



WATER & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWS

November 2022

Events and Meetings

County GSA Recharge Workshop

Wednesday, November 9, 2022 - 3:00 pm

This workshop will explain the Recharge program and take input from attendees about the proposed program and rules that are being written.

Attend the workshop and be heard.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 276 203 790 347

Passcode: koZbxE

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Drought Workgroup

Friday, November 18, 2022 - 10:00 am

The Drought Workgroup meetings are open to everyone created as outreach and education in response to the extreme drought in California. This group acts as a clearinghouse distributing drought information to the public and the partners who join the call each month. We will be working through compliance with SB552 writing a County Drought Contingency Plan.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89233429167?pwd=VEZESHBMSEFN3d0d0L2xrd2l2M25JQT09>

Meeting ID: 892 3342 9167

Passcode: 632203

Or Call: 1-669-900-9128

You are invited to attend the Drought Workgroup meeting to participate and give input in writing the Madera County Drought Plan in response to SB552.

**Tuesday, December 6, 2022
County GSA Update**

This meeting will be during the Madera County Board of Supervisors' meeting on December 6, 2022.

This can be live-streamed at maderacounty.com on the County Board of Supervisors' page.

Interested in Land Repurposing?

Click [here](#) and we will let you know when the application period is open.

With overdraft for Madera County as a whole estimated at 260,000 acre-feet per year with the 2015 crop mix, the County has been referred to as “ground zero” for the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). As one of several demand management actions, the County GSA is implementing a Voluntary Land Repurposing Program (VLRP) in the Madera and Delta-Mendota Subbasins. Land repurposing is purely voluntary and provides an incentive payment in exchange for the Sustainable Yield and Transitional Water allocations.

Land repurposing is part of the implementation of the GSP to achieve the specified demand management goal, helping achieve groundwater sustainability for the subbasin over time.

This program is still undergoing development; stay engaged and share your feedback by participating in our public workshops.

For more information: [Click Here](#)



IRRIGATION EVALUATIONS
STANISLAUS MERCED MADERA COUNTIES
JUNE THROUGH NOVEMBER

Have an Irrigation Specialist evaluate your existing irrigation system for FREE!



THEY WILL:

- CONDUCT AN IN-FIELD SYSTEM & SITE EVALUATION
- IDENTIFY ANY SYSTEM INEFFICIENCIES
- DEVELOP FULL CONSERVATION PLAN

TO SCHEDULE AN EVAL
PLEASE CONTACT:

CHRIS YOHANNAN
(209) 495-0733
chris.yohannan@eaststanrcd.org

    

With Winter Coming - Now is the time to prepare for Flood-Related Emergencies

More than 7 million California residents are at risk of flooding, and many don't realize it. Flooding happens throughout the state, from rural communities to urban areas, at the base of hills and along the coast. Every California county has received a flood-related emergency declaration in the past 20 years. Flooding can also happen at any time of year and can still occur during drought. Communities that are downslope of recent wildfires are also especially prone to flash floods and debris slides, and landscapes impacted by wildfires can take up to five years to recover. To prepare for flooding, all Californians should follow three basic steps:

- **Be aware of your risk** – know whether your home is downslope of a burn area; pay attention to weather forecasts; listen to local authorities.
- **Be prepared** – always have an emergency evacuation kit ready; be prepared to evacuate early; have a plan for where you will go in an emergency and what to do with your pets.
- **Take action** – subscribe to your local emergency providers to get updated information. Visit the National Weather Service webpage to get updated weather information for your community. If local authorities issue an evacuation order, do not delay, follow local guidelines for evacuation.

For more information on finding your flood risk, visit <https://myhazards.caloes.ca.gov/>.

For information on obtaining flood insurance, visit <https://www.floodsmart.gov/>.

For information on how you can prepare your household for flood emergencies, visit <https://www.ready.gov/kit>.

