



YOLO-SOLANO AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL CHIPPING PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District (District) is accepting applications for the *Pilot* Agricultural Chipping Program. This Program provides incentives to agricultural operations within the District boundaries to chip agricultural materials as an alternative to open burning. Funding for this pilot program includes local funds in addition to an award by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 2021 Targeted Airshed Grant Program. There is a total of \$415,000 available for funding projects in this pilot program, with \$165,000 available for Solano County project and \$250,000 available for Yolo County projects. Applications will be limited to orchard pull outs of walnut and/or almond orchards and will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis while funds are available.

General Eligibility Criteria

- Applicant must have a current YSAQMD Burn Permit for the acreage referenced in the application.
- Grower and crop location must be within the District boundaries.
- Applicants are limited to a voucher maximum of 80 acres.
- Applicant must be a local commercial agricultural operation, headquartered or solely operating within the boundaries of the District for the past 3 years.
- Applicant must not have chipped, nor can begin chipping, any of the acres of agricultural material referenced in their application until they have received an executed voucher.
- Applicant must not have made a payment toward the chipping service to be completed prior to executed voucher being received.
- Applications are limited to orchard pull outs (Almond, walnut, or a crop type with comparable emission reductions).
- Land conversions intended for non-agricultural purposes are not eligible for funding.
- Applicant must certify continued agricultural use of the property, for at minimum 3 years.
- Final disposition of agricultural material must be used for either soil incorporation, on-site land application, or off-site beneficial re-use (mulch, composting, land application, etc.) and cannot be burned or used in any combustion processes such as biomass power generation, air curtain burners, etc.

Maximum Funding Amounts:

Project Type	Incentive Amount
Chipping with Soil Incorporation	\$600 per acre*
Chipping without Soil Incorporation	\$500 per acre*

*These amounts include match funding provided by YSAQMD.

Application Process

1. Applicant submits completed application with all required attachments to the District.
2. District staff will notify the applicant if the application is deemed incomplete and allow the applicant 10 business days to provide the missing information and ensure the application is processed. Failure to provide information after 10 days will result in the application being removed from the list.

3. If the application is deemed complete and eligible, District staff will contact applicant to schedule a pre-inspection of the orchard.
4. Upon the completion of the pre-inspection and final review, District staff will issue a voucher to Applicant via email.
5. Applicant will be provided 6 months from the date on the voucher to complete the project. If Applicant needs more than 6 months, they are required to notify the District in their application and/or at the pre-inspection.
6. If there are any issues that arise or additional time is needed, please contact the District staff as soon as possible. Any changes or extension will require approval by the APCO.

Reimbursement Process

1. Applicant completes the project as described in the application and on the voucher.
2. Applicant must notify District staff within 30 days of project completion and provide the following:
 - a. Completed and signed Voucher
 - b. Itemized invoice from contractor, including acreage chipped
 - c. Documentation showing costs incurred by grower, if additional costs beyond those invoiced
 - d. Proof of payment (e.g., copies of checks, receipts)
3. Once notification is received, District staff will schedule a post-inspection site visit of the removal location and of the final disposition of agricultural material.
4. District staff will complete the post-inspection, this will include inspection of the removal site and final disposition of agricultural material and prepare a written report confirming the program requirements were met.
5. Once all documentation and post-inspection report is completed, the District will issue payment, generally within 30 days.

Program Contact

For questions about the program, please contact the district office at (530) 757-3650 or email grants@ysaqmd.org.