



WATER & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWS

DECEMBER 2024

SGMA NEWS

Madera Subbasin Draft Plan Amendment Workshop Webinar Thursday, December 5, 2024 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm

Join this Workshop Webinar for a Madera Subbasin
DRAFT Plan Amendment review.

To join, click on the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88372414320>

Madera Gets Full Accounting for SGMA Expenses

Water Wrights | November 12, 2024

Acting as the board of directors of the Madera County GSA, the county board of supervisors at its meeting on November 12, 2024, heard two presentations from Stephanie Anagnoson, county director of water and natural resources.

Supervisor Letitia Gonzalez chaired the session in the absence of Supervisor

Robert Poythress who was away on county business. The GSA session began at 11:12 a.m....

[Read Full Story Here](#)

Madera Looks at Agave to help with Water Shortages

Water Wrights | November 19, 2024

Nearly 100 growers, students and ag professionals attended a two-part workshop focused on agave, the plant grown widely in Mexico that provides the juice distilled to make tequila and mezcal. Known for its ability to thrive in climates with extreme heat and very little water, agave has attracted the attention of California growers who are looking for new opportunities in the face of reduced availability of water for cropping and forecasted increasingly high summertime temperatures... [Read Full Story Here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS



San Joaquin Water Summit to be held in Madera, Dec. 7

The [Water Education for Latino Leaders](#) will host the [San Joaquin Water Summit](#) in Madera on Saturday, Dec. 7. The workshop is [free to all attendees](#) and will center on discussions about water challenges facing the San Joaquin Valley. Along with the public, elected officials are encouraged to attend to deepen their understanding of regional water challenges and advocate for sustainable solutions.

THE PRIVATE WELL
CLASS

Partners
AN OUTREACH NEWSLETTER

Is My Water Safe to Drink? Common Questions about Private Wells

Thursday, December 19, 2024 | 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Hosted by PrivateWellClass.org

In this free webinar training hosted by The Private Well Class, you'll learn how to get your well water tested, what to do to take care of your well, and if your well is susceptible to contamination. There will be an opportunity to submit questions in advance as well as live on the webinar. The event will be recorded.

[Register Here](#)

The Madera/Chowchilla Resource Conservation District has funding for **FREE Technical Assistance for pollinator habitat** on agricultural operations and working lands. We are also offering **free irrigation evaluations** for growers in Madera, Stanislaus, and Merced counties.

MADERA/CHOWCHILLA RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT



INCREASING POLLINATORS ON YOUR OPERATION

The RCD has funding to help agricultural operations and working lands establish pollinator habitat.

Our RCD will:
 Visit your site with a partner biologist specializing in pollinators and native plant species.
 Create a plan in collaboration with landowner's needs.
 Fund native plant supplies and other materials, if needed.
 Monitor habitat and suggest maintenance annually.

Questions? Contact Amy amy@maderachowchillarcdd.org or Kevin kevin@maderachowchillarcdd.org for more information.



WCB Pollinator Habitat Implementation Funding

The Madera/Chowchilla Resource Conservation District is offering funding opportunities from the California Wildlife Conservation Board for habitat implementation.

This funding is meant for:
 • increase research and pollinator habitat on public and working lands, including agricultural lands.

Who can qualify for the program?
 • Public and working lands in Madera and Chowchilla.
 • Small and historically disadvantaged growers are strongly encouraged to reach out.

WE OFFER:
 ✓ Free Technical Assistance help with the design and implementation of viable habitat restoration projects.
 ✓ Free biological site assessments.
 ✓ Funding for site preparation of pollinator habitat installation and materials like native plant plugs and seeds.
 ✓ Ongoing monitoring and maintenance assistance.

For more information, visit www.wcb.org or call 916-445-2000.



CDFA Pollinator Plan Funding

The Madera/Chowchilla Resource Conservation District is offering funding opportunities for pollinator plans from the CDFA Conservation Agriculture Planning Grants Program.

This funding is meant for:
 • increase biodiversity of pollinator species on your operation by providing appropriate native plant habitat.

Who can qualify for the program?
 • Agricultural operations in Madera and Chowchilla.
 • Small and historically disadvantaged growers are strongly encouraged to reach out.

WE OFFER:
 ✓ Free Technical Assistance.
 ✓ Comprehensive pollinator plan tailored to your operation.
 ✓ Plan includes details on site preparation, native plant species recommendations, and maintenance.
 ✓ Supplemental funding for implementation of a pollinator plan.

For more information, visit www.cdffunding.org or call 916-445-2000.

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 IRRIGATION EVALUATION
 • IDENTIFY ANY SYSTEM DEFICIENCIES
 • DEVELOP AN IRRIGATION CONSERVATION PLAN

TO SCHEDULE AN EVALUATION PLEASE CONTACT:
KEVIN REYES
kevin@maderachowchillarcdd.org
 539-154-0748



EVALUACIONES DE RIEGO

CONDADOS DE STANISLAUS, MERCED Y MADERA

¡MÁS INFORMACIÓN!
¡HAY UN ESPECIALISTA EN RIEGO QUE EVALÚA SU SISTEMA DE RIEGO EXISTENTE GRATIS!

