Sustainable Agriculture

**DESCRIPTION**
Sustainable Agriculture provides grants to install more efficient irrigation systems that reduce water usage and greenhouse gas emissions. The program also supports projects that reduce methane emissions from agricultural waste and provides grants to enhance the efficiency and economic viability of anaerobic digester technology.

**BENEFITS**
Investing in low-carbon agriculture has the potential to unlock major new employment opportunities and savings for the Commonwealth. Spending on efficient irrigation systems and agricultural technology supports new workforce opportunities in construction, engineering, and manufacturing, but creates an even greater number of jobs in the broader economy by reducing energy costs for agricultural businesses. The transition away from energy-intensive agriculture and trapping methane emissions also reduces outdoor air pollution.

**RESULTS**
Each dollar invested supports three times as many jobs as a dollar invested in the state’s ten largest industries. Additionally, every dollar invested saves the Commonwealth $3.34 in energy cost savings, improved public health, and climate benefits.

**JOBS PER MILLION INVESTED**
- 23.4 Jobs: Sustainable Agriculture
- 7.8 Jobs: State’s Ten Largest Industries

**TOP OCCUPATIONS**
1. Electrical, Electronic, and Electromechanical Assemblers
2. Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators
3. General and Operations Managers
4. Semiconductor Processing Technicians
5. Retail Salespersons

**BENEFITS PER MILLION INVESTED**
- **Energy Cost Savings**: $2,173,400
  - Energy costs avoided by reducing energy use
- **Air Pollution Health Benefits**: $125,500
  - Saved lives and avoided illnesses from improved air quality
- **Climate Benefits**: $1,039,600
  - Avoided future damages of climate change from greenhouse gas pollution

**Total**
$3,338,400

*These findings are an excerpt from Investing in a Better Massachusetts: An Analysis of Jobs and Community Benefits from Green Investments. Read the full report here.*