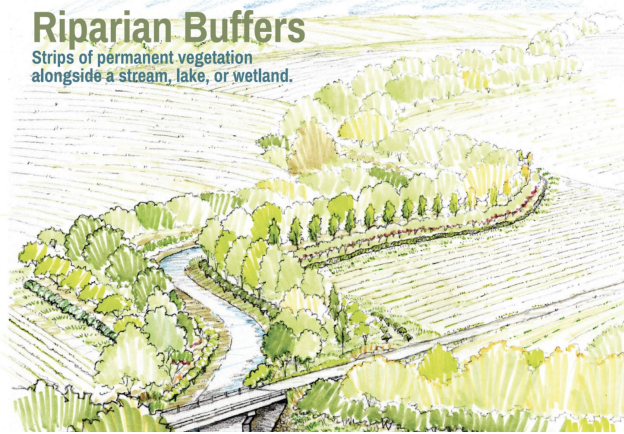
Sequesters carbon

Captures fertilizer and pesticide

5 USDA approved practices

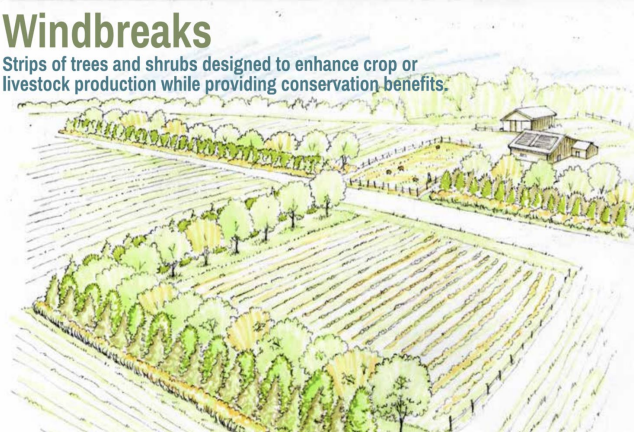
Riparian Buffers

Strips of permanent vegetation alongside a stream, lake, or wetland.



Windbreaks

Strips of trees and shrubs designed to enhance crop or livestock production while providing conservation benefits.



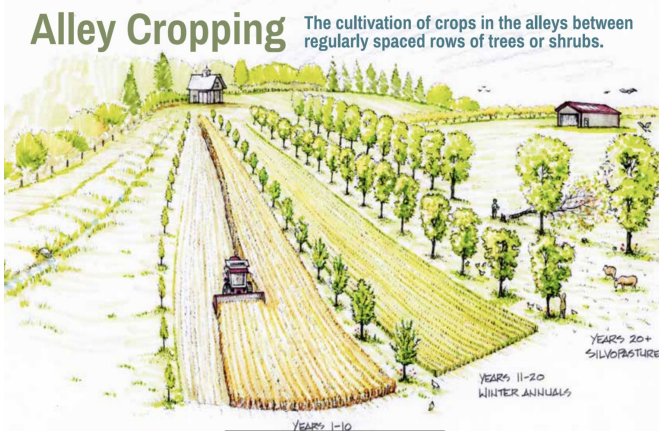
Forest Farming

The cultivation of specialty crops under existing forest canopies.



Alley Cropping

The cultivation of crops in the alleys between regularly spaced rows of trees or shrubs.



Silvopasture

The intentional integration of trees, pasture, and livestock, managed as a single system.





Expanding Agroforestry Program (EAP)

A USDA Partnerships for Climate -Smart Commodities Project

- Setting a direction for the largest one-time influx of funds into agroforestry in US history.
- A five-year experiment: What would it be like if a broad swath Federal farm policy reoriented toward perennial agriculture?



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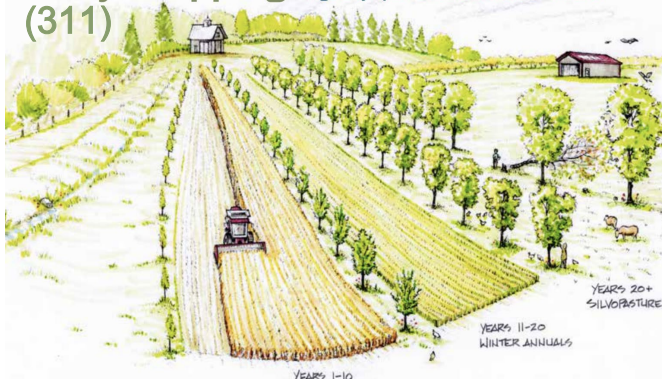
Windbreaks (380)

Strips of trees and shrubs designed to enhance crop or livestock production while providing conservation benefits.



