



# Climate Ready Midwest

Climate Ready Midwest is a multistate partnership working to increase the impact of climate-smart agriculture across the region. Our mission is twofold:

1

To define what climate-smart agriculture means to the midwestern Extension agricultural community

2

To empower Extension professionals to lead climate-informed agricultural programming across the Midwest

Extension professionals and the USDA Midwest Climate Hub are working together to assess and build climate-informed programming by:

- Developing a shared road map that empowers Extension to lead climate-informed agricultural programming for row crop, specialty crop, and integrated livestock/crop agricultural systems while elevating the perspectives of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People Of Color) and limited-resource producers
- Identifying needs and recommendations for expanding USDA Midwest Climate Hub – Extension engagement
- Establishing a science engagement board to oversee the incorporation of accurate, translatable, and scalable climate strategies into Extension work
- Expanding Climate Ready Farm - an online assessment tool helping farmers better prepare for climate-related challenges and share climate-smart stories
- Creating climate-informed training curricula about carbon management, sequestration, and youth engagement

## What is “climate-smart agriculture”?

Generally, climate-smart agriculture is described as the implementation of farm management practices informed by climate science that increase farm resiliency in the face of climate impacts and work toward net-zero carbon emissions. This includes practices like effectively managing water supplies, weeds, and nutrient applications; implementing soil health practices; diversifying crop varieties; adjusting planting and harvest timing.

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