The Benton County Agriculture and Wildlife Protection Program (AWPP) is a two-year pilot program to encourage the proactive use of non-lethal animal damage deterrents in an effort to foster the coexistence of agriculture and wildlife in Benton County.

This new community-based program is funded by Benton County and managed by county officials in partnership with an advisory committee comprised of citizen volunteers and representatives from Oregon State University Extension Service and Chintimini Wildlife Center.

The AWPP funds (1) educational outreach and expert consultation services and (2) a merit-based, cost-share, reimbursement grant program. Agricultural operations in Benton County that wish to prevent conflicts with wildlife may qualify for up to $5,000 in reimbursement grant funds for the purchase of proactive non-lethal wildlife deterrents to protect livestock and crops.

Education and consultation services are provided by Benton County, Oregon State University Extension Service, Chintimini Wildlife Center, and Program Advisors. The Program Advisors include experts in ranching with wildlife, predator ecology, and human-carnivore conflict.

For more information visit: http://www.co.benton.or.us/awpp