ELLOS:
 ✓ Realizarán un análisis in situ del sistema de riego.
 ✓ Identificarán cualquier deficiencia del sistema.
 ✓ Desarrollarán un plan de conservación del riego.

TO SCHEDULE AN EVALUATION PLEASE CONTACT:
KEVIN REYES
kevin@maderachowchillarcdd.org
 539-154-0748



Please contact Amy (amy@maderachowchillarcdd.org) or Kevin (programs@maderachowchillarcdd.org) for more information on our CDFA & WCB pollinator habitat funding and Kevin (programs@maderachowchillarcdd.org) directly for more information on irrigation evaluations.

OTHER NEWS



Start the countdown! Season 5 of our podcast, [Tap Talk: Drinking Water in Rural America](#), is officially returning in the new year. The first episode of Season 5, TT049, is scheduled to debut on January 2. The episode will feature Terry Morse, CEO of the [National Ground Water Association](#), discussing NGWA's [Groundwater Foundation](#) and [Water Well Wish](#) program.

TT049 will release on *Tap Talk's* website, in addition to audio platforms like Spotify, Apple Podcasts, iHeartRadio, and more. Subscribe to *Tap Talk* wherever you get your podcasts!

Wellcare® Information for You About - Winterizing and De-winterizing Your Well

Water Systems Council



This document, from the Water Systems Council, explains how to winterize and de-winterize your well at vacation homes, cabins, and other seasonal properties where the well is not designed to be used in winter temperatures. Winterizing the plumbing prevents it from bursting during a freeze

[View the Document](#)

Join Yosemite Gateway Prescribed Burn Cooperative for their 2024 Virtual Prescribed Burn Training

Take action for fire safety and landscape health by joining the **2024 Virtual Prescribed Burn Training**. This three-day online workshop, running **January 30–February 1, 2024**, is perfect for landowners, land managers, community leaders, and anyone interested in the benefits of prescribed burns. You'll gain expert insights on planning and executing prescribed burns, learn about permitting requirements, fire ecology, and safety, and discover how to work with agencies and community groups to build a resilient fire strategy.

Why attend?

- 💧 Enhance your knowledge of fire management.
- 💧 Learn practical skills for controlled burning.
- 💧 Network with a growing community of fire stewards.

Cost: Free to attend, but space is limited—don't wait!

Click the button below to register today!
[YGPBC 2024 Learn and Burn Workshop](#)



The poster features the Yosemite Gateway Prescribed Burn Cooperative logo at the top left. The main title is 'PRESCRIBED BURN SEASON KICKOFF'. Below this, there are four event boxes with dates, descriptions, locations, and times. At the bottom, there is a 'REGISTER FOR THE LEARN & BURN AT' section with a QR code and a URL. A contact information line is at the very bottom.

DATE	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	WHERE	WHEN
DEC 12	YGPBC Happy Hour in Oakhurst	Get to know YGPBC and learn about prescribed burning in Madera County!	Idle Hour Winery and Kitchen (41139 CA-41, Oakhurst)	Thursday, December 12 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM
DATE TBD	YGPBC Happy Hour in Mariposa	Get to know YGPBC and learn about prescribed burning in Mariposa County!	Sierra Cider (5611 Sierra Meadows Lane, Mariposa)	Date to be determined
DEC 14	Learn & burn, classroom day	Registration required!!! A classroom-based introduction to prescribed fire course covering safety, weather, firing operations, and other topics to prepare you to get out and burn with YGPBC!	Yosemite Adult School (49948 High School Road, Oakhurst)	Saturday, December 14 from 9 AM to 3 PM
DEC 15	Learn & burn, field day	Registration required!!! Weather permitting, let's burn and practice all the skills learned in the classroom!	Location TBD (dependent on conditions)	Sunday, December 15 from 9 AM to 5 PM

REGISTER FOR THE LEARN & BURN AT
<https://ucanr.edu/learn&burn24>

Please contact Alison Deak at aldeak@ucanr.edu or (209) 966-2417 with any questions

Save the Date for CA Tree School 2025!

Mark your calendars for next year's CA Tree School! Our Forest Stewardship team is bringing Tree School to two new locations:

**CA Tree School- Santa Cruz on April 5th at the Mt. Madonna School,
Watsonville CA**

**CA Tree School- Oakhurst on April 12th at the Yosemite Adult School,
Oakhurst CA**

Tree School 2025 is an exciting chance to expand your knowledge of forest management, connect with other landowners and forest enthusiasts, and meet natural resource professionals from UC ANR.

[For More Information](#)

Visit our website at:
maderacountywater.com

Have questions on your allocation, measurement, or any other GSA concern? [Schedule an appointment](#) with us! We can also be reached at (559) 662-8015, at the County Government Building on the third floor, or you can visit us online at maderacountywater.com.

