



# COUNTY OF YOLO

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## **Yolo County Rescinds Moratorium on New Williamson Act Contracts**

**(Woodland, CA)** – At its January 10 meeting, the Yolo County Board of Supervisors approved rescinding the 2009 moratorium on new Williamson Act contracts and set new eligibility criteria for new contract applications. As a result, Yolo County will begin accepting new contract applications immediately.

The California Land Conservation Act of 1965, commonly referred to as the Williamson Act, enables local governments to enter into contracts with private landowners for the purpose of restricting specific parcels of land to agricultural or related open space. In return, landowners receive property tax assessments which are much lower than normal because they are based upon farming and open space uses as opposed to full market value.

The Open Space Subvention Act of 1971 provided local governments an annual subvention of forgone property tax revenues from the state through 2009. These payments (historically \$1.3 million to Yolo County) have been suspended in recent years. As a result, Yolo County imposed a moratorium on new Williamson Act contracts.

For more information please visit: [www.yolocounty.org/community-services/planning-public-works/planning-division/application-forms](http://www.yolocounty.org/community-services/planning-public-works/planning-division/application-forms) or contact Eric Parfrey, Yolo County planner, at [Eric.Parfrey@yolocounty.org](mailto:Eric.Parfrey@yolocounty.org).

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