



WATER & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWS

May 2023



LandFlex

**LandFlex Grower Application
EXTENDED thru May 9th**

The LandFlex grower application deadline has been extended thru May 9, 2023.

To qualify, growers must:

be in Madera County GSA, Greater Kaweah GSA, or Eastern Tule GSA.

- have a 3-year average Adjusted Gross Income of \$2.5 million or less.
- No individual grant will be greater than \$2.5 million.
- A single entity may enroll up to 25% of their total acreage or 40 acres -whichever is greater.
- are identified based on their proximity to drinking water wells that have gone dry or are in jeopardy of going dry.

LandFlex will provide financial incentives to growers for each enrolled acre. Growers receive incentives for the following actions:

Provide Immediate Drought Relief by fallowing land for 1 year. For each acre-foot of

water saved in the ground, a grower will receive up to \$350 per acre-foot – final amount to be determined by local GSA.

- **Long-Term Elimination of Groundwater Overdraft.** A grower will receive \$1,000/ per acre-foot to permanently eliminate each acre-foot of annual pumping that exceeds locally determined levels of groundwater sustainability. A grower may choose to give more than one acre-foot in the agreement and will be compensated accordingly.
- **Transition to more climate-resilient ag practices.** Depending on current land uses, the grower could receive between \$250-\$2,800/acre for the removal of permanent tree crops, purchasing upcycled ag waste for dairy feed replacement, and planting cover crops that use natural rainfall to grow.

For more information about LandFlex, visit <https://landflex.org/>.

APPLY FOR LANDFLEX

Solid Waste Management

Remember the paper coffee cup you recycled this morning, that tissue you discarded after using it, the spring cleaning items you threw away? Those became part of the solid waste management program Madera County handles daily to keep you, your family, and your community clean and healthy.

But how well is that program working? It's time to find out.

Madera County is conducting a solid waste management study to determine whether the current program works well, how it can be improved, and how to best adjust it to comply with state regulations.

The study aims to identify ways to improve the solid waste system in a manner that is consistent with community goals and in compliance with state regulations. It began in early 2023 and will continue through late this summer.

Talk trash with us!

We need your help to ensure the study represents all the communities of our county! As part of its study, we're soliciting feedback from community members. By filling out this short survey, you'll help improve Madera County's solid waste management system and the services your community relies on to remain clean and healthy: <https://bit.ly/43OshPa>

If you are interested in learning more about the solid waste management study, visit www.madcosolidwastestudy.com.

Important News

WILDFIRE IS COMING. ARE YOU READY?

HARDENING YOUR HOME
Flying embers can destroy homes up to a mile ahead of a wildfire. Prepare (harden) your home now before a fire starts.

Priority list for building or remodeling with ignition-resistant* materials:

- **Roof** (Above all else your roofing is the most important hardening feature)
- **Eaves and Soffits**
- **Walls**
- **Decks**
- **Patio Cover**
- **Fencing**

Other priority activities:

- **Ventils:** Cover and protect all openings.
- **Windows:** Protect against blowouts and install dual-pane windows.
- **Rain Gutters:** Screen or enclose.
- **Chimney:** Cover outlets with non-combustible screens.
- **Garage:** Have an accessible fire extinguisher.
- **Driveways:** Ensure access to your home complies with local fire codes.
- **Water Supply:** Have multiple garden hoses that are long enough to reach all areas of your home.

*Visit ReadyForWildfire.org for detailed information on ignition-resistant building materials and all home hardening activities.

VERTICAL SPACING
Eliminate opportunities for a vertical "fire ladder" by:

- Remove branches beneath large trees for a 6-foot minimum clearance.
- Create proper vertical spacing between shrubs and the lowest branches of trees by using the formula shown.

HORIZONTAL SPACING
The spacing between grass, shrubs, and trees is crucial to reduce the spread of wildfire. The spacing needed is determined by the type and size of the shrubs and trees, as well as the slope of the land. For example, a property on a steep slope with larger plant life will require greater spacing between trees and shrubs than a level property that has small, sparse vegetation.