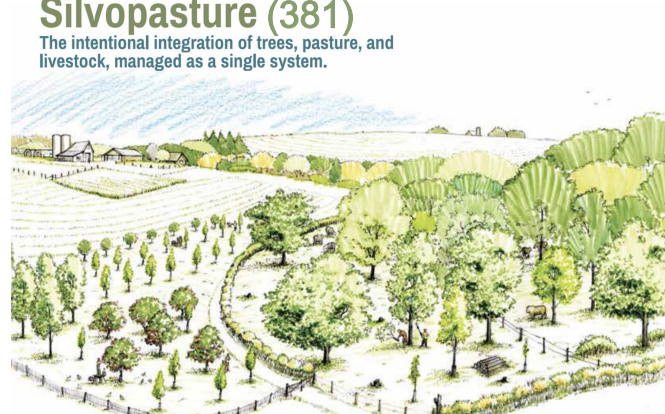
Alley Cropping (311)

The cultivation of crops in the alleys between regularly spaced rows of trees or shrubs.



Silvopasture (381)

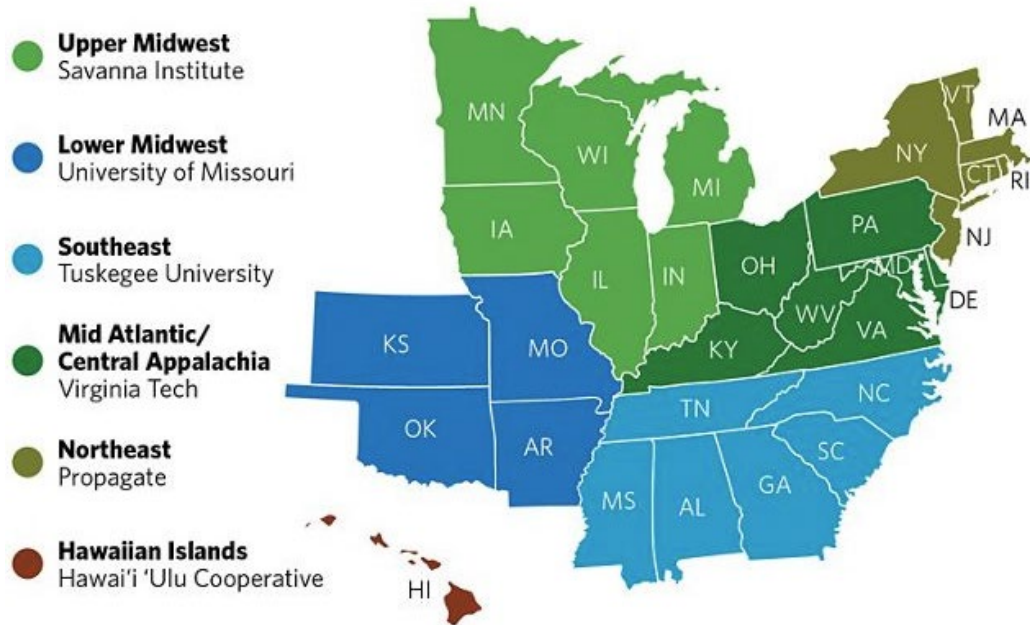
The intentional integration of trees, pasture, and livestock, managed as a single system.



Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities Grant

Expanding Agroforestry Production & Markets for Producer Profitability & Climate Stabilization

\$60M • 5 Years • 30 States • 30,000 Acres



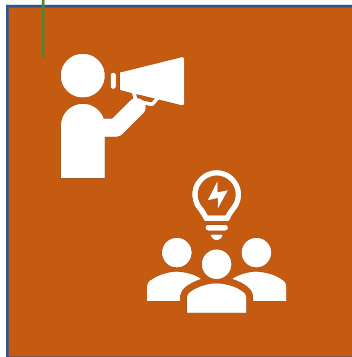


Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities Grant

Expanding Agroforestry Production & Markets for Producer Profitability & Climate Stabilization

\$60M • 5 Years • 30 States • 30,000 Acres

Outreach
Recruitment &
Awareness
Building



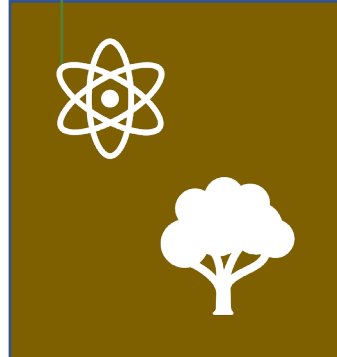
Incentive Payment
Program:
Financial +
Technical
Assistance



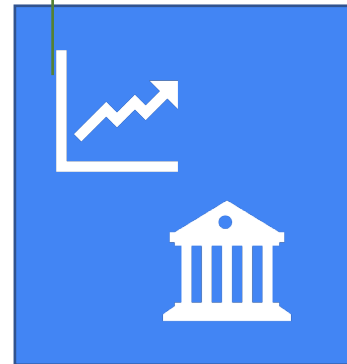
Agroforestry
Demonstration
Farm Plantings



Measurement,
Monitoring,
Reporting &
Verification



Enabling Conditions:
Market Development
Finance Options
Crop Insurance
Nursery Capacity
Technical Training





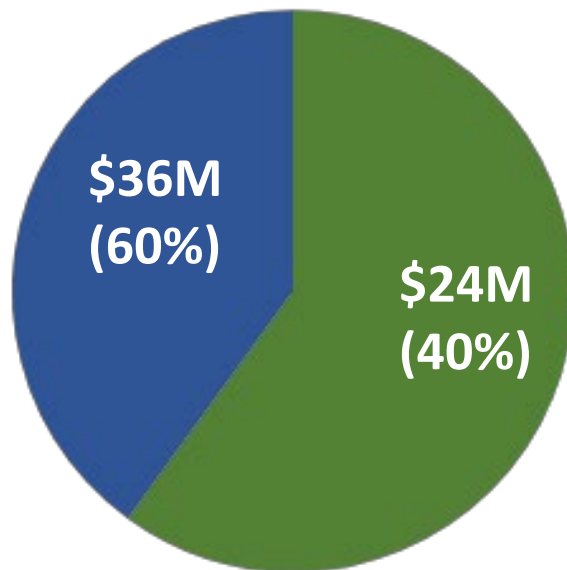
Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities Grant

Expanding Agroforestry Production & Markets for Producer Profitability & Climate Stabilization

\$60M • 5 Years • 30 States • 30,000 Acres

PCSC Agroforestry Budget = \$60M

\$36M =
Direct to Producer
Incentive Payments



\$24M = Funding for:

- Partner Organization Staff Capacity
- Outreach/Education
- MMRV Activities
- Enabling Conditions Support



