

# Enroll in the Minnesota Milk Climate-Smart Project today!

We are taking a significant step toward empowering our members to achieve greater environmental sustainability and financial support through the Farmers for Sustainable Food Climate-Smart program.

With our partner, Farmers for Sustainable Food, we are opening enrollment for Minnesota Milk members in a multi-year sustainability project that provides opportunities and financial incentives.

The Farmers for Sustainable Food Climate-Smart Program uses data to inform decision-making regarding conservation practices and potentially adding value to the food produced on the farm.

Farmers will receive financial stipends based on their level of participation. Initial funding comes from an U.S. Department of Agriculture Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities award.

Minnesota Milk members who join the project now can receive financial compensation for participating this year and in the years ahead.

## **Financial compensation has three tiers:**

**Contributor:** Participants complete a simple greenhouse gas and carbon assessment based on current on-farm practices. No additional requirements. Contributors receive \$1,500 per year of participation.

**Cultivator:** Participants take a deeper dive into their farm data through more in-depth assessments of farming practices using tools such as COMET-Farm or other approved assessment tools. Cultivators receive an additional \$3,000 for a total of \$4,500 per year.

**Collaborator:** Farmers who connect to the supply chain by sharing data with downstream partners, like dairy processors, to help generate added value for commodities. Collaborators receive an additional \$4,500 for a total of \$9,000 per year.

The Farmers for Sustainable Food Climate-Smart Program stands out from others in an important way — there's no requirement for farmers to implement any specific practices. Rather, farmers determine the critical environmental concerns in their area and then, by using technical tools and resources available through the program, they can evaluate the impact their changes are making. Houston Engineering Inc. provides technical data assistance to farmers.

**Enrollment:** If you are interested in enrolling, send your contact information noting your interest in enrollment to: [climate-smart@voiceofmilk.com](mailto:climate-smart@voiceofmilk.com).

This is an exciting step for our members, and we encourage you to consider participating regardless of where you are in your farm's journey.

For more information, visit [farmersforsustainablefood.com/climate-smart/](https://farmersforsustainablefood.com/climate-smart/).