Fire-Safe Landscaping
Fire-safe landscaping isn't necessarily the same thing as a well-maintained yard. Fire-safe landscaping uses fire-resistant plants that are strategically placed to resist the spread of fire to your home.

Dead Tree Removal
If you have dead or dying trees on your property the entire tree needs to be removed to reduce wildfire risk. Visit ReadyForWildfire.org/dead-tree-removal to learn a soil permit requirements.

Diagram: CONTINUOUS TREE CANOPY
Illustrates a vertical fire ladder with a 6-FOOT MINIMUM CLEARANCE and a 3X HEIGHT OF SHRUB MINIMUM VERTICAL CLEARANCE.

Diagram: FUEL SEPARATION
Illustrates horizontal spacing for shrubs and trees on different slopes: FLAT TO MILD SLOPE (LESS THAN 20%) with 2X and 10 FEET spacing; MILD TO MODERATE SLOPE (20%–40%) with 4X and 20 FEET spacing; MODERATE TO STEEP SLOPE (GREATER THAN 40%) with 6X and 30 FEET spacing.

DOWNLOAD THE READY FOR WILDFIRE APP
It's never been more important to keep on top of preparing your family, home and property for a wildfire. Fires are on the rise, and are burning hotter, faster and more unpredictably than ever before. Download the app to:

- Get custom wildfire alerts
- Track your progress
- Get detailed action steps

1. 2. 3. 1. 2. 3.

100% PREPARED

Available on the App Store and Google Play.

IRRIGATION EVALUATIONS
 STANISLAUS MERCED MADERA COUNTIES

APRIL THROUGH NOVEMBER

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



THEY WILL:

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

TO SCHEDULE AN EVALUATION PLEASE CONTACT:

KEVIN REYES
 programs@maderachowchillarcdd.org
 559-755-5148



Drought



SB 552
Drought and Water Shortage Risk
Analysis and Response Plan

for
 Madera County

SB552 Drought Plan Draft for Review

The SB552 Drought Management Plan will be available for Public Comment for
30 days beginning May 1.
[Draft Plan for Public Review](#)

Drought Workgroup
Friday, May 19, 2023 - 10:00 am

The Drought Working Group will educate, coordinate, and conduct outreach regarding the drought. Zanjero will be on the call to take comments and questions regarding the Drought Management Plan.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81025015035?pwd=OTVOTmdzWFdack1GN1VmZ2Vq
eHNJUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81025015035?pwd=OTVOTmdzWFdack1GN1VmZ2VqeHNJUT09)

Meeting ID: 810 2501 5035 Passcode: 286880

Or Call in: 1-669-900-9128

The image displays four promotional cards for Self-Help Enterprises, arranged in a 2x2 grid. Each card features the company logo and contact information (8445 W. ELOWIN CT. | VISALIA, CA 93291).
Top-left card: 'Do you need bottled water?' with a photo of water being poured into a glass. Text: '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
Top-right card: 'Is your well pumping sand or low producing? Do you think your well is failing?' with a photo of a well interior. Text: 'We will inspect the depth of your well and measure the diameter of the well and the depth of the water. We will help you determine if your well is a good business investment.' Call Water Wells 559-802-1289. waterwells.selfhelpenterprises.org
Bottom-left card: 'Do you need to test the quality of your water?' with a photo of hands holding a water sample. Text: 'We can provide accurate information on the quality of your water, with your all long-term solutions if contaminants are found.' Call Water Quality 559-802-1285. waterquality.selfhelpenterprises.org
Bottom-right card: 'Has your well gone dry? Have you lost access to water in your home?' with a photo of a water pipe. Text: 'We can help you by installing a large water storage tank on your property and connecting it to your home.' Call Drought Support 559-802-1685. droughtsupport.selfhelpenterprises.org

RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO WELL OWNERS IN MADERA COUNTY

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, 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.

Visit our website at:

maderacountywater.com

We have made some changes!

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.