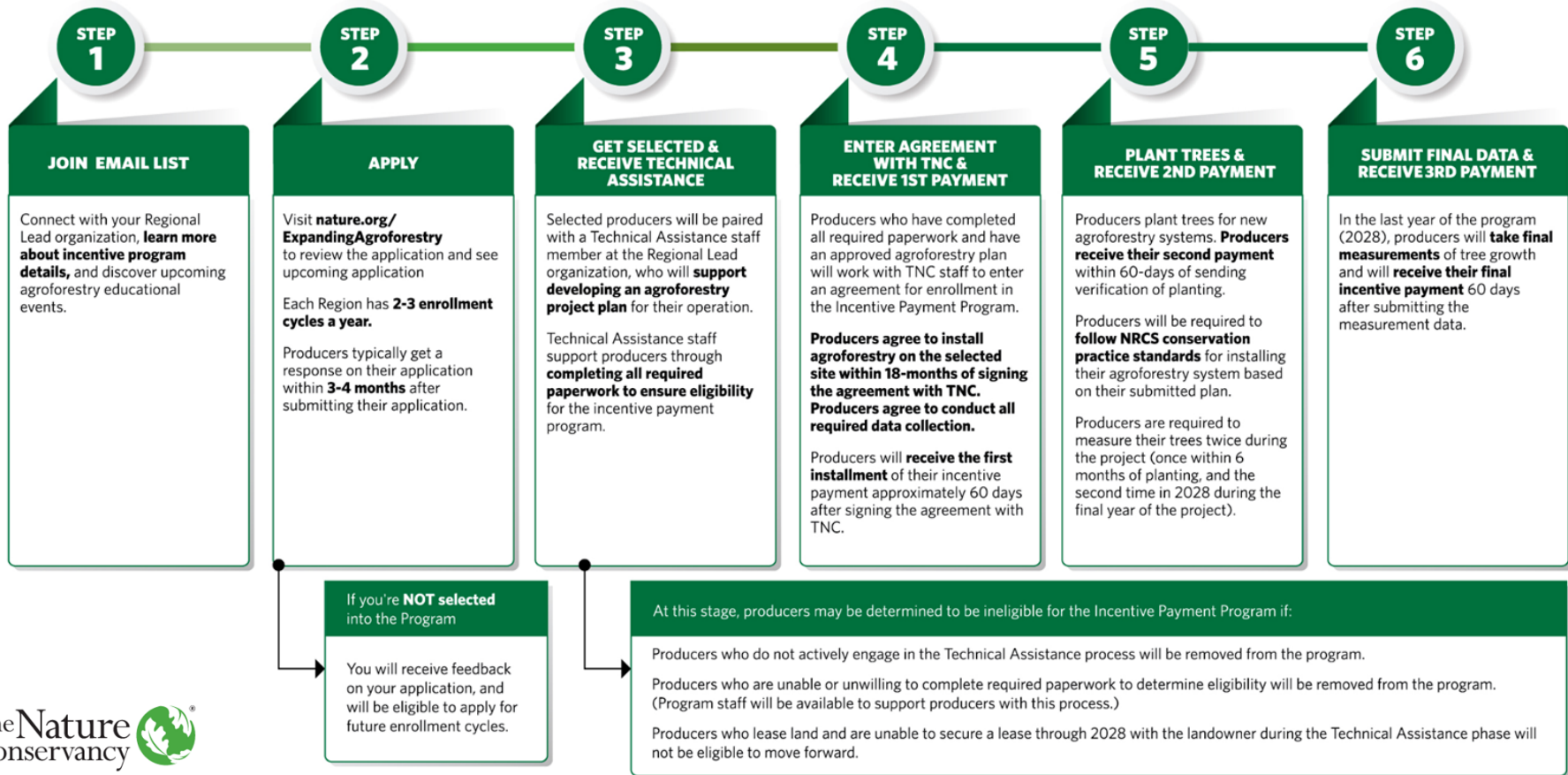
Expanding Agroforestry Incentive Payment Program - \$36M



EXPANDING AGROFORESTRY

INCENTIVE PAYMENT PROGRAM

Visit [Nature.org/ExpandingAgroforestry](https://www.nature.org/expandingagroforestry) to learn more.





(Optional & Encouraged) Demonstration & Science Research Sites



Photo Source: Audrey Epp Schmidt (TNC)



Photo Source: Audrey Epp Schmidt (TNC)



Expanding Agroforestry Incentive Payment Structure – Category 1

Structure

Category 1

- **Per-Tree Installation Costs Incentive:** Enrolled producers receive a Per-Tree Installation Costs Incentive Payment (average \$30/tree).
- **Transition Incentive:** PLUS, a Per-Acre Transition Incentive of \$450/acre paid out in three installments.

Payment Schedule

Category 1

- **1st Payment** – 70% of the Per-Tree Installation Cost Incentive + first Transition Incentive payment of \$150/acre
 - Paid within approximately 60 days of signing agreement with The Nature Conservancy
- **2nd Payment** – 25% of the Per-Tree Installation Cost Incentive + second Transition Incentive payment of \$150/acre
 - Paid within approximately 60 days of verification of planting (e.g. site visit or photographs)
- **3rd Payment** – 5% of the Per-Tree Installation Cost Incentive + final third Transition Incentive payment of \$150/acre
 - In the final year of the program (2028), producer is paid the final remaining incentive payment within approximately 60 days of TNC staff receiving final data submission from the enrolled producer.