Information provided by California Department of Water Resources

Madera County Mountain Locations

Name	Address / Location Details	Sand	Bags
Madera County Fire Station #8	47050 Road 417, Coarsegold, CA 93614 559-683-8008	✓	✓
CAL Fire, Rancheria Fire Station	53488 Road 200, North Fork, CA 93643 559-877-2322	✓	✓
Madera County Fire Station #12	48355 Liberty Drive, Oakhurst, CA 93644 559-683-4808	✓	✓

Madera County Valley Locations

Name	Address	Sand	Bags
Madera County Road 28 Complex	Dirt Lot Between Animal Control Shelter and Madera County Jail (14225 Road 28, Madera, CA 93638)	✓	✓
Madera County Fire Station #3	25950 Avenue 18 ½, Madera, CA 93638 559-661-0507	✓	✗
Madera County Fire Station #19	35141 Bonadelle Avenue, Madera, CA 93638 559-645-1399	✓	✓

City of Chowchilla Locations

City Residents Only

Name	Address / Location Details	Sand	Bags
Chowchilla Public Works Yard	360 North 1 st Street (@ Sonoma Avenue), Chowchilla, CA 93610	✓	✗
Chowchilla City Hall	130 South 2 nd Street, Chowchilla, CA 93610 Hours: Monday to Friday 7am to 4pm	✗	✓
Chowchilla Police Department	122 Trinity Avenue, Chowchilla, CA 93610 Hours: After City Hall Business Hours Only	✗	✓

How does fire impact forests and wildlife?

Wildfires are inevitable, but not all fire is harmful to forests. Low-intensity fires can naturally "clean" and thin the forest by removing flammable and thick vegetation on the forest floor. The result is improved habitat for wildlife, healthier soil and new growth of native plants. It also helps reduce the risk of large-scale high-severity fires that burn through the forest—from the floor to the canopy—with intense heat. High-severity fires across large landscapes can be devastating for wildlife, habitat and surrounding communities.

High-Severity Fire

Nearby communities may be destroyed causing loss of life and property.

With little regrowth, rodents can't find seeds to eat, and grazers have no leafy meals. Carnivores no longer have prey to hunt.

Wildlife corridors are disconnected due to loss of vegetation that provides cover to small species. Roaming species, like fishers, become isolated in smaller areas where they may not find mates or adequate food.

Runoff containing ash and debris flows into lakes and streams, damaging water sources and disrupting the lifecycles of aquatic species like fish and frogs.

Scorched soil is no longer suitable for pine forests to regrow, and forests may be replaced with invasive grasses or low scrub.

Low-Intensity Fire

Green tree leaves and plants continue to absorb carbon dioxide and produce oxygen, reducing the effects of climate change.

Brush, grasses and small trees are burned, removing vegetation ladders that enable wildfires to reach and spread through the tree canopy. The newly opened area allows sunlight and precipitation to reach the forest floor.

Ashes of burnt plants, leaves, pine needles and woody debris enrich the soil.

Tree trunks and roots stay intact, keeping forests alive and minimizing soil erosion into streams and lakes.

Native vegetation sprouts from the ground providing food and habitat for wildlife.

Low-intensity fire can benefit wildlife and forest health. Alongside partners, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working under the authority of the Endangered Species Act to support activities that improve the overall health of the nation's forests, reduce the risk of large-scale high-severity fires and protect important habitat for forest-dwelling plants and animals. Learn more at fws.gov/sacramento.

Click here for - [Image Details](#)

When wildfires erupt, animals do their best to move out of the direct path of the flames while staying close to home if they can find safe refuge.

Do your part to keep our forests healthy
Wondering how you can help forests near you? Here are a few tips!

1. When you recreate, follow the [Seven Principles of Leave No Trace](#):

- **Plan Ahead and Prepare** – Bark beetles travel with firewood, so buy firewood where you plan to burn it. If you're traveling with livestock, make sure to feed them weed-free hay in the days leading up to the trip so that invasive plants aren't spread in their droppings.
- **Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces** – Going off trail or camping over vegetation can cause erosion or damage fragile species.

