

Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grant Program

Introduction

New legislation (SB 1328, Chesbro, Chapter 628, Statutes of 2002), which becomes effective January 1, 2003, will make some important changes to the Farm and Ranch Grant Program. The amount available for each cleanup and abatement project will increase to \$50,000 and each applicant will be eligible for up to \$200,000 per year.

In addition, resource conservation districts and Native American tribes will be able to apply directly to the Board for grant funds, and grantees now will be able to spend up to seven percent of grant funds for administrative expenses.

What is the Farm and Ranch Grant Program?

The Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grant Program provides funding from the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) for the cleanup of illegal solid waste sites on farm or ranch property.

Grants are limited to \$50,000 per cleanup or abatement project, with a limit of \$200,000 per year for each eligible applicant.

Who is eligible to apply for the grant?

Only cities, counties, resource conservation districts, and Native American tribes may apply. Property owners who desire grant funding to clean up their property must work with one of the entities listed above.

What sites are eligible for grants?

The regulations provide flexibility to address properties engaged in various agricultural activities. Sites may be eligible for funding if the property meets all of the following criteria:

- Unauthorized solid waste disposal has occurred on a parcel(s) on a farm or ranch.
- Property is in need of cleanup to abate a nuisance or public health and safety threat and/or a threat to the environment.
- Property is zoned or otherwise authorized for agricultural activities.

What sites are not eligible?

Illegal solid waste sites on farm or ranch property will not qualify for grant funding if the city, county, resource conservation district, or Native American tribe determines that the property owner is responsible for the illegal disposal or dumping.

What cleanup activities may this grant money be used for?

Farm and ranch cleanup grants can be used for:

- Waste removal and disposal
- Drainage control improvement
- Grading
- Slope and foundation stabilization
- Excavation
- Recycling
- Site security
- Public education

Note: This update includes information that becomes effective January 1, 2003.

Can I get reimbursed for a previous cleanup?

Yes. Reimbursement of costs previously incurred by a farm or ranch property owner for cleanup or abatement of an illegal solid waste site is allowed. However, verification and documentation must be provided to clearly show that the:

- Above criteria have been met.
- Costs incurred were used specifically for the cleanup or abatement work.

Whenever possible, property owners should coordinate with one of the authorized grant recipients prior to cleanup.

What are the filing dates for grant applications?

There are no specific filing periods; grant applications are accepted continuously and reviewed on a quarterly basis.

Need more information?

For more information, contact the CIWMB's Remediation, Closure, and Technical Assistance Branch.

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Information is also available on our Web site at www.ciwmb.ca.gov/LEACentral/Cleanup/Grants/FarmRanch/.

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, Flex Your Power and visit www.consumerenergycenter.org/flex/index.html.