

CLIMATE STEWARDSHIP ACT

Title I. Agriculture

Scaling up federal investment in existing voluntary USDA programs can provide farmers and ranchers the tools they need to quickly increase carbon sequestration and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. As shown below, increased investment in existing conservation programs has substantial climate benefits on top of the more well-known benefits of improved water quality, soil health, and wildlife habitat.

Through voluntary working lands programs such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), alongside voluntary conservation programs like the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), farmers and ranchers can collectively reduce and sequester millions more metric tons of carbon dioxide each year.

Farmers, ranchers, and rural small businesses can also deploy far more renewable energy and energy efficiency projects with expanded financial assistance through the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP), further reducing emissions.

The investments made by the Climate Stewardship Act of 2019 in these voluntary USDA programs would result in increased carbon sequestration and reduced emissions sufficient to reduce or offset agricultural sector greenhouse gas emissions by over one-third by 2025.

Millions of metric tons of CO ₂ e reduced or sequestered each year							
Year	CRP	EQIP	CSP	REAP	Total	Percent of agricultural emissions reduced or offset	2017 ag emissions Per EPA GHG Inventory
2020	4	9	9	13	35	7%	542.1 MMT CO ₂ e
2021	8	17	17	18	60	11%	
2022	13	26	26	36	101	19%	
2023	18	34	34	63	149	27%	
2024	20	43	43	89	195	36%	
2025	22	43	43	89	197	36%	
2026	24	43	43	89	199	37%	
2027	25	43	43	89	200	37%	
2028	27	43	43	89	202	37%	
2029	29	43	43	89	204	38%	
2030	31	43	43	89	206	38%	