- **Dispose of Waste Properly** – This includes pet waste! Be sure to pack it out as it can bring foreign parasites or bacteria to forest species. All kinds of litter, even food scraps, can cause health problems for animals.
- **Leave What You Find** – As a whole, it's best to leave things where you find them, as they might be part of an animal's home or an important food source.
- **Minimize Campfire Impacts** – Nine out of ten fires are human-caused. Be sure to check the fire conditions of where you're going, and avoid making fires on warm, windy days in particular. When there is wind and the vegetation is dry, fires can spread faster than you might imagine and are very hard to get under control.
- **Respect Wildlife** – approaching wildlife can cause stress to the animals or lethal accidents for the animal or you. Feeding animals encourages animals to associate food with humans, which can cause them to harass humans or lose their ability to get their own food. Animals that become too familiar with people often end up euthanized.
- **Be Considerate of Other Visitors** – By being considerate of other visitors, you're showing consideration to all of the species that live there too!

2. Learn more about how [climate change](#) is impacting our forests and other ecosystems. Find out what you can do to contribute toward a greener future. This could be things like joining a local volunteer group that plants trees, helping young people in your life grow their love of nature, and so much more.



Here's what water-wise plants can do for your yard

As the leaves start falling and temperatures begin to fall, California's typical rain season is just around the corner. Even though we hope rain begins soon, our state is still facing an extreme and long-term drought, and it is important to save water year round.

Adding water-wise plants to your garden can save 60 gallons each time you water! Check out the plant guide from "saveourwater.org" [our plant guide](#) for 11 plants to add to your garden this fall to save water.

30 Day Precipitation

Percent of Average Precipitation (%)
9/30/2022 - 10/29/2022



SHEET MULCHING

LAWN REPLACEMENT

SAVE OUR WATER
.com

Step-by-Step: Here's how to transform your dead lawn into a water-wise garden

Has the hot weather turned your lawn into a landscape of weeds and dry grass? No problem! Summer and early fall are the perfect time to transform your yard into a gorgeous, water-wise garden.

[Watch our step-by-step video](#) to learn how to get started removing your dead lawn for good.

Do you need bottled water?

We provide an interim solution for clean drinking water for domestic well owners working toward a permanent and sustainable solution to their drinking water needs.

Call Bottled Water
559-802-1284
bottledwater.selfhelpenterprises.org

Is your well pumping sand or low producing? Do you think your well is failing?

We will inspect the quality of your well and measure the depth of the well and the depth to water. We will help you determine if your well is in good operating condition.

Call Water Wells
559-802-1289
waterwells.selfhelpenterprises.org

8445 W. ELOWIN CT., VISALIA, CA 93201



RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO WELL OWNERS IN MADERA COUNTY

Has your well gone dry? Are you worried about your well going dry?

Most resources are available for free.

Residents of Madera County and the Central Valley who have been affected by the impacts of the drought have immediate resources available to help maintain their access to drinking water. These funds come from the State Water

Resources Control Board and most are free to you.

Resources include:

Bottled Water

Water Tanks

Water Assessment Testing

Water Quality Testing

If you are concerned about your well or out of water for your home, visit www.mywellwentdry.org for a list of resources by county or call Self-Help

Enterprise for:

Bottled Water: 559-802-1284

Water Wells: 559-802-1289

Water Quality: 559-802-1285

Drought Support: 559-802-1685.

If You Need Us

The Water & Natural Resources office is located on the third floor of the County Government Center. Water and Natural Resource staff can be reached at 559-662-8015 or you can visit us on-line at - maderacountywater.com.



Upcoming Events and/or Meetings

Please check the website through the links below for meeting announcements and schedules or for telephone numbers to call and check on meeting times and locations with the agencies.

[Chowchilla Subbasin](#)

[Chowchilla Water District GSA](#)

[Clayton Water District](#)

[Coarsegold Resource Conservation District](#)

[Delta-Mendota Subbasin](#)

[Gravelly Ford GSA](#)

[Madera Ag Water Association](#)

[Madera/Chowchilla Resource Conservation District](#)

[Madera Irrigation District GSA](#)

[Madera Regional Water Management Group](#)

[Madera Subbasin](#)

[Madera Subbasin](#)

[Madera Water District GSA](#)

[Merced County GSA](#)

[Merced Subbasin GSA](#)

[Root Creek GSA](#)

[Triangle T GSA](#)

*Madera County Water & Natural Resources, 200 West 4th Street, Suite 3100, Madera, CA 93637
Phone: 559-662-8015.*

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