

Grown Climate Smart Program Application



Thank you for your interest in applying for The Delong Co., Inc.'s Climate-Smart Commodities program. Completing this application does not guarantee enrollment, as capacity is limited. A member of the GCS team will reach out with further instructions if accepted into the program. Ineligibility or rejection for any year does not preclude you from participation in following years.

Applications may be mailed to The DeLong Co., Inc. at PO BOX 552, Clinton, WI 53525, sent via email to david.swanson@grownclimatesmart.com, or brought to your nearest DeLong or partnered location.

Incentivized Practices* - 2024 Program Year

- **Cover Crops- \$55/acre:** Crops including grasses, legumes, and forbs for seasonal cover. Approved species, rates, and planting dates determined by NRCS 340 standards.
- Nutrient Management- \$19/acre: Managing the amount (rate), source, placement (method of application), and timing of plant nutrients and soil amendments. Documentation must be provided meeting NRCS 590 standards.
- **Tillage Management- \$15/acre:** Managing amount, orientation, and distribution of crop and other plant residue on the soil surface throughout the year, including all soil-disturbing activities like tillage, planting, and nutrient applications. Reduced Till and No-Till thresholds defined by NRCS 345 & 329 standards.
- Windbreak Establishment & Renovation- \$20/acre protected: Multiple rows of coniferous trees or a combination of coniferous and deciduous trees are planted. One or two rows of shrubs are also often planted. To be eligible for enrollment, an existing windbreak must be renovated, or a new windbreak must be planted according to NRCS 380 standards. Windbreak enrollments are considered to have a 15-year practice lifespan by the NRCS, meaning a windbreak is only eligible to enroll once.
- Bonus-\$5/practice/acre: available to specialty, small, or underserved growers, as budget allows.

*A grower cannot receive GCS funds if they are already receiving federal funds for the same practice on the same ground. An enhancement must be made to the existing practice that is receiving federal funding in order to qualify for GCS funds.

Program Process:

1. Program Application 2. Farm Enrollment & Signed Contracts (Declaration, Clawback, Information Releases) 3. Proofs of Practice

4. Annual Audits 5. Incentive Payments (Q1 2025, pending USDA response)

To be eligible for the program and receive incentives, you must:

- Establish Farm Records with the Farm Service Agency (FSA) (have farm, tract, and field numbers) and submit a signed FSA Information Release Agreement with Enrollment documents.
- Not be in an active federally-incentivized contract for practices on acres you wish to enroll. You may receive funds for these acres if an enhancement is made to a practice in an active contract.
- Follow NRCS practice standards and provide necessary proofs of practice.
- Enroll in a secondary sustainability program **as needed** (such as ISCC or SAI's Farm Sustainability Assessment).
- Bring commodities produced on incentivized acres to a DeLong Co., Inc. or partnered facility for traceability and marketing opportunity.

This material is based upon work supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, under agreement number NR233A750004G009 Updated February 6, 2024 Page | 1



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Contact the Grown Climate Smart team with any questions: info@grownclimatesmart.com | (608) 676-3041

Producer Name & Farm Name (if applicable)			
Will your enrollment be split with anyone?	□ No □ Yes (list name(s)):		
Primary Phone Number			
Mailing Address			
Email Address			
State(s) of Operation			
Number of Desired Acres to Enroll for each Climate-Smart Practice	Cover Crop		
	Nutrient Management		
	Reduced Tillage & No-Till		
	Windbreak Establishment & Renovation Protected area is 250ft from tree line. 1ac = 43,560 ft ² 250 / 43,560 = 0.00574	Acres Protected = (length of tree line in fee	it) * (0.00574)
What is your primary motivation to participate in this program?			
Environmental Benefit Financial Benefit			
New Market Opportunity Partnerships or Networks			
What are up to three types of outreach about this program that were provided to you?			
Commodity Organizations Conferences Co-op Extension Digital Communication			
□Education Workshops □Existing Partner Networks □Farm Visits / One-on-one Meetings			
General Advertising Peer referral Phone Calls Print Communication			
Retailers State Agencies Targeted Messaging Technical Service			
Are you certified or transitioning to organic?			🖵 Yes 🖵 No
Are any of the enrolled fields certified or transitioning to organic?			🗆 Yes 🗖 No
Have you enrolled in Grown Climate Smart previously?			🖵 Yes 🖵 No
Have you previously received federal funds for Climate-Smart practices?			🛛 Yes 🗖 No
Have you previously received state or local funds for any Climate-Smart practices?			🗆 Yes 🗖 No
Have you previously received non-profit funds for any Climate-Smart practices?			🗆 Yes 🗖 No
Have you previously received market incentives for any Climate-Smart practices?			🗆 Yes 🗖 No

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