



November 16, 2018

Climate – Time Sensitive!

County Farm Bureaus that would like to provide technical assistance to help their members apply for the California Department of Food and Agriculture's (CDFA) Climate Smart Agriculture programs have until November 30th to apply. More information and the application are available on CDFA's website [here](#).

CDFA will award up to \$60,000 to selected non-profit organizations, Resource Conservation Districts or academic institutions that will provide technical assistance and application assistance to support CDFA's Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) incentive programs. The CSA programs to be served by technical assistance providers include, Alternative Manure Management Program, Healthy Soils Program, and State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program.

CDFA will award up to \$20,000 per organization for each CSA program solicitation for which the organization will provide technical assistance with an amount not to exceed \$60,000 annually. This funding includes a base payment of up to \$5,000 to each funded organization per solicitation to assist in preparation of outreach materials and proper staff resources. More specific terms are listed in the Request For Proposals. Farm Bureau is ready to help any County Farm Bureau interested in applying. Staff contact: *Noelle Cremers at ncremers@cfbf.com or (916) 446-4647.*

Air Quality

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) voted to adopt its proposed PM 2.5 State Implementation Plan (PM 2.5 SIP) this week. The PM 2.5 SIP includes several provisions that will affect agricultural operations in the San Joaquin Valley. These provisions include both a goal and regulatory requirement if the goal of retiring 12,000 tier 0, tier 1, and tier 2 tractors by 2024 is not met. The first priority is to use funding incentives to assist in the replacement of 12,000 tractors, however a long-term funding source for this effort has not yet been identified.

The SJVAPCD released its draft SIP on August 31st and the document can be found [here](#). In addition to the tractor replacement provisions, the SIP also includes reductions of emissions through expansion of conservation management practices and replacement of agricultural pump engines with electric motors or tier 4 final engines. These reductions will be achieved through separate rulemakings that will occur after the PM 2.5 SIP is adopted. Farm Bureau testified at the hearing to request support for obtaining the incentive funds necessary to meet the goals included in the SIP as well as asking for a recognition of the pollution transported from activities outside of the air district. The ARB will be voting on the final adoption of the SIP at its January board meeting. Staff contact: *Noelle Cremers at ncremers@cfbf.com or (916) 446-4647.*

Agricultural Education

The Legislature's Select Committee on Career Technology and the New Economy hosted an informational hearing on how to improve the delivery of the State's career technical education programs by community colleges and the K-12 system. Presentations included a review of the 2018-19 CTE budget by the Legislative Analysts' Office, new accountability metrics imposed by the State by the Department of Education and the CA Community College Chancellor's Office, and various K-14 and joint CTE partnerships to deploy CTE to California students. *BwynStaff contact: Taylor Roschen, troschen@cfbf.com or 916-446-4647.*

The California FFA is giving away free Ag Specialty License Plates for private vehicles to the first 750 individuals who complete and submit an [application](#). Ag plates first began in 2013, following a campaign by CA FFA members to secure 7,500 paid license plate pledges. The program is funded with proceeds generated through the sale and renewal of specialized, agriculture-themed license plates through the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). The funding has allowed FFA to enhance and restore programs that were previously reduced due to budget cuts, including CA FFA News. In 2015 the CA FFA received just over \$162,000 from the program. As additional plates are registered, funding to CA FFA will increase. Completed applications should not be mailed directly to the DMV, but rather mailed to The California FFA, P.O. Box 186, Galt, CA 95632. *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, troschen@cfbf.com or 916-446-4647.*

Pesticides

As of November 15th, the Department of Pesticide Regulation has released interim restrictions on the use of chlorpyrifos. These measures are intended to limit usage while the formal regulatory processes proposing the listing of chlorpyrifos as a toxic air contaminant is pending. These recommendations are offered to the County Agricultural Commissioners for consideration and inclusion in spray permit determinations beginning January 1, 2019. Measures include:

- Ban on all aerial applications;
- Discontinuing use on all crops, with restrictions for "critical use" when no alternative pesticides as identified by UC Cooperative Extension is noted;
- Imposing a 40-acre application block acreage limit;
- Requiring a ¼ mile buffer zone during applications and 24 hours after; and
- Requiring 150 foot setbacks regardless of occupation status at the time of application.

It is currently unclear as to how these interim restrictions will impact current spray permits and applications for the following season. To view all of the restrictions, please review [here](#). Farm Bureau is in discussions with DPR, County Agricultural Commissioners and other agricultural associations regarding these restrictions. *Staff contact: Jim Houston, jhouston@cfbf.com or 916-446-4647.*

Proposition 65

Farm Bureau participated in a coalition meeting with the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) staff and counsels regarding proposed regulatory changes to the provisions of Proposition 65, which would, in response to the *Beechnut* case, require the use of arithmetic to determine exposure rates rather than also geometric means, and clarify averaging must be done on individual lots rather than a product-wide basis. The proposed regulatory changes can be [here](#). Farm Bureau has joined a coalition of agricultural and business organizations in opposition to these regulatory changes and provided comment to that effect. Farm Bureau, along with the coalition, has requested an extension of the public comment period, to which OEHHA has approved, from November 19th to November 26th. *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, troschen@cfbf.com or 916-446-4647.*