Important: Cannot combine with other NRCS program funding (EQIP, CSP, CRP) or other PCSC projects for same practice on same acreage with Expanding Agroforestry Project.

Expanding Agroforestry Incentive Payment Structure – Category 2

Structure

Category 2

- **Installation Costs:** Are paid by third-party financing or other funding source options.
- **Transition Incentive:** Enrolled producers for Category 2 receive the Per-Acre Transition Incentive of \$450/acre paid out in three installments.

Payment Schedule

Category 2

- **1st Payment** – First Transition Incentive payment of \$150/acre
 - Paid within approximately 60 days of signing agreement with The Nature Conservancy with required proof of secured financial support for installation costs
- **2nd Payment** – Second Transition Incentive payment of \$150/acre
 - Paid within approximately 60 days of verification of planting (e.g. site visit or photographs of the plantings)
- **3rd Payment** – Final third Transition Incentive payment of \$150/acre
 - In the final year of the program (2028), producer is paid the final remaining incentive payment within approximately 60 days of TNC staff receiving final data submission from the enrolled producer.

Important: Cannot combine with other NRCS program funding (EQIP, CSP, CRP) or other PCSC projects for same practice on same acreage with Expanding Agroforestry Project

Online Application – Tips & Recommendations for Strong Applications



Expanding Agroforestry Project Incentive Payment Program Application

For this current application cycle we are currently accepting applications for the Upper Midwest, Lower Midwest, Mid-Atlantic/Central Appalachia, Northeast, and Hawaii regions. Please see a map of eligible states and more program information on [this webpage](#). Please review the FAQ page on the website before preparing your application.

Please note: We recommend you build your application in a separate document, and copy/paste your final answers into this form. This form does not allow saving progress.

Current Application Cycle - Winter '23-'24:

- Applications Open:
 - November 15th, 2023
- Applications Deadlines:
 - Upper Midwest: December, 15th, 2023
 - Lower Midwest: December, 15th, 2023
 - Mid-Atlantic/Central Appalachia: January 1st, 2024
 - Hawaii: December 31st, 2023
 - Northeast: January 16th, 2024
 - **Southeast: No applications accepted this enrollment cycle**
- Review & Selection Process
- Applicants notified about status of their application by early February

If you have questions about the program or application, please contact ExpandingAgroforestry@tnc.org.

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1. Eligibility Conditions *

To be in this program, you must be willing to do required paperwork for USDA and to enter into an agreement with The Nature Conservancy. We have program staff who will help you navigate the required forms below.

1. FSA number (and assigned Farm, Tract, & Field IDs)
2. Approved CPA-52
3. Form AD-2047
4. Form CCC-902
5. Form AD-1026
6. Certification that applicant is not a foreign person or entity
7. Subsidiary print form
8. Farmers.gov registration
9. Incentive Payment Producer Survey
10. Certificate of Insurance Form
11. Conflict of Interest form (with The Nature Conservancy)
12. W-9
13. ACH Form (required only if opting for preferred electronic payment processing)

Yes No Unsure

2. Additional Eligibility Conditions *

Please review this Expanding Agroforestry Project Eligibility information sheet.

- Yes, I self-certify that I am currently eligible or willing to become eligible for this program
- No, I am not currently nor willing to become eligible for this program

3. Incentive Payment Structure *

Please see the Incentive Payment Structure information on the FAQ Page to learn more about the two incentive payment structures offered under this program.

Category 1 Category 2 Both

Contact Information

4. Individual Name *

Please select one Point of Contact for each application. Please select one individual who will be responsible for communicating with program staff and is an authorized signatory for the farm business (as applicable).

5. Farm Business Name (if applicable)

6. Phone *

- There are multiple application cycles – wait to apply until you have a robust plan for your agroforestry system that details long - term profitability of the system.
- Connect with your Regional Lead organization to learn more about program details.
- The more details the better! Please answer all questions as thoroughly as possible.

Please read the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Document



Expanding Agroforestry Project (EAP) Frequently Asked Questions

Updated November 2023

In 2022, the USDA announced more than \$3.1 billion in funding for 141 projects, with the requirement that each project include meaningful involvement of small and underserved producers. Among those awards was a \$60 million grant to The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and multiple partners to fund *Expanding Agroforestry Production & Markets for Producer Profitability and Climate Stabilization ("EAP")*, a 5-year project to increase agroforestry plantings in 30 states in the Eastern and Midwestern United States, and Hawai'i.

