



EL DORADO COUNTY
FARM BUREAU

2460 Headington Road
Placerville, CA 95667-5216
Phone: 530.622.7773
Fax: 530.622.7839
Email: info@edcfb.com

[date]

[Name]

[Address]

[City], CA [Zip]

Subject: Agricultural "Opt-in" Opportunity

Reference: Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) [000-000-00]

Dear [Name],

The El Dorado County Farm Bureau has been working hard the past three years to make sure that agricultural interests were well represented during the county's Targeted General Plan Amendment and Zoning Ordinance Update processes. We requested changes to ensure that agricultural operations are protected and promoted for future opportunities in our industry. We are fortunate to live in a county that values agricultural businesses that work the land for raw crop production and value-added products. The County also recognizes the important role that agri-tourism plays in our local economy.

As such, the County is asking you to provide them your zoning preference. In some areas of the County the proposed zoning, for some parcels, could be residential or agricultural in nature. By virtue of having received this letter, your parcel is in one of those areas that could be zoned either way.

You may have received a different version of this letter in a prior mailing. If you have already expressed your zoning preference, we thank you for your inputs. If you have not, the County would like to hear from you now. To see what your current and proposed zoning looks like, go to: http://gemp.edcgov.us/zoning_luppu/ and enter your Assessor's Parcel Number (APN, above) or property address in the space provided. (For more details click on the legend in the upper right hand corner.)

If you have an existing commercial agricultural operation or you plan to develop your land for agriculture, you have the opportunity to let the County know you want to "opt in" to agricultural zoning. By being properly zoned for agriculture you will retain your "Right to Farm", agricultural setbacks and agricultural buffers that protect your desire to work the land. The County is offering a free consistency re-zone while it is making corrections to the zoning map, so this opportunity will cost you nothing.

The County will consider your request and will heavily weigh your preference when analyzing the final documents. We anticipate the Board of Supervisors will make the final determination this fall. You may respond in one of the following ways:

- 1) complete and return the enclosed form by mail;
- 2) drop off the completed form to the Agriculture or Development Services Departments; or,
- 3) submit your "opt-in" preference, your address and your APN via email to IGPA-ZOU@edcgov.us.

*Protect, promote, and enhance the economic opportunities and long-term viability
for El Dorado County farmers, ranchers, and foresters.*

If you need further clarification, have questions or concerns, you may contact Shawna Purvines of El Dorado County's Development Services Department at 530-621-5362 or Chris Flores of El Dorado County's Agriculture Department at 530-621-7506.

The El Dorado County Farm Bureau appreciates the County asking us to craft this letter and accompanying information. The recognition that Farm Bureau understands the complexity of these issues makes us even more committed to helping our agricultural partners. If you act now, you can take advantage of this opportunity and choose to "opt-in" for agriculture, now and in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Davies". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

Jim Davies, President

Enclosure: "Agricultural Opt-In Program" brochure

**Yes, I request to be zoned
Agricultural in the zoning map ...**

Name: _____

Assessor's Parcel Number:

Property Address:

Mailing Address (if different):

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____



April 2013



About Us

*In 1917 the El Dorado County Farm Bureau (EDCFB) was formed and we joined the California Farm Bureau Federation in 1919. We formed a mutual benefit membership non-profit corporation in 1946. The purpose of Farm Bureau is to surface, analyze, and solve the problems of farmers, ranchers, and loggers — representing the needs and interests of all **El Dorado County** farming families.*

EDCFB is a grassroots organization led by a volunteer Board of Directors who represent the commodities grown. It has an ongoing, working relationship with the U. C. Cooperative Extension and Agricultural Commissioner. It serves as a political arm of the farmer speaking out on local, state and national issues that affect the agricultural commodities we raise. We also promote education of our members and the community on agricultural-related issues. We represent 1,200 member families in the county, 300 of which are actively involved in farming.

***For more information about
Farm Bureau contact:***

El Dorado County Farm Bureau
2460 Headington Road
Placerville, CA 95667

Valerie Zentner @ 530-622-7773
or info@edcfb.com
www.edcfb.com



***El Dorado
County's
Agricultural
"Opt-In"
Program***



Why would you Opt-in to Agricultural zoning?

