

VIRGINIA

THE PILOT

Virginia's pilot will be led by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, and implemented by the Thomas Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District and Colonial Soil and Water Conservation District ("Supporting Partners"). Virginia Cooperative Extension and Virginia State University's Small Farm Outreach Program will assist the supporting partners with recruitment. In line with the Justice40 goals, 40% of participants will be underserved producers.

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS

Thomas Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District, including the counties Louisa, Fluvanna, Nelson, and Albemarle Counties and the City of Charlottesville.

Colonial Soil and Water Conservation District, including the counties Charles City, James City, City of Williamsburg, and York, as well as Caroline, Chesterfield, Essex, Gloucester, Hanover, Henrico, Isle of Wight, King & Queen, King William, Mathews, Middlesex, New Kent, Prince George, Surry, and the City of Suffolk.

ELIGIBILITY

The Alliance is open to agricultural producers within the counties listed above. This project will allow one application per Farm Service Agency (FSA) farm number, with the payment going to the FSA-designated operator or to be divided as designated on the enrollment form and contract. The participant selection model will allow up to two FSA farm numbers per designated operator. The livestock sub-pilot may set a different cap.

Eligible producers will:

- Be located within one of the approved participating districts;
- Have a verified Farm Service Agency (FSA) number;
- Confirm that the land enrolled and the practice(s) requested will not also be enrolled in a USDA Conservation program or other program associated with the USDA's Partnerships for Climate Smart Commodities sponsored grant program;
- Confirm that the land enrolled and the practice(s) requested will not be dually enrolled in a cost-share program;
- Confirm that the producer will have control of the land for the term of the producer agreement
- Quantify and self-report total greenhouse gas benefits through the use of COMET-Planner

Applications will be at www.allianceforcsa.org during the open enrollment period. Hard copies will be available at district offices.

APPROVED PRACTICES

Qualifying practices have been selected from the USDA-NRCS list of conservation practices. Practices will meet approved NRCS standards. Please refer to the Producer Fact Sheet for a complete list.

PAYMENTS

This project will pay producers \$100 per acre or animal unit per year. Producers will receive 50% of the payment upfront, 25% after implementation and verification, and 25% after final reporting. Underserved producers may be eligible for a 100% upfront payment. All payments will be issued by Virginia Tech.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT: **James Martin**, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
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