



WATER & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWS

April 2025

SGMA NEWS

Groundwater Sustainability Agency Committee Meeting

(for the Madera, Chowchilla, and Delta-Mendota Subbasins)

April 1, 2025

1:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Madera County Government Center
200 W. 4th Street, Madera CA 93637
Board of Supervisors Chambers

REMOTE PARTICIPATION

<https://zoom.us/j/83795579295>

The Madera County Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Committee consisting of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board will be meeting on the first Tuesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. in the Madera County Board of Supervisors Chambers. The purpose of this committee is to receive public input on the County GSA items. This is a public meeting, and all are welcome to join.

The agenda and packet for this meeting are on the County website at:

<https://maderacounty.primegov.com/public/portal?fromiframe=true>

These documents are also available at the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, acting on behalf of the Madera County GSAs.

[Agenda](#)

[Packet](#)



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT OFFICE

Public Comment Period Opens for Groundwater Sustainability Plan

A modified groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) for the Chowchilla Subbasin has been adopted and submitted to the Department of Water Resources (DWR, the Department). As required by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), the Department posts adopted GSPs on the [DWR SGMA Portal](#) and provides an opportunity for public comments on that GSP (Water Code § 10733.4(c)). However, this basin is currently under the jurisdiction of the State Water Resources Control Board (Board) and is subject to the Board's state intervention process because DWR determined the 2022 GSP to be inadequate. The Department's SGMA Portal is being utilized to accept adopted GSPs from basins with GSPs determined to be inadequate, however the Department will not evaluate or assess any GSPs covering this basin under the provisions of Chapter 10 unless requested to do by the Board under Water Code §10735.2(b) or until the Board notifies the Department that state intervention is complete and indicates jurisdiction of the basin should be returned back to the Department.

Posting the GSP on the SGMA Portal initiates a 75-day public comment period. The Department will provide notice if it commences evaluation of the GSP and will open a second public comment period. Below is a table with a link to the submitted plan, counties it covers, and the public comment period end date. Information about how to comment can be found in a public comment fact sheet, available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#). Public comments are welcome and encouraged. A SGMA Portal account is not necessary to submit comments.

Basin	Local ID (if applicable)	County Covered	Public Comment Period End Date
Chowchilla	N/A	Madera Merced	6/4/2025

FLOOD NEWS

Urban Runoff

Urban runoff is one of the top sources of pollution to rivers and streams. According to the EPA, 70% of pollution to the surface waters comes from storm runoff. Other independent studies have shown that 50% of this pollution is from homeowners and individuals as a result of yard maintenance, landscaping waste, and chemical pollution from the household. In order to reduce the amount of sediment and toxins that reach the rivers and streams it is vital that we understand the importance of proper handling and disposal of household chemicals and toxins.

A large part of storm water pollution is caused by people not knowing how or where to dispose of used oils. In Madera County, there are multiple locations where one may dispose of used motor oil. Oil may be cleaned and used many times. Therefore, transporting used oil to these [Certified Collection Centers](#) is a fantastic opportunity to recycle. In doing so, you are doing your part to preserve the cleanliness of local waterway ecosystems.

Resources:

[Microsoft Word - Used Motor Oil Collections Centers.docx](#)

[Basic Information about Nonpoint Source \(NPS\) Pollution | US EPA](#)



Wednesday, April 2, 2025, 12:30PM -1:30PM

Expanding FIRO – Screening Corps Reservoirs Nationally for Forecast-Informed Operations Potential

Presenter: Elissa Yeates, ERDC Coastal and Hydraulics Lab, Hydrologic Systems Branch

Sneak Peek: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) research and operations program Forecast-Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO) seeks to add flexibility to dam release decisions where possible to improve outcomes across multiple objectives, including flood risk management, water supply availability, groundwater recharge, and environmental flows. This approach has demonstrated benefits during recent water years at pilot sites, expanding demand for FIRO assessments and implementation at more reservoirs.