This program has generated broad interest from producers, conservationists, and policymakers interested in the potential of agroforestry to provide climate benefit and economic opportunities. Below we address common questions we have received related to this project and its incentive payment program.

ABOUT THE EXPANDING AGROFORESTRY INCENTIVE PAYMENT PROGRAM

1. What is the purpose of the Expanding Agroforestry Incentive Payment Program?

The costs associated with planting new agroforestry systems are often a barrier to adoption for producers. To help alleviate this issue, the Expanding Agroforestry Incentive Payment Program is designed to increase the adoption of agroforestry by providing technical assistance coupled with incentive payments that support a producer through establishing new acres of agroforestry systems. Our program is focused on adding new fruit, nut, timber, and biodiversity trees and shrubs through alley cropping, silvopasture, and windbreak practices.

2. What is the structure of the incentive payments and what do they pay for?

USDA's Partnership for Climate-Smart Commodities program is piloting new incentive payments to encourage producers to

Scan to access
the FAQ



Or visit nature.org/expandingagroforestry

Expanding Agroforestry Project is one of the tools in the collective agroforestry funding toolbox



Photo Source: Audrev Epp Schmidt (TNC)

- **Multiple Climate-Smart Commodity grants with funding for agroforestry implementation**
- **Existing NRCS programs (EQIP, CSP, CRP) with expanded capacity from Inflation Reduction Act funding**
- **Expanding private donor and third-party financing options available**
 - Example: Catalyzing Agroforestry Grant Program



Market development

- Market development required, but lightly funded in PCSC projects
- For agroforestry project, the Markets Working Group of the new national Agroforestry Coalition will serve as a clearinghouse for info on market opportunities and market / value chain development services



Increased market demand

More demand for agroforestry crops, products, & ecosystem services



Increased acreage on farms

More agroforestry systems on more of the landscape



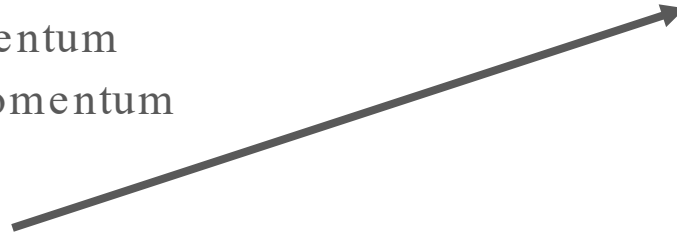
Markets Working Group

- Agroforestry data sharing protocol and data mapping
- Agroforestry (or similar) Trade Association
- Climate change affecting orchards - building resilient supply chains
- Building on berries momentum
- Building on hazelnuts momentum



<http://sli.do>

Join code: #SIEAP



We want to listen to you!

What ideas / problems / concerns do you have that we should tackle?



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Finance Working Group

- Independent Financier List
- Financing/Deal Broker or Liaison Service
- PACE Financing Pilots (WI only)
- Soliciting and workshopping ideas
- Ongoing place of connection, updates, relating, info-sharing



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What ideas / problems / concerns do you have that we should tackle?



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Agroforestry Coalition Working Groups

Join Us!

- Provide input
- Workshop ideas
- Monthly / bimonthly meetings

If interested in joining - input info @ QR Code

Or talk to PJ or send email to pj@savannainstitute.org

Or email Kitt Healy at kitt@savannainstitute.org



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The Nature
Conservancy



Any questions?

Please keep questions general.
For questions about your specific case,
email barbara@savannainstitute.org



Expanding Agroforestry Program (EAP)

A USDA Partnerships for Climate -Smart Commodities Project

Quick Facts

- USDA PCSC grant for \$60m, \$34m available to farmers as incentive payments
- 3 practices: alley cropping, silvopasture, and windbreaks
- 30 states, 30,000 acres
- Focus on new acres of agroforestry, market development, and carbon sequestration
- 2 applications windows each year (2024-2028)
- Free technical assistance for producers selected through the program

Scan to access
the FAQ



Or visit nature.org/expandingagroforestry

