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Carbon Farming

The carbon cycle is a critical natural process that moves carbon through Earth's atmosphere, biosphere, pedosphere, lithosphere and oceans. Human activity has tipped the balance of the cycle through extracting enormous quantities of deeply sequestered fossil carbon as fossil fuels. These dense forms of carbon, when burned, release massive amounts of energy and carbon dioxide.

More carbon dioxide is now being released than the earth's land-based plant life and oceans can naturally reabsorb. The excess carbon dioxide has formed a blanket in our atmosphere—trapping the sun's heat and changing our climate, as seen in shifts in our earth's jet stream, ocean currents and air temperature.



Rainfall patterns are changing and glaciers (water storage for many communities) are melting quickly.



Why is Carbon Farming important?

Carbon Farming has the potential to restore balance within the carbon cycle in a way that will ameliorate climate change, build resilience to drought and increase our agricultural productivity naturally.

Current international data from farming systems and pasture trials around the globe show that we could sequester more than 100% of current annual CO2 emissions with a switch to widely available and inexpensive organic management practices, which we term ‘regenerative organic agriculture.’ — [Rodale Report](#)

Preliminary Carbon Farm Practice List

Below is a list of already approved soil carbon building practices. The majority of these practices were selected from the USDA-NRCS GHG Ranking Tool.

- Mulching/compost application
- Residue and Tillage Management
- No Till/Strip Till/Direct Seed
- Anaerobic Digester



- Multi-Story Cropping
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment
- Silvopasture Establishment
- Forage and Biomass Planting
- Nutrient Management
- Tree/Shrub Establishment
- Forest Stand Improvement
- Contour Buffer Strips
- Riparian Restoration
- Riparian Forest Buffer
- Vegetative Barrier
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation
- Alley Cropping
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover
- Range Planting
- Herbaceous Wind Barriers
- Critical Area Planting
- Residue and Tillage Management



- Forest Slash Treatment
- Filter Strip
- Grassed Waterway
- Hedgerow Planting
- Cross Wind Trap Strips
Conservation Cover
- Wetland Restoration



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