



Blue Diamond Growers Climate-Smart Grant (CSG): Whole Orchard Recycling



Whole Orchard Recycling (WOR) is the on-site chipping of trees during orchard removal and incorporation of the chipped biomass into the soil.

NOTE: Best results will be achieved if lands are fallowed for one season following WOR.

Application opens October 15th. WOR funding is first-come, first-serve. Apply now before funds are depleted.

Incentive

Through the Climate-Smart Grant, Blue Diamond is administering up to **\$900/acre in reimbursement for whole orchard recycling** (chipping, spreading and incorporation) for qualified applicants. Participation is voluntary. Applicants are encouraged to apply for all desired acreage to be recycled in the next 24 months. **Qualified growers will be approved on a first-come, first-serve basis.** Acreage requests above 125 acres will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Requirements

1. Participation in the Blue Diamond Orchard Stewardship Incentive Program (OSIP) most recent crop year bluediamondgrowers.com/forms/
2. Registration with the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=ca&agency=fsa
3. Completed application and subsequent approval from Blue Diamond
4. Grower must provide a WOR service agreement before implementation
5. Growers will have 18 months to complete WOR once BDG confirms eligibility
6. Proof of WOR implementation (invoice or receipt)
7. Adherence to all program requirements

Process

A Blue Diamond Team member will review your application. If complete, a signed subrecipient contract will be required to begin the USDA-required Environmental Evaluation (E.E.) process. After approval of the E.E., BDG will notify you when you can implement the practice. Do not start WOR until BDG confirms E.E. completion and approval. Note: A signed subrecipient agreement does not guarantee eligibility.

Benefits

According to UC Davis, WOR may provide several benefits, including: may increase yield, soil carbon, soil nitrogen, organic matter, soil aggregation and water holding capacity. Please visit orchardrecycling.ucdavis.edu/ for more information.¹

Where to apply

Apply online at bit.ly/bdg-csg

Reimbursements

The reimbursement process will begin after proof of implementation has been submitted to Blue Diamond.

Where to learn more

For more information, please review the detailed, CSG guidebook, which can be found on the Blue Diamond Growers webpage: bit.ly/bdg-csg or contact jbains@bdgrowers.com.

1. Blue Diamond Growers makes no representation with respect to whether incorporating WOR delivers any of these benefits for participating growers.