Increased funding assists small farmers switch to cleaner technologies

As part of the Valley Air District’s ongoing efforts to collaborate with the agricultural business community to deploy the cleanest, sustainable technologies, the District Governing Board recently approved enhancements aimed at increasing accessibility to the District’s programs by small farmers.

Small farming operations can now take advantage of more funding with the Ag Burn Alternatives Grant Program and Ag Tractor Replacement Program.

**Ag Burn Alternatives Grant Program:**
- Operations of 100 acres or less can now receive an additional $400 per acre (in addition to $300 to $1,300 per acre based on crop type and practice) to deploy clean alternatives to open burning

**Agricultural Tractor Replacement Program:**
- Operations of 100 acres or less can now receive up to 80% off the cost of eligible new, latest certified equipment
- Operations between 101 and 500 acres can now receive up to 70% off the cost of eligible new, latest certified equipment.
- Operations of 100 acres or less can now receive up to 80% funding to replace old equipment with certified pre-owned Tier 3 or cleaner equipment

To learn more about these two programs and other grants, visit [www.valleyair.org/grants](http://www.valleyair.org/grants) or call the grants team at 559-230-5800.

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**Showcase Event highlights benefits of farm grants for better air quality**

The Valley Air District is hosting a Clean Ag Equipment Showcase on Friday, March 17, at the Fresno County Farm Bureau to help area farmers learn about agricultural-related grants that can help improve air quality.

On display during the event will be an electric ag utility task vehicle, electric ag tractor and other zero-emission ag equipment.

The District offers a variety of programs for Valley farmers to support the ongoing transition to more sustainable and air-friendly practices, including ag pump engine replacement, ag tractor replacement and ag tractor trade-up.

For more information about the available grants for ag operations, visit [www.valleyair.org/grants](http://www.valleyair.org/grants) or call the grants team at 559-230-5800.