[Flood MAR Events](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS



Groundwater and Well Construction 101

April 9, 2025 | 1 PM CT

Hosted by PrivateWellClass.org

This free webinar will explain how water moves through the ground to your well and how well construction can increase contamination vulnerability. It will also cover types of wells & well construction, basic components of a well, and water treatment options.

[Register »](#)



Fire has always been a natural part of California’s landscapes and is vital to maintain healthy ecosystems. However, climate change is bringing more frequent, intense, and destructive wildfires to our cherished lands and communities. **Proactive forest management is essential to reducing risk and boosting wildfire resilience to protect California’s watersheds, ecosystems, and people.**

Join us on **Wednesday, April 9** for the second webinar in **Sustainable Conservation’s *Climate Resilience in Action*** series – **Healthier Forests, Safer Communities**. We’ll chat with experts on forest management, fire safety, and cultural burning to discuss how restoration efforts and prescribed fire can help California build a safer, more fire-adapted future. We’ll share insights on how **traditional ecological knowledge and modern fire management strategies can work together to strengthen ecosystem health** and highlight on-the-ground restoration projects that showcase the power of collaborative land stewardship.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



LOG IN TODAY FOR CA TREE SCHOOL! OAKHURST SESSION

Grow your forest stewardship skills with a day of learning led by forestry and fire experts from UC ANR and across California.

CA Tree School 2025 is presented by:



Join UC ANR for CA Tree School – Oakhurst Session

Enhance your forest stewardship skills with a one-day learning experience led by forestry and fire experts from University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources and across California. The CA Tree School is designed for landowners, students, and community members interested in forest health, wildfire resilience, and natural resource management.

Event Details

Date: Saturday, April 12, 2025

Location: Yosemite Adult School, Oakhurst, CA

Registration Fee: \$70 (Scholarships available upon request)

EXPLORE FOUNDATIONAL FORESTRY CONCEPTS

California Tree School is a one-day, mini-college experience.

TAKE 4 CLASSES OF YOUR CHOICE on forest inventory, native plants, fire ecology, and more.

CONNECT WITH UC ANR ADVISORS and natural resource organizations.

FOR LANDOWNERS, STUDENTS, AND THE COMMUNITY!

CA Tree School has classes for all forest enthusiasts, beginners and experts. Come one, come all! *CA Tree School is for ages 15+.*

LEARN MORE AT
ucanr.edu/CATreeSchool.



EVENT DETAILS

WHEN: Saturday April 12, 2025

WHERE: Yosemite Adult School, Oakhurst CA

REGISTRATION FEE: \$70

Scholarships available by request.

Contact: kcingram@ucanr.edu



REGISTER TODAY!

Learn More About It Here

 KEEPING FARMERS FARMING SINCE 1915

APRIL 14, 2025

 MADERA COUNTY FARM BUREAU

AG PLASTIC CONTAINER RECYCLE EVENT

Recycling & shredding provided by Interstate Ag Plastics
Supported by Ag Container Recycling Council

Accepting:

- Triple rinsed pesticide containers (inspection mandatory & containers must be clean)
- 30 or 55 gallon drums (must be cut in half or quarters lengthwise *top to bottom*)
- Caps, labels, and bungs must be removed
- No need to peel off those pesky sticky labels
- No bulk cage type containers
- No trash or poly pipe

MCFB Parking Lot
1102 S Pine St
Madera, CA 93637

VISIT
WWW.MADERAFB.COM

EMAIL
OFFICE@MADERAFB.COM

CALL
559.674.8871

  Register Today!  MADERA/CHOWCHILLA RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

ANY CONTAINERS NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Madera County Farm Bureau

OTHER NEWS



The Fresno Madera Young Farmers & Ranchers (YF&R) Committee is pleased to announce the call for scholarship applications. Two \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to one Madera County student and one Fresno County student. Recipients are asked to accept the scholarship in person at a Fresno Madera YF&R member meeting whose date and location will be communicated upon notification of the scholarship award. To be eligible for consideration, applications must be received no later than April 30, 2025, to info@fcfb.org.

[Form is Here](#)

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.