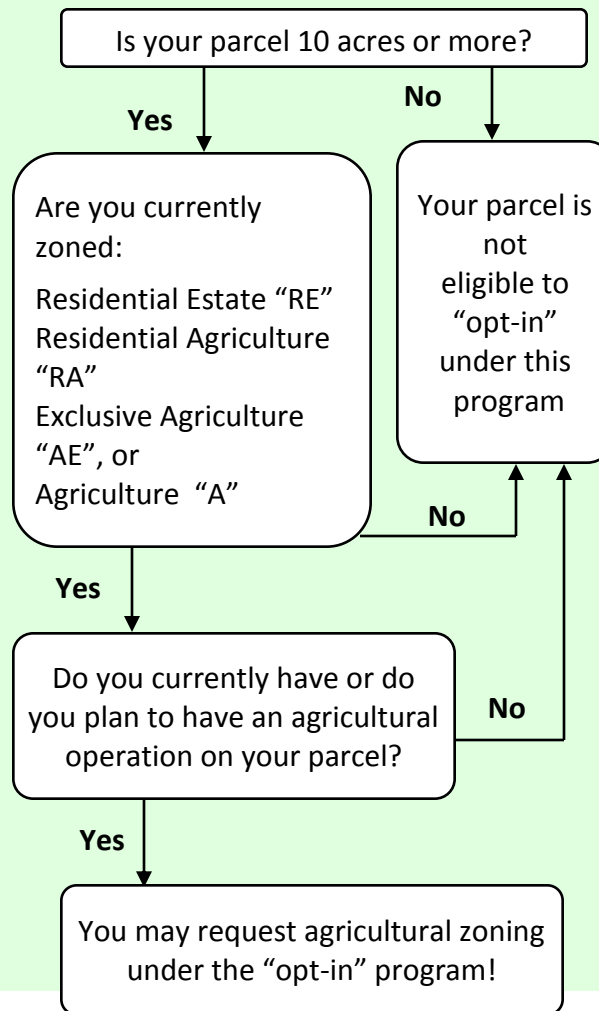
For those who are engaged in commercial agriculture, being zoned properly will ensure that you are protected from impacts associated with increasing development .

- **Right to Farm.** The farmer has the right to use normal farming practices that may make noise, dust, or cause odors *without* being at risk of nuisance complaints from neighbors.
- **Buffers and Agricultural Setbacks.** When new development is planned in your area, your agricultural operation will be protected by buffers and setbacks to make sure your farming will not be impacted by encroachment.
- **Accessory uses.** With appropriate zoning and parcel size, you are entitled to accessory uses that allow you to market your value-added products.
- **Consistency re-zone.** By taking advantage of this opportunity, you may be eligible for a “no cost” consistency re-zone.

The Board of Supervisors will consider your request for agricultural zoning when they analyze the impacts of the proposed Zoning Ordinance. To “opt-in” is to say “Yes, I want to be zoned for agriculture both now and in the future”!




Does the Agricultural “Opt-in” Program Apply to You?



How do I inform El Dorado County that I want to Opt-in?

There are three ways to respond to let the county know of your preferred zoning. First, **complete the form** on the reverse of this panel, then:

- **Drop off the completed form** to the Agriculture Department or Development Services Department. 
- **Mail the completed form** in the enclosed self-addressed envelope.
- **Reply via email** to the website link at: TGPA-ZOU@edcgov.us.

What if I’m not sure what my zoning is, am confused, or have more questions?

- **Check your zoning** at http://gemp.edcgov.us/zoning_luppu/
- **Contact the El Dorado County staff** members shown below.

For More Information Contact:

El Dorado County Agriculture Department
311 Fair Lane, Placerville, CA 95667
Chris Flores @ 530-621-7506
chris.flores@edcgov.us

-OR-

El Dorado County Development Services Department
2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville, CA 95667
Shawna Purvines @ 530-621-5362
shawna.purvines@edcgov.us