

Dear Friends & neighbors:

December 20 Application Deadline Set for Water Conservation Program

Blythe, Calif., Dec. 9, 2013 – California's farmers and ranchers interested in participating in the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP) have until Dec. 20, 2013, to do so.

AWEP is a voluntary conservation initiative that provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers to implement water enhancement activities on agricultural land to conserve surface and ground water and improve water quality. **If you were ever considering installing an above ground sprinkler irrigation system or a subsurface drip system on alfalfa this could be an opportune time and program for these for other water conserving practices.**

Eligible producers with a conservation plan for their operation receive priority for financial assistance. NRCS staff is available to help producers create conservation plans on a first-come, first-served basis.

Applications can be submitted throughout the year. Applications received by December 20 will be evaluated for funding priority for available FY 2014 funding. Applications received after December 20 may be considered for future funding.

Sincerely,

Sam Cobb

District Conservationist

sam.cobb@ca.usda.gov