

CARES Recipient Profile



THIS FARM
CARES

Farm: Jeff Parker Farms

Location: Elkton, St. Johns County

Date of Origination: 1939

Commodities: Potatoes & hay

Jeff Parker and his family own and operate Jeff Parker Farms in Elkton, Florida. The farm was started in 1939 by Mr. Parker's grandfather. They proudly produce hay and potatoes.



Jeff Parker Farms has been implementing Best Management Practices (BMPs) on the farm since 2009. BMPs are a set of guidelines that advise producers on how to manage the water, nutrient, and pesticides they are using to reduce agriculture's impact on the state's natural resources. Jeff Parker Farms uses a laser leveling system to level the land for water flow and conserve resources. Ponds have been placed near the fields to catch water and recirculate it back to the land. Soil samples are taken regularly to ensure proper fertilizer application. Mr. Parker also follows all procedures for accurate and safe application of pesticides to the fields.

Mr. Parker is actively involved in his local community. He is a member of the Florida Farm Bureau, North Florida Growers Exchange and involved with the Frito Lay Grower's Council. He and his family attend church regularly.

When asked why he is a farmer who CARES, Mr. Parker responded, "to be a good steward of the land and to leave the land